



Graduation 2027

HSD Policy on Graduation



Policy: Graduation
Policy Number: JE
Policy Type: Students

Policy

- a) Students who have successfully met the requirements for graduation, as set out in this policy, shall be entitled to take part in the convocation supported by the Hanover School Division, and hosted by their respective school.
- b) The principal will communicate to parents of graduates (early in the school year), the level of school/division involvement in graduation activities.
- c) Hanover School Division and its schools shall only be involved in the convocation ceremony and location of this event. Any other activities related to graduation, including the keeping of financial and banking records for these activities, and Safe Grad, are the responsibility of the parents/caregivers and students.
- d) Steinbach Regional Secondary School will hold its graduation within seven calendar days of the last day of school division classes.
- e) Niverville High School, Landmark Collegiate, and Green Valley School will hold their graduations following the Steinbach Regional Secondary School graduation and prior to the last day of school.
- f) Hanover School Division provides financial support to schools for the purpose of offsetting graduation costs (ceremony, diplomas, and gowns).
- g) The decision to hold a graduation banquet rests solely with the school and their Parent Grad Committee. The financial obligations related to the banquet are the sole responsibility of these parties.

If a banquet is held, additional people invited to the banquet shall include the following:

- guest speaker (may include minister/pastor) and spouse
- minister of the church in which the graduation exercises are held, and spouse
- school trustees*
- principal(s) of the school*
- high school teachers of the respective school*
- superintendents*
- secretary-treasurer*

*Spouses may be invited to the banquet, however they will bear the cost of their ticket.

Date Policy Created:	March 2, 2004
Date of last Review:	December 2, 2025
Reference(s):	
Related Forms:	



Date of Graduation

Friday June 25, 2027 at 3pm

Grad Photos

- **Friday, February 26, 2027 at NHS**
- Formal cap and gown photos will be taken as well as a few casual/informal shots.
- Students will make an appointment online in early February.
 - A sitting fee (approx. \$40) will be required at time of booking.
- We ask that EVERY student have their grad picture taken regardless of wanting to purchase any photos.

These pictures are used in our yearbook as well as convocation slideshow. Each graduating student will also receive a 5x7 individual photo and composite photo of the entire grad class.
- Reminders and further details will be sent out prior to the photo session.

Google Form

- Post Grad Plans
- Attendance Confirmation
- Guest Speaker Ideas (be realistic)
- Height for Grad Gown

<https://forms.gle/MUHf8mdAbVv3Xxgi8>

Grade 12 Photo Shoot

- **Field Trip** - Friday, May 28 (June 4th – rain date)
- Assiniboine Park and The Forks

Grad Rehearsal

- Thursday, June 24 10:00 -12 noon @ NHS
 - ALL graduates are required to attend.
 - Do not plan to work this day or plan any other activities!
 - Niverville Elementary School Grad Walk @ 9am

Roles / Responsibility

School:

1. Convocation
2. Grad Clothing Design

Parents / Guardians:

1. Safe Grad
2. Grad Parade (OPTIONAL)

Grad Parade

- Needs approval from the Town of Niverville and RCMP.
- Planned out well in advance.
- Things to consider;
 - Can only be held on the East Side of Town.
 - Our town has grown and so has our population.
 - While it is a great event, it is a lot of effort and not all students attend.
 - Naturally and geographically divides the town.
 - Strongly encourage to hear the students' voice.
 - Consider the idea of a Grad Float at Niverville Fair (whole community)

Grad / Convocation / Ceremony

- Friday, June 25 @ 3:00 PM at NHS Gym / MPR
- Each graduate will receive up to 6 guest invites to convocation
 - Additional invitations may be requested at time of issue (May 6), and we will do our best to accommodate all requests.
- Cap and gown rentals will be arranged by the school.
- Students will receive their Manitoba Diploma along with a souvenir folder that includes their grad picture and NHS grad documentation.
 - This includes 2 signed copies of their transcripts.
- Students may also keep their cap and tassel as a souvenir.
- Gowns are to be returned following the convocation ceremony.

Student Grad Committee

- This committee is comprised of grade 12 student volunteers for the purpose of:

1. Providing Input to the Safe Grad Parent Committee
2. Collaborating on events with the school and Safe Grad Parent Committee
3. Representing ALL students' voices by gathering their opinions in a comprehensive manner

The Student Grad Committee needs to know they are representing the voice of ALL 112 grads. No one is more important than the other.

