



BERNIE CUSTIS GRAD CELEBRATIONS

(For Grade 12 students of 2021)

MONDAY, JUNE 21ST (22 – rain date)

We welcome and celebrate our grade 12 students of the 2021 school year on Monday, June 21st with an outdoor walk-up celebration. In order to celebrate safely and be compliant with Hamilton Public Health Services, we ask our students to book their arrival times. There are available slots throughout the day from 10:00 am – 7:00 pm. Below are the responses to some frequently asked questions.

Q. How do I book a time for my June 21st on-campus Grad Celebrations?

A. At 9 am on Thursday, June 10th, our online booking system will open. You will need your 5 or 6-digit student number found on any report card you may have.

Instructions:

1. Go to the scheduling webpage at <https://berniecustis-grad.parentinterview.com>
2. Enter the graduating student's HWDSB Student Number
3. Fill in your contact information and click "Continue to Make Appointments"
4. Click on "Graduation Appointments"
5. Click on an Available time at which you wish to attend the school
6. Click on "My Schedule" (top left of the page)
7. Print out, email or copy down your appointment time
8. Sign up for your preferred time. If you have questions, experience problems booking, or need special considerations (i.e., accessibility requirements) contact us at [Contact | Bernie Custis Secondary School \(hwdsb.on.ca\)](#) or call 905-296-2504. We are checking messages.

Q. Where should I go on Grad Celebration Day, June 21st?

- A. Before you and members of your household come to the celebration, please complete the Ministry self-screening. Use the link to complete your self-screening. [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) self-assessment \(ontario.ca\)](#)
- B. You and your guests must wear masks and or face shields.
- C. Your Grad Day experience starts either on the King Street side of the school (students with last names A-L) or on the interior side of the school facing Cannon (students with last names M-Z). Please see the map below.
- D. When you come to your designated line, please follow the safety signage and approach the first table where you'll be greeted. At this table, you and your guests will be screened. We have several things for you including a greeting from BCSS staff, special grad spirit wear, a lawn/window grad sign and some other grad gifts. Your grad cap and gowns also will be available if you did not pick up your set the week before (June 10-15).

E. If you have any outstanding school resources such as library books, iPad, sports uniforms or textbooks, there will be a table for item drop offs. Please use this day to return all school items. If there are any outstanding items not returned, you will not receive your official diploma.

F. At the end of each of each line, there will be a photo booth where families can take up to 2 pictures of their students.

Note – There is no access to school washrooms for students or household members.

G. If there is heavy rain on the 21st, come at your designated time on the 22nd (rain date)



MAP

Q. Some parents and grads are not getting email updates about Grad Celebration Day. What can we do about that?

A. We very much want to reach every grade 12 student. Please help us find those people if you know that they've been missed. Since some grade 12 students are already 18, our system automatically stops sending parent emails home until the student officially gives consent that parent contact is OK.

B. Some emails we have on file are now old or incorrect. We have messaged to all grade 12 students and their families, but still some emails are bouncing back, and we don't know to whom they belong. So, please if you are able, spread the word that we are trying to find everyone.

Q. I'm worried about Covid. Will it be safe for me to come to Grad Celebration Day?

A. Our Grad Celebration Day plan has been cleared through HWDSB in consultation with Public Health. Therefore, if you follow the rules of social distancing and follow the directions of the signs and the staff throughout the event site, you can participate with confidence.

Q. Who is allowed to come with me to Grad Celebration Day?

A. Only members of the same household can accompany students on Grad Celebration Day.

Q. Will I get my real diploma on June 21st?

A. No, the diplomas are printed on paper which we order from the Ministry of Education. They send us only the exact number of pages that are needed for each grad. They will be delivered to schools and will be available in July. We will share information when graduated students can come to the school to obtain their diploma. Remember you must hand in all school devices, books, textbooks and library books before you can receive your diploma. However, if you require a transcript, we can help via formal requests that you can make through the office.

Q. I still have questions. Who should I contact?

A. If you have questions about Grad Day, bookings, transcripts, post-secondary schools, deferrals, please contact the school at 905-296-2504. You can also contact the school at

<https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/berniecustis/contact/>