

# Valedictorian Nomination Video: Rules & Success Checklist

***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
  - **\*\*IMPORTANT NOTE\*\*** Your video must adhere to the rules outlined below or else your submission will be *disqualified*!
  - **Please refer to last year's candidate videos for an example of what a successful video looks like:** <https://hwdsb.tv/media/valdictorian-2022-mp4/>
- A staff committee will shortlist (a maximum of 3 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 students 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 uploaded to OneDrive with your **full name and the words "Valedictorian Nomination Video" as the title** (e.g. Joe English Valedictorian Nomination Video) and shared with Mr. France ([tfrance@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:tfrance@hwdsb.on.ca)) and Mrs. Chudak ([schudak@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:schudak@hwdsb.on.ca)) (set your permissions to share with us) by Friday April 14th @ 2:30PM. **NO LATE SUBMISSIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED!**

## ***Timeline for Submissions:***

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

Date	What's Happening?
April 14th @2:30PM	Deadline for video submissions.
April 20th @8AM	Voting opens via MS Form shared with grade 12 classes via the HUB.
April 28th @2:30PM	Voting closes.

<b>May 1st</b>	The successful candidate will be notified via HWDSB e-mail and by the announcements. They will have until commencement on June 5th to prepare their speech.
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Please see below 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.

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://hwdsb.tv/media/valedictorian-2022-mp4/>

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