Grad Hoodies



- Through school based Entripy Store

Note: If parent committee wants an embroidered option, the Safe Grad Parent committee (not individually) may source elsewhere, and the school will provide the design to match what is being sold through the school.

Safe Grad

- a.k.a. “The Dance” or “Prom”
- Location – Safe Grad Parent Committee can decide
- Planned and organized by parents (not a school sanctioned event).
 - The school will work through the event planning process with parents.
- Safe Grad is funded solely by the parents and students.
- For the students ONLY

Safe Grad Parent Committee

•This committee is comprised of grade 12 parent volunteers for the purpose of:

1. Planning & organizing **Safe Grad ONLY**
2. Chair(s) from the committee need to register the Safe Grad Event with Manitoba School Boards Association.
3. **Chair(s) and committee members need to attend the SAFE GRAD SEMINAR on Saturday, November 21, 2026 - 9:00am at the Victoria Inn Hotel & Convention Centre. Registration Deadline is November 6.**
4. Hiring a photographer - convocation, safe grad and candid grad photos
 - This can be a shared cost with the school.
5. Collecting fees from graduates
6. Transparency and communication with ALL parents, whether involved or not involved (ex., Budget and proposed fundraising).

Please be mindful of the burden fundraising can put on families and students.

Safe Grad Parent Committee

- Grad Parent committee will organize themselves into different committees:
 - Fundraising
 - Event committee
 - Photographer
 - Etc.
- The Grad Parent Committee works together to plan the after party. Fundraising efforts most often cover these costs.
- Transparency

Safe Grad Parent Committee

- Sign Parent Committee Contact Sheet
- Once the safe grad parent committee has been formed their names and contact info will be shared with all grade 12 parents.
- **All information and communication related to Safe Grad will come from the Safe Grad parent committee**, not through the school.
 - safegradnhs@gmail.com
- Parental contact information will be shared with the Safe Grad Parent Committee unless the school is informed otherwise by November 6th, 2026

FAQs

What graduation events is NHS/Hanover School Division responsible for this year?

The school continues to organize and host the **official graduation/convocation ceremony**. The change relates to additional events such as a formal banquet/dinner and Safe Grad.

Is NHS organizing a graduation banquet/dinner this year?

As communicated on May 28, 2026 and again at the start of the school year, beginning in 2026-27, NHS/HSD will **not plan, organize, supervise, or financially manage a formal graduation banquet**. If families choose to organize one independently, it is a parent/community event rather than a school event.

Why did the school stop organizing the banquet?

- A. Rooted in Policy Change as of December 2, 2025
- B. Equity, sustainability, liability, and ensuring the school's focus remains on an accessible official convocation for every graduate.

Is Safe Grad still happening? Who organizes it?

Safe Grad has historically been a **parent-led initiative**, and parents may choose to organize it again.

FAQs (Continued)

Can the same parent committee organize both a banquet and Safe Grad?

The decision to hold a graduation banquet rests solely with the school and their Parent Grad Committee. The financial obligations related to the banquet are the sole responsibility of these parties.

Can parents fundraise for the banquet/Safe Grad? When can fundraising begin?

Fundraising can start ASAP. NHS's name/logo cannot be used, fundraising cannot happen at school, and money cannot flow through school accounts. We can help with communication.

Why is SRSS apparently doing something different?

NHS is communicating what the expectations and arrangements are for NHS for 2026-27, based on the direction we have received.

Where will the official convocation be held, and can we use a larger venue?

NHS Gym and MPR (up to 800). Venue selection for convocation remains a school/division responsibility, parent feedback and suggestions are welcome.

FAQs (Continued)

Could the parent-organized banquet be held somewhere like a farm/barn or other private venue?

Essentially: yes, parents can explore their own options, but because it isn't a school event, venue selection, contracts, insurance, food, alcohol, transportation, supervision, safety, accessibility, and liability become the organizers' responsibility. This distinction becomes especially important given the suggestion of wine/alcohol.

Can alcohol be served at a parent-organized grad banquet?

