

Dear Parents,

I have had a few inquiries about Grad pictures and the procedure at BHS for this year, so I thought it would be helpful to pass the following information along. I wanted to assure everyone that the procedure has not changed. It is exactly the same as in past years.

Families can choose to have their son's or daughter's grad pictures taken by any photographer they wish. This year, BHS is offering a graduation pictures service through Lifetouch, but you are under no obligation to choose this option for your photos. However, to have a picture entered into the yearbook it must be done through Lifetouch, as they are the service provider for photos for the yearbook. Lifetouch does charge a small sitting fee for their pictures but there is no commitment to purchase any additional packages through them. This is also the same procedure as it has been in past years. New to this year is this: immediately after Lifetouch finishes photographing a BHS graduate, he or she can now see their pictures and choose which one they want to go into the yearbook from a selected group.

I also wanted families to know that all of the school's photography needs were taken into consideration before entering into any contract. Previously, BHS had a contract with Christopher's Studio, but this company has since closed, and transferred clients and files to Lifetouch. BHS decided to renew this contract for a one year trial period to make sure all photography needs were covered and satisfactory. The level of service and satisfaction will be reviewed at the end of the period, before committing to any future contracts. Our goal is to ensure a quality, consistent service for our students and school, and to have one provider meet all of our photography needs.

Lifetouch was chosen as the photographer for BHS for a number of reasons. They include:

- Minimizing class interruptions during pictures day - pictures for all grades can be completed in minimal time.
- They are able to provide local photographers who live in the Bathurst area to come to school and take pictures of all students in all grades.
- They are able to provide ID cards for BHS students.
- They provide several picture books that are vital to BHS staff and administration
- They deal with and have taken pictures for many other NB schools, including Parkwood Heights Elementary, Terry Fox Elementary, James M. Hill, SMS and ESN to name a few.
- Lifetouch has the capability to upload student pictures to the school's current Power School Program.

- Lifetouch will be able to continue the tradition of taking the aerial grad photo and will be framing this to be displayed in the cafeteria. This has been done