

## **Graduation Events**

### **Rationale:**

High School Graduation is a significant event in the life of every young person, and should be celebrated – but with **moderation**. Graduation is an event to be celebrated not only by the graduates but by all those who had a part in their successful completion of high school. The entire event should be structured in a way that celebrates and honors the Grads, their Parents, their Teachers, and **most importantly, the Lord**. Everything done prior to, during, and after the official grad activities should be done in a manner which is pleasing to the Lord. A Christian school graduation should not take its cue from the world, but be a distinctive and attractive alternative in contrast to the world's way of doing things.

### **Policy:**

1. Students graduating from CCA must
  - a) Demonstrate conduct consistent with the standards of Cornerstone Christian Academy;
  - b) Obtain a minimum of 50% in school-awarded marks of courses required for graduation credits; and be passing all required courses by the April report card of the current school year;
  - c) Have 5 credits in Bible for every high school year spent at CCA.
  - d) Earn a minimum of 15 credits in the Grade 12 year; and
  - e) Meet Alberta Education requirements for a High School Diploma, Certificate of Achievement, or Certificate of School Completion.
2. If a class has a valedictorian, the Valedictorian will be selected by the school administration based on academic standing as per Rutherford Scholarship guidelines, leadership in the school and community, and on Christian character. Valedictorian candidates are required to achieve an honours standing in the first semester and the third report period of their Grade Twelve year.
3. Any grad-related event (official or unofficial) must reflect well on the reputation of the school and the homes which are represented by the grads. Specifically to be avoided are the following:
  - a) Alcohol
  - b) Dancing
  - c) Displays of extravagance
  - d) Inappropriate dress
  - e) Appearance of improper relationships
4. All official grad events will be chaperoned by school staff and parents.
5. Planning for grad events should be done by the Principal or teacher designate, who will work to solicit views from staff, students, and parents. Specific consideration should be given to costs, appearance to others, and individual preferences. All decisions are finalized and approved by the Principal.
6. The Commencement Service should give due place to the graduates, parents, teachers, and other school officials.
7. Grads may be accompanied by an escort, however, the escort will not be involved in the official ceremony. Grads will be seated with friends and family at the banquet.
8. All grad activities and fundraising events need final approval from the Principal. This includes tickets, songs, speakers, speeches, and programs.

9. Student speeches and musical numbers to be presented at Commencement are to have been practiced beforehand, and approved by the Principal.
10. The school will cover the cost of the actual Commencement Service, which includes the printing of tickets and program, and honorarium given to the Commencement Speaker.
11. A limited number of fundraisers may be planned to augment the school funds for expenses such as banquet and decorations. These fundraisers should not negatively impact the major school fundraising events. Officially generated funds will be used for official graduation events only.