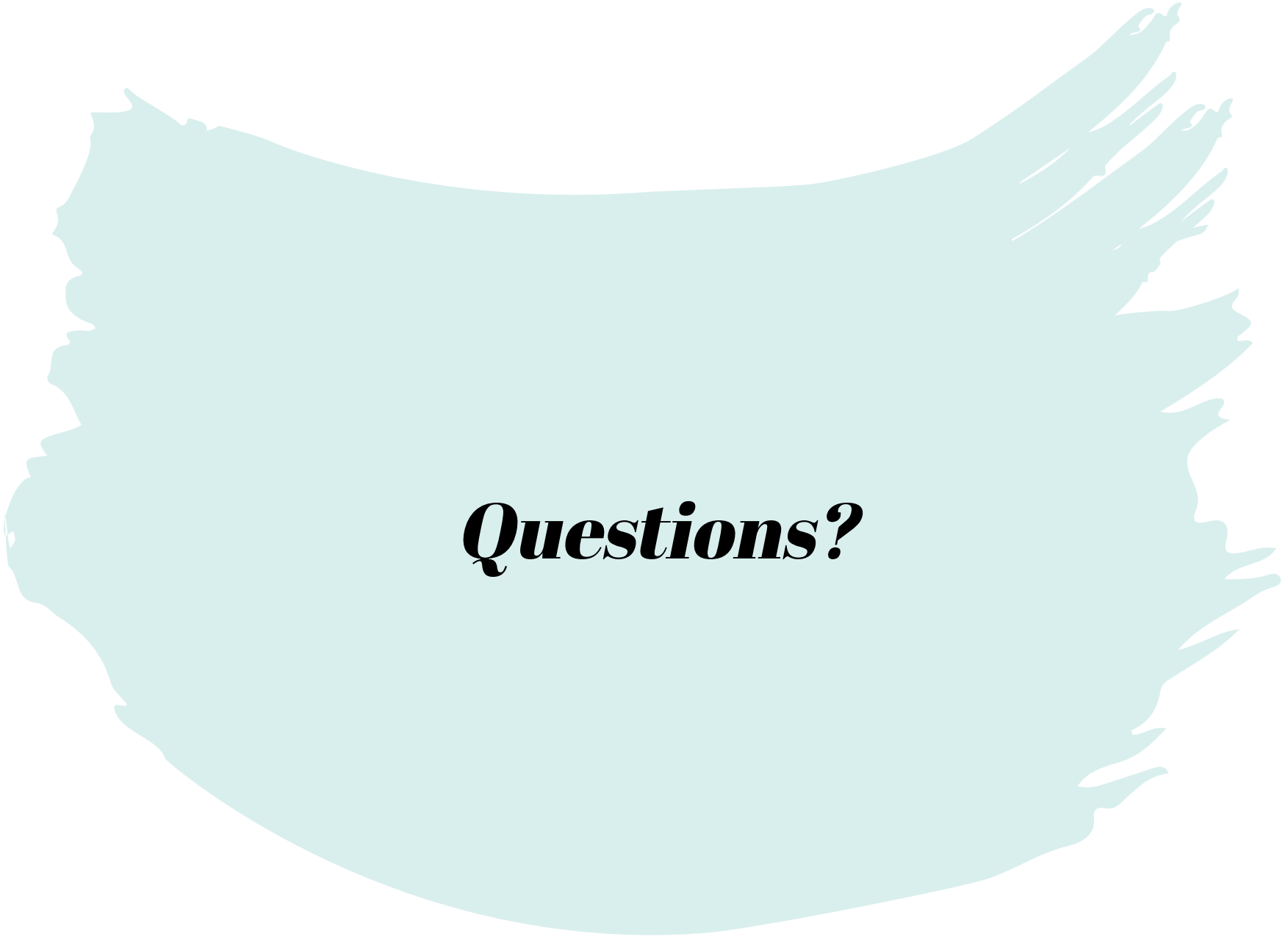
Recognize inclusivity. NHS/HSD is not organizing or sanctioning the banquet, and parents are responsible for ensuring any independent event complies with applicable laws, licensing, insurance, venue requirements, and responsibilities involving minors.

Who is responsible for grad clothing/hoodies?

Grad clothing is school-run. Parent Grad Committee is free to pursue embroidered clothing independently.

What exactly is the purpose of today's parent meeting?

Clarifying responsibilities, answering questions, establishing the parent committee, and giving parents the information they need to begin organizing whatever additional celebrations they choose.

A light blue, irregular brushstroke shape that serves as a background for the text. It has a soft, painterly texture with visible brush marks and a slightly wavy, organic edge.

Questions?



Formation of Safe Grad Parent Committee

- Chair(s)
- Fundraising Committee
- Event Committee
- Photography Committee
- Etc.