

Monday April 20, 2020

Re: A Message From the Commencement Awards Committee

Good day Oakridge Parents and Guardians,

We genuinely miss working with your child(ren) in the building. The enthusiasm and energy your students bring to Oakridge everyday is the reason we got into education. It is our hope to see your child(ren) back at Oakridge as soon as possible!

We are currently monitoring the Covid-19 provincial school closure and are waiting to decide on Commencement plans. We ask for your patience. Please stay tuned. The awards committee is proceeding with the selection of award recipients and the following email outlines necessary steps for applying to Commencement Awards.

This message pertains to **all students who entered into secondary school in the 2016/2017 academic year OR any student who entered into secondary school in the 2017/2018 academic year and will be graduating at the end of June (not returning to Oakridge in the fall)**. This message is being sent to all (grade 11 and 12) Oakridge parents in an effort to ensure we do not miss sharing this information with anybody.

If your son/daughter does not fall into one of the two categories in **bold** in the previous paragraph, the information in this memo does not pertain to them and you can stop reading. Otherwise, please keep reading and share this information with your graduating child(ren).

To our students who plan to graduate (all 2016/2017 cohort or 2017/2018 cohort who meet graduation requirements by June and will not return to Oakridge next fall), you are eligible to apply for a number of awards. Please take advantage of this opportunity to apply for the awards available to you.

The following information on how to apply for **Commencement Awards** and how to vote for this year's recipients of the **John Ford Memorial Award** and **Valedictorian** is typically shared at a commencement assembly, in the auditorium at Oakridge in April. However, I am presenting the information to you via email due to the Covid-19 school closure. Please follow the steps on the next page:

- use your "@gotvdsb.ca" account to join the "**Commencement 2020**" Google Classroom by entering classroom code: **bl4mvr**s (the second character in the code is a letter)
- complete the Nominations for John Ford Memorial and Valedictorian. Please complete this whether or not you decide to apply for a commencement award. This is your opportunity to acknowledge your fellow graduating students
- complete the "**Commencement Awards 2020 Application**"
- on page 2 of the application, you are asked to check off the boxes corresponding to the awards to which you are applying. Ensure you meet the criteria for those awards based on your research of each award. Do so by using the following link: <https://www.tvdsb.ca/en/parents/awards-directory.aspx> Students who check off every box, without having met the criteria for the award, risk getting their application removed from the pool
- you do not require a reference letter from a teacher, as a part of your application
- application deadline: **Wednesday April 29, 2020** at 11:59pm

If you have any questions, please email Mr. Michailidis (a.michailidis@tvdsb.ca).

Stay well,

Andrew Michailidis
Chair of the Commencement Awards Committee