



# **ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE 2020 GRADUATION APPLICATION INFORMATION**

## **IT IS SOLELY THE STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO:**

- < ENSURE THEY HAVE MET THE ONTARIO SECONDARY SCHOOL DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS
- < VERIFY THAT THEIR CREDIT CHECK IS ACCURATE AND COMPLETE
- < BE AWARE OF THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS PACKAGE
- < APPLY FOR THE DIPLOMA AND AWARDS
- < APPLY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GRADUATION CEREMONY
- < MEET ALL THE DEADLINES OUTLINED IN THIS DOCUMENT
- < BE AWARE OF THE PRINCIPAL'S HONOUR ROLL AND ONTARIO SCHOLAR CRITERIA

## **Requirements to Graduate and Participate:**

O.S.S.D.--Ontario Secondary School Diploma--In order to earn an Ontario Secondary School Diploma, a student must earn a minimum of 30 credits distributed as follows, fulfill Literacy requirements, and complete the 40 Hours Community Service.

### Compulsory Credits (total of 18)

4 Credits in English (1 credit per grade)

3 Credits in Mathematics (at least 1 in Grade 11 or 12)

2 Credits in Science

1 Credit in Canadian Geography

1 Credit in Canadian History

1 Credit in the Arts

1 Credit in Physical and Health Education

1 Credit in French as a Second Language

.5 Credit in Civics

.5 Credit in Career Studies

- 1 of English **or** French as a Second Language **or** Native Language **or** Classical or International Language **or** Social Sciences and the Humanities **or** Canadian and World Studies **or** Guidance and Career Education **or** Cooperative Education
- 1 of Health and Physical Education **or** Arts **or** Business Studies **or** French as a Second Language **or** Cooperative Education
- 1 of Science (Grade 11 or 12) or Technological Education (Grades 9 - 12) **or** French as a Second Language **or** Computer Studies **or** Cooperative Education
- 12 additional credits from available courses including compulsory Religious Study credits
- pass Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test
- complete 40 hours of Community Involvement Activities

## **SJC Requirements to Participate in the Ceremony:**

- must have enrolled in a minimum of 4 Religion Credits

# Graduation Newsletter

September 2019

**Dear 2020 Graduates,**

The date of graduation for next year is **Thursday, June 25, 2020**. This package contains many deadline dates and directions, please keep it for further reference. You will also find grad information on the school website under “Leaving the Nest”.

**Only students who have earned a diploma by June 19, 2020 will be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony. If you wish to participate you must have completed the required 30 credits (including 18 compulsory credits), the 40 hours of community service and the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test.**

## **GRADUATION PHOTOS:**

Graduation photos will be scheduled for those who indicated, on their application form, that they want an appointment. If you want to be in the composite and the year book you must have your picture taken at this time. For consistency, only pictures taken by our photographer will be included in the composite. You do not need to order any of these pictures! Photo retakes and missed appointments will have to be arranged by the student on their own time. Graduation photos will be taken **JANUARY 7-22, 2020**.

## **VALEDICTORIAN NOMINATIONS:**

Valedictorian nomination forms are enclosed. They are also available from Mrs. Ronson. The completed form **must be submitted to Mrs. Ronson by DECEMBER 2, 2019**. If no nominations are forthcoming, there either will not be a valedictorian, or the Principal may choose to ask a student to assume the honour. If there are more than five nominations the valedictorian committee will choose five candidates, based on the information in the package and the essay submitted and a vote will be taken.

## **GRADUATION FEES:**

Graduation entails a great deal of planning and therefore we need your cooperation. Graduation gowns, programs and composites must be ordered. Your graduation fee will be due, and must be paid online before **December 6, 2019**. The Grad Fee is \$80.00 per student. This amount includes the \$25 sitting fee for grad photos and ceremony costs. Prom tickets are not included in this cost. If you do not graduate you will receive a refund, however if you choose not to participate fees will not be refunded after **May 1, 2020**.

## DEADLINE DATES

The following deadlines are firm. These deadlines are set in order for us to meet our commitments. Failure on your part to meet these deadlines will result in your being excluded from these items/events.

EVENT	DATE
Graduation Application Submitted to Student Services	September 27, 2019
Valedictorian Nomination Submitted to Mrs. Ronson	December 2, 2019
Graduation Fee Paid Online	December 6, 2019
School Graduation Photos	January 7-22, 2020
40 Hours Community Involvement Hours completed for grad	January 30, 2020 by 3:00pm
Graduation Photo Retakes	Feb. 25, 26, & 27, 2020
Completed Applications for SJC Bursaries/Awards Due to Student Services	February 28, 2020
Honour J/Eagle Applications Due	April 30, 2020
Graduation Fee Refund Deadline	May 1, 2020
Senior Prom Ticket Sales (SchoolCashOnline)	April 27-May 1, 2020
Final Draft of Valedictorian Speech to Teacher Advisor	May 22, 2020
Senior Prom 5:45 – 10:00 P.M. Best Western	May 29, 2020
Excluded from MC's Program	June 19, 2020
Graduation Rehearsal 9:00 – 12:00 Sanderson Centre	June 24, 2020
Graduation Ceremony 7:00 P.M. Sanderson Centre	June 25, 2020

## **APPLICATIONS FOR AWARDS**

### **SJC AWARDS, BURSARIES AND SCHOLARSHIPS:**

These awards are summarized in this package. They are also listed in more detail with specific criteria for each in the Awards, Bursaries and Scholarships package. Both are available in Student Services and on the school website. Applications for these specific awards will be available at [www.sjconline.ca](http://www.sjconline.ca) under Student Services in January. Applications must be completed on the computer and submitted to Student Services.

