



**NORA FRANCES HENDERSON SECONDARY SCHOOL**  
**COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES 2024**  
**IMPORTANT DATES**

**COMMENCEMENT BREAKFAST- May 28, 2024 (Period1)**

*Nora Frances Henderson Secondary School Cafeteria*

**COMMENCEMENT/GRADUATION CEREMONY-JUNE 25, 2024**

*Mohawk College, McIntyre Performing Arts Centre*

135 Fennell Avenue East

4:00 p.m.

***\*ALL GUESTS AND GRADUATES ARE REQUIRED TO HAVE TICKETS FOR ENTRY. GRADUATES WILL RECEIVE THEIR ENTRY TICKET WITH THEIR CAP/GOWN PACKAGE***

**GRADE 12 PROM – MAY 30, 2024**

*Carmen's Banquet Hall*

1520 Stone Church Rd E, Hamilton, ON L8W 3P9

Doors open -5:30 p.m. Arrival/Reception, Dinner-6:30 p.m., Dance ends-11:00 p.m.

**COMMENCEMENT TIMELINE**

**OCTOBER 2023**

- October 25, 2023 – Grade 12 Pathways & Commencement Information Assembly in Cafeteria

## **NOVEMBER 2023**

- **November 1, 2023 - March 27, 2024 - Commencement Fee of \$70** paid and gowns ordered through **School Cash Online**

## **DECEMBER 2023**

- **December 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 – Graduation Photos:** Everyone needs to have a graduation photo taken for the composite photo. There is no obligation to purchase grad photos. Grade 12's must book an appointment to have their graduation photo taken.

## **MARCH 2024**

- **March 6, 2023 - Commencement 2024 Information Assembly Period 2** - 10:15 am in Cafeteria.
- **March 26th** – Information meeting for those interested in Henderson's 2024 Valedictorian Selection Process during Period 3 Lunch in room 2033
- **March 29<sup>th</sup>** – Deadline to email your intent to put your name forward for Valedictorian to Ms. Reynolds (ereynold@hwdsb.on.ca)

## **APRIL 2024**

- **April 23rd - Present speech preview and submit Valedictorian Nomination Form** to panel of teachers (including Ms. Reynolds) during Period 3 Lunch. Top three candidates will be notified by email in the following days.
- **April 30th - Community Involvement hours** must be completed and submitted to Mrs. Anderson in the Guidance Office

## **MAY 2024**

- **May 11<sup>th</sup>** – Last day to purchase **Prom tickets**
- **May 18<sup>th</sup> - MacMillan's** order arrives
- **May 28<sup>th</sup> – Commencement Breakfast** at Nora Frances Henderson Secondary School during Period 1 in the cafeteria. **Valedictorian speech previews** presented followed by vote by grade 12s to decide their 2024 Valedictorian. Valedictorian announced by end of the day.

## **JUNE 2024**

- **JUNE 10-25 – Gown Pickup** in the Guidance Office, Room 1016
- **JUNE 25 – Commencement Ceremony** - @ 4:00 PM at Mohawk College-*McIntyre Performing Arts Centre*

## **JULY 2024**

- **Starting JULY 15, 2024, and onward – Diploma/Transcripts/Awards** available for pick up in the Main Office between 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.



## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

***Nora Frances Henderson Secondary school will follow a Commencement model of graduation. All students in the year 4 and 5 cohorts will have their achievements celebrated. Not all students will have completed all components of OSSD but are still welcome to participate in the commencement ceremony although some may not officially be graduates. This will allow all students to celebrate their achievement with their cohort peers. Students Graduating with an Ontario Secondary School Diploma are considered potential graduates. Please see further details below. Should you have any questions or concerns, please see your Guidance counsellor.***

### **1. POTENTIAL GRADUATES**

Please check the status of your graduation if you are not sure. Book an appointment with your guidance counsellor to review to ensure that all requirements have been met.

To qualify for an Ontario Secondary School Diploma for June 2024, you must have earned 30 credits (including all compulsory and elective credits), completed 40 hours of Community Involvement, and have met the Literacy Requirement and a minimum of two online learning credits.

**Note: The deadline to submit Community Involvement hours is April 30, 2024**

### **2. VALEDICTORIAN**

**This year's valedictorian will be a graduating student who has:**

- ~ An admirable academic record and is recognized as a leader in the school
- ~ A positive attitude and is involved in various aspects of school life
- ~ The respect of both peers and faculty
- ~ The confidence to write and deliver a speech to a large audience

**The Valedictorian Nomination Form will ask candidates to answer the following question as part of the selection process:** Why are you qualified to be Valedictorian of the 2023-2024 graduating class? Why do you want to be Valedictorian? The Nomination Form will require three teacher endorsements as well.

If you would like to put your name forward for consideration, please **listen to announcements and follow the process outlined below, paying close attention to deadlines:**

1. Tuesday, March 26<sup>th</sup> – Attend the valedictorian information meeting in room 2033 during P3 Lunch.
2. Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup> – Deadline to email your intent to put your name forward for Valedictorian to Ms. Reynolds (ereynold@hwdsb.on.ca).
3. Prepare a 1-minute valedictorian speech preview and complete Valedictorian Nomination Form.
4. Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> – Present speech preview and submit Valedictorian Nomination Form to panel of teachers (including Ms. Reynolds) during P3 Lunch. The top three candidates will be notified by email in the following days.
5. Tuesday, May 28<sup>th</sup> – Top three candidates will present speech previews at the Commencement Breakfast during P1 (where the graduating class will vote to decide their 2024 Valedictorian!).
6. Tuesday, May 28<sup>th</sup> – Successful candidate will be announced by the end of the school day.

### **3. COMMENCEMENT FEE and CEREMONY TICKETS**

Each grade 12 student participating in the Commencement Ceremony on June 25<sup>th</sup> and who has paid the commencement fee of \$70, will receive 3 guest tickets for the ceremony at Mohawk College. All guests require a ticket for entry to the McIntyre Theatre (Mohawk College) to attend the ceremony.

If a student would like extra tickets, they will make a request on a waitlist, and this will be evaluated and distributed on June 10 with the gowns in the Guidance Office.

***School Cash Online for fees will be open until  
March 25, 2024***

**Your fee of \$70 includes the following:**

- Rental and Ceremony of McIntyre Theatre at Mohawk College
- Sounds and Light crew
- Cap, Gown and Tassel (for students to keep)
- Commencement Breakfast
- Parking included

### **4. GRADE 12 PROM DINNER AND DANCE FEE**

- Available for purchase on SCHOOL CASH ONLINE ONLY!

Time: 6-11 p.m.

Cost: \$65 (approximately)



**Save the Date**

**Grade 12 Prom**  
**May 30th**  
**Carmen's Banquet Hall**  
**\$65 per ticket**

#### 5. GRAD HOODIES

- Available for purchase on SCHOOL CASH ONLINE!
- Cost is \$65

Just something to note, when you go onto the website the samples show class of 2023, but these will be for class of 2024.

ORDER UNTIL NOV 6, 2023



**CLASS OF  
2024  
HOODIES**



**EMBROIDERED  
\$65**

**PRINTED  
\$48**

**SCAN THE CODE TO  
ORDER NOW**

**6. MACMILLAN'S FUNDRAISER**



**Attention  
Grade 12s**

**Graduation Fundraiser**

**What?** You can sell quality MacMillan's food items to raise money.

**Why?** Participating in all of the Graduation Events costs money. This way, you won't have to pay as much... or at all!

**Who?** All Grade 12s are welcome to take advantage of this sweet deal.

**When?** Coming this Winter

**How?** Stay tuned for details