

# 2024 Valedictorian Nomination Information

## What is a Valedictorian and who is a good candidate?

A **Valedictorian** is a student who is part of the graduating class who delivers the Valedictory Address at Commencement.

A **Valedictory Address** is generally considered the final farewell to classmates before they leave high school to pursue their individual paths after Commencement.

Any student who is part of the **graduating class** is eligible to run for Valedictorian.

In general, a good **candidate** for Valedictorian is someone who:

- ✓ is **well-rounded**, showing success in academics, involvement in school events and extracurriculars, and a good representation of the school in the wider community
- ✓ can **represent the graduating class** well and can **positively reflect** on several aspects of what life at Saltfleet was like from the perspective of a student
- ✓ feels **comfortable speaking in front of a large audience**
- ✓ is **not returning** to Saltfleet next year

## So you want to be Valedictorian? Here's what you need to do:

Record a short video (no longer than 3 minutes) to **introduce yourself** and **explain** why you are a good candidate for Valedictorian.

*Here are some things you could discuss:*

- Why you are a well-rounded student and good representation of the Saltfleet graduating class
- Your leadership skills and how you contribute to the school and wider community
- A reflection on your time as a Saltfleet student
- Inspiring advice for your fellow graduates' future endeavours

**All parts of your video must be school-appropriate!**

**Please be sure you are clearly SEEN and HEARD in your video.** *Suggestions for a clear video:*

- Keep yourself centered in the shot
- Reduce background noise as much as possible
- No props, gimmicks, movement, or other distractions
- Speak slowly and include pauses between ideas
- Review your video to be sure your message is complete

## **How do I Submit my Video?**

Your video must be uploaded to **OneDrive** with your **full name and “Valedictorian Nomination Video” as the title** (e.g. Joe English Valedictorian Nomination Video).

Once uploaded, share your video with **Ms. Lindy Stewardson** (lsteward@hwdsb.on.ca) **AND Ms. Cristina Cerqueira-Smith** (ccerquei@hwdsb.on.ca). Make sure that you set the permissions to allow viewer access.

**Nomination Videos are due by 11:59PM on Monday April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Late submissions will not be accepted.**

## **Next Steps:**

- A staff committee will select 3-4 candidates based on the video submissions
- Successful candidates will be informed **via e-mail**.
- Successful candidates will then prepare a short speech that they will deliver live at the Commencement Breakfast in May. Instructions for this speech will be provided at a later date.
- Voting for Valedictorian will occur at Commencement Breakfast after the speeches. Students who are not present at Commencement Breakfast CANNOT vote.
- The Valedictorian will be informed via e-mail and has until June to prepare the Valedictory Address for the Commencement Ceremony. The Valedictorian will work with Ms. Stewardson and Ms. Cerqueira-Smith to edit, refine, and practice the Valedictory Address.

## **Timeline for Submissions:**

**All deadlines are FINAL - late submissions will not be accepted**

<b>Date</b>	<b>What's Happening?</b>
Tuesday April 2 <sup>nd</sup> @ 8AM	Nominations open for students
Monday April 29 <sup>th</sup> @ 11:59PM	Deadline for nomination video submissions.
Friday May 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Selected candidates contacted via e-mail with instructions for next steps.
Friday May 24 <sup>th</sup> @ 8:15AM	Commencement Breakfast. Candidate speeches will be delivered <b>LIVE</b> . Peer voting will occur immediately afterward.
Monday May 27 <sup>th</sup>	The Valedictorian will be contacted via e-mail with instructions for next steps.

## **Questions? Contact:**

Ms. Lindy Stewardson (lsteward@hwdsb.on.ca) or in room 2015 periods 1-4

Ms. Cristina Cerqueira-Smith (ccerquei@hwdsb.on.ca) or in room 2013 period 5