Due Date: **February 28, 2020**

NOTE: The Catholic Student Award will be selected from the applications submitted for the Reginald F. Kempa Christian Living Award and The Catholic Christian Service Award.

### **ADDITIONAL AWARDS, BURSARIES AND SCHOLARSHIPS:**

These awards are listed in the Awards, Bursaries and Scholarships package with deadlines and specific criteria for each. This is available in Student Services. It is the responsibility of the students to become familiar with various awards that may be appropriate for them.

### **PRINCIPAL'S HONOUR ROLL:**

Students who qualify for the Principal's Honour Roll must achieve:

- For grade 9, 10 – 80% average in minimum eight courses to be recognized as a full-time student (September – June)
- For grade 11, 12 – 80% average in minimum six courses and be recognized as a full-time student (September – June mandatory six courses)
- Must have a religion course with the period July – June.

These courses must be taken in the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board and will be calculated from July 1 – June 30 for each year's Honour Roll.

**AWARD:**

Students who meet the above requirements will receive an Academic Certificate at either the Awards Assembly (for grades 9-11) or at Graduation (for grade 12). Their names will be displayed in our school throughout the next academic year.

### **ONTARIO SCHOLAR:**

**CRITERIA:**

A student who obtains a total of at least 480 marks in any Grade 12 ministry approved courses having a total of 6 credits, and who has been recommended by his or her principal for the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) in either the current school year or the previous school year, may be designated an Ontario Scholar.

**AWARD:** A student designated an Ontario Scholar will receive an Ontario Scholar Diploma.

The following Awards/Bursaries/Scholarships are available in Student Services in January and are due by February 28, 2020. Please visit [www.sjconline.ca](http://www.sjconline.ca) for a more detailed list and criteria.

	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>APPLICATION #</u>
• Mabel and Gordon McMillen Foundations Scholarship	\$6000	n/a
• Knights of Columbus	\$200 - \$500	1
• C.W.L. St. Basil's Parish	\$125	6
• C.W.L. St. Pius X Parish – one College	\$500	6
• C.W.L. St. Pius X Parish – one University	\$500	6
• St. Pius C.W.L. Leadership Award Dedicated to the Memory of Deceased Past-Presidents	\$200	6
• Rev. Edward J. Gira Memorial (St. Joseph's Parish)	\$100/plaque	6
• Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association	\$150 (x2)	1
• St. John's College School Council Bursary	\$500	1
• J. Frank Quinlan Memorial	\$50	2
• Jeffrey Kings Memorial Bursary	\$1000	3
• J.W. Burke Scholarship for Laurier-Brant	\$200	2
• Lisa Dawdy Memorial Bursary	\$200	2
• Edmund Turlej Memorial Bursary	\$100	2
• Reginald F. Kempa Christian Living Award	\$200/ plaque	5
• BHNCD SB Catholic Christian Service Award	Book & plaque	5
• SJC School Council Merit Award	\$100	5
• C.W.L. Sacred Heart Council Religion in Life Award	\$100/ plaque	6
• The Lieutenant Governor's Community Volunteer Award	Pin	4
• Retired Teachers' Organization Bursary	\$200	2
• Smitiuch & Young Scholarship	\$250/ plaque	n/a
• Rebecca Wolstenholme Memorial Award	\$100	3
• The Spirit of Optimism Award	\$200	4
• R.J. McCarthy Ltd. Bursary	\$500	1
• St. Joseph's Council, C.W.L.	\$100/plaque	6
• The Sisters of Providence of St. Vincent de Paul Bursary	\$500 (x2)	1
• Brant County Federation of Agriculture	\$250	3
• St. John's College Leadership Award	plaque	4
• John Douglas Carr Memorial Award	\$1,000	3

# VALEDICTORIAN INFORMATION

Valedictorian application forms are available as part of the “Leaving the Nest” graduation package. The completed form and essay must be submitted to Mrs. Ronson in the Student Services office by **February 7, 2020 at 3:00 pm**. If no applications are forthcoming, there will either not be a valedictorian or the Graduation Awards Selection Committee may choose to ask a student to assume the honour.

The successful candidates will present their written essays over the morning announcements on SJC TV so that graduates may make an informed decision.

