



Westmount Secondary School

39 MONTCALM DR.
HAMILTON, ON L9C 4B1
TEL: 905.385.5395

EMAIL: westmoun@hwdsb.on.ca
www.hwdsb.on.ca/westmount
FAX: 905.574.6020

This school year Westmount Secondary School will be running a Grade 12 Commencement on Wednesday May 25, 2016 at Hamilton Place beginning at 430pm. We recognize this is a change to previous years, in which an end of the year Graduation was held, and would like to provide some clarity into the change and help resolve some of the misconceptions circulating the community.

To begin we recognize the importance of the event to both graduates and their families and want to assure you that this has always been our number one priority for this event. Further to this please see below a rationale for changes as well as an assurance that this event is a very formal event for Westmount Secondary School.

1. Venue and Date Change

- a. Due to the size of our grade 12 class our past venue would only accommodate a graduate and up to 2 guests. We feel that due to the importance of this event the capacity would restrict family members from being a part of a very important moment in their son/daughters life.
- b. As a result, Hamilton Place is currently the best fit for our school. Based on venue availability dates were brought to Parent Council and May 25th was selected.

2. Commencement

- a. The Commencement Ceremony will essentially replicate a Graduation Ceremony with all students wearing gowns, walking across the stage and receiving a certificate (with final diplomas and reports handed out at the end of June).
- b. Due to the size of the venue we are able to bring our Wind Orchestra to provide a more formal ambience to the Ceremony as well.

3. Awards

- a. The Commencement Ceremony will still include an awards portion with the majority of the School Awards and Bursaries handed out.
- b. We will be holding another event at the end of the school year to honour the recipients of academic based awards such as the Governor General's Academic Medal.