

Valedictorian Nomination Video: Rules, Checklist & Rubric

So you want to be valedictorian? Here's what you'll need to do:

- Record a “nomination video” – a short speech in which you encourage your classmates to vote for you by explaining why you are a good choice while demonstrating your amazing public speaking skills
 - o ****IMPORTANT NOTE**** Your video must adhere to the rules outlined below (the checklist on pages 2-3) or else your submission will be *disqualified!*
 - o **Please refer to last year's candidate videos for an example of what a successful video looks like:**
<https://tv.commonshwdsb.on.ca/media/2020-saltfleet-valedictorian-speeches/>
- A staff committee will shortlist (a maximum of 5 candidates will be chosen) based on appropriateness of message and quality of video, and then we'll post all the videos in a public folder (HWDSB TV) for your classmates to watch
- All eligible grads will vote for their preferred candidate in a secure online survey (via an MS Form)

How do I Submit my Video?

Your video must be e-mailed to Ms. Lindal (jlindal@hwdsb.on.ca) by Thursday June 9th @ 4PM. **NO LATE SUBMISSIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED!**

If the video is too large to send as an e-mail, please upload it to your HWDSB Drive folder and “share” the file with jlindal@hwdsb.on.ca

Timeline for Submissions:

Note: all deadlines are *final* – no late submissions will be considered!

Date	What's Happening?
Thursday June 9th @ 4PM	Deadline for video submissions.
Friday June 11th by 2:30PM	All candidates will be notified of their acceptance or rejection via HWDSB e-mail by 2:30PM.
Tuesday June 15th @ 8AM	All successful candidate videos go live; student voting begins. Only graduating students are eligible to vote. ALL NON-GRADUATING STUDENTS WHO VOTE WILL BE DISQUALIFIED.

Thursday June 17th @ 4PM	Student voting closes.
Friday June 18th by 2:30PM	The successful candidate (2021 Valedictorian) is notified via HWDSB e-mail by 2:30PM.

Please see below (pages 2-3) for a checklist of success indicators. Videos that do not meet these indicators will not be accepted. Please follow these rules exactly as they are written.

Check pages 3-5 for the evaluation rubric used by the selection committee.

An eligible video will meet the following technical expectations:

- ✓ Has a **neutral background** (e.g. against a plain white or beige wall)
- ✓ Is shot in **PORTRAIT mode** (tall)
- ✓ You are **centered in the shot** (you are standing in the middle of the frame and **only your shoulders and above are visible**)
- ✓ The shot is **in focus** and your video has **clear audio** (this means that there are no noises, like humming fans, dogs barking, birds chirping or babies crying)
- ✓ You must leave **5 seconds of silence** at the start of your video before speaking
- ✓ After your 5 seconds of silence, please **clearly state your first and last name** (e.g. Jane Doe)
- ✓ After you state your name, **wait another 5 seconds (silence) before you begin your speech**
- ✓ After you are finished your speech, leave **5 seconds of silence** before ending the video
- ✓ When you save the video, please save the **title of the video with your own name** (first and last - e.g. "Jane Doe.mov")
- ✓ Your video **must not be longer than 2 minutes and 15 seconds in length** (2 minutes for your speech + 5 seconds for pre-roll, 5 seconds between pre-roll and stating your name and 5 seconds for post-roll)
 - Before submitting, watch your video playback. Make sure it meets **all the criteria** for technical expectations. If you have to do it again, do it again! Videos not meeting these expectations will be *disqualified!*
 - Please refer to last year's nomination videos for an example of what a successful video looks like:
<https://tv.commonshwdsb.on.ca/media/2020-saltfleet-valedictorian-speeches/>

An eligible video will meet the following presentation expectations:

- ✗ **No props or gimmicks** – just you, in front of a camera, speaking
- ✓ A voice that is expressive, enthusiastic and confident

- ✓ Body language that is still or calm (remember: shoulders up should be the only part of you in the frame)
- ✓ Clothing and grooming that is neat and school appropriate (try to look like you **want to be** a valedictorian, not like you already **are** one!)
- ✓ A message that is no more than 2 minutes in length (not counting pre and post roll)
 - Before submitting, make sure that you have met the criteria above. Any video that uses props, gimmicks, music, sound effects, titles or other editing features will be *disqualified!*

An eligible video will meet the following **content** expectations:

- ✓ The **speaker directly addresses their classmates**
- ✓ Speaks to the candidates **suitability as a valedictorian** (think about):
 - Range of experiences and social groups and interactions
 - Commitment to school culture
 - Commitment to educational ideals
 - Brief summary of the main message to be delivered if selected
- ✓ Uses language that is **suitable to the position** being applied for: polite, thoughtful, funny and articulate

Valedictory Nomination Video Rubric

(to be used by the selection committee to determine eligible candidates):

	Level 4 (Excellent)	Level 3 (Good)	Level 2 (Satisfactory)	Level 1 (Needs Improvement)
Technical Considerations (Quality and Suitability of Video)				
Meets the technical expectations (timing, format, focus, audio quality, etc.)				
Attends to the details of lighting, framing, background, etc.				

Presentation Considerations (Quality and Suitability of Presenter's Delivery)				
Makes effective use of time (organized, confident, good tempo)				
Physical Presence (maintains engagement, direct address to audience/camera, use of posture and gesture, suitable attire and grooming)				
Vocal Expression (clear tone, good diction, energy and emotion appropriate to message, moderate tempo, few (if any) mistakes)				
Content Considerations (Quality and Suitability of Presenter's Message)				
Message is focused on candidate's suitability as valedictorian				
Message is clearly articulated in terms of word choice, sentence structures, overall organization (opening and				

closing comments, a logical progression of ideas or topics)				
Message is organized in a distinctive and personal way to represent the unique character of the candidate				