## Role of the Valedictorian

- \* To compose and deliver the valedictory address on behalf of the graduating students.
- \* To epitomize the qualities for which graduates strive.
- \* To represent the entire school community.
- \* To exemplify the outcomes set for graduates of Ontario Catholic schools.

## Criteria for Valedictorian

- \* Must be a member of the graduating class and qualify to graduate by **June 19, 2020**.
- \* Must have maintained a consistent, serious attitude towards their studies.
- \* Must have maintained an average of 80% or higher during Semester 1, 2019 and continue through to midterm of Semester 2, 2020.
- \* Must have demonstrated excellent written and oral ability through course work.
- \* Must be willing to represent all interest groups and career aspirations of the graduating class.
- \* Must be willing to express the philosophy of Catholic schools.
- \* Must provide specific proof of the above criteria.

## Valedictorian Selection Process

1. Candidate must complete the Valedictorian Application Form and submit the required essay by **February 8, 2020** to Mrs. Ronson in Student Services.
2. Candidate may be either a) nominated by a staff member, OR, b) self-nominated.
3. The committee may select up to **five** candidates for valedictorian. The committee (members of the Graduation Awards Selection Committee) will base its selection:
  - a. The student’s nomination/application form/300-word essay.
  - b. Verification of the student’s academic and public speaking ability.
  - c. The committee’s belief in the candidate’s ability and willingness to represent the graduating class as a whole, as well as the values of our school system.

**The committee’s decisions are final, and no appeals will be heard.**
4. Valedictorian candidates will be given the opportunity to present their 300-word essay on “Why they are worthy candidates and meet the criteria for valedictorian”, for 1 minute, 20 second presentation on morning announcements over SJC TV: **February 10**, process overview, **February 11-February 19**, candidates on announcements, one per morning in alphabetical order.
5. A hard copy of each candidate’s essay will be posted in the Main Office for reference.
6. **Solicitation for votes by candidates by use of print or ANY social media will NOT BE PERMITTED.**

7. A Valedictorian ballot will be created naming each of the selected candidates in alphabetical order.
8. Graduation candidates, who have paid to participate in graduation ceremony, are eligible voters.
9. Ballots will be completed during Period 2, on **Monday, February 24, 2020**.
10. The valedictorian will be announced on SJC TV no later than **March 7, 2020**.

### **Terms of Valedictorian Contract**

1. The Valedictorian address **MUST**:
  - a. Thank the graduating class for selecting them to speak on their behalf.
  - b. Honour the school's academic standards.
  - c. Reflect Catholic school / message of Jesus / values.
  - d. Mention extra-curricular events and involvement.
  - e. Be sure to speak for everyone work / college / university bound.
  - f. Mention classes' goals / responsibilities.
  - g. Contain a few personal comments.
  - h. Thank your parents / all parents.
  - i. Thank the administrative team, faculty, and staff.
  - j. Mention your hopes, dreams for the future and that of your peers.
  - k. Not refer to specific individuals by name, students and/or teachers.
  - l. Use the proper order in which address guests: Clergy members, distinguished guests, Trustees, Senior Administration, Staff, Graduates, Family and Friends.
2. The valedictorian **MUST** work with a staff advisor, Mr. Johnathan Salciccioli, in March, April and May to work through the process of writing the address.
3. The valedictorian **MUST** submit a **first draft** of their speech by **the END of MARCH** and a **second draft by the END of APRIL**.
4. **The final copy must be submitted by May 25, 2020.**
5. The valedictorian will remain at the Sanderson Centre after the rehearsal on **June 24** to practice the speech.

**Remember that your speech will be published in the year book.**

**Be certain that you have not plagiarised.**

**If you fail to meet these deadlines or expectations you will be replaced by the runner up for valedictorian honour.**



# VALEDICTORIAN APPLICATION FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## PART A: Academics

1. Number of credits earned to date: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Approximate average earned over the last four years: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Overall average from first semester (= or > 80%): \_\_\_\_\_

Above verified by \_\_\_\_\_ (Guidance Counsellor)

An overall average of 80% **MUST** be maintained through to the midterm of Semester 2.  
This will be verified by Mrs. Ronson and Mrs. Ronson at Progress Report time and at Midterm.

## PART B: Writing and Speaking Ability

1. I can attest to this student's writing and oral ability.

Verified by \_\_\_\_\_ (Classroom Teacher)

## PART C: Typed 300 Word Essay (The essay will be used as criteria for selecting candidates)

1. Respond to "Why I believe that I am a worthy candidate and meet the criteria for valedictorian" in a 300-word typed, polished and formal submission. Be sure to refer to the Catholic Graduate Expectations (found on the Board Website) in your response. **\*\*YOU MUST INCLUDE YOUR WORD COUNT AND ADHERE TO THE 300 WORD LIMIT\*\***

This application and the essay must be submitted to Mrs. Ronson in Student Services no later than **February 7, 2020 by 3:00 pm**. Failure to meet the deadline will negate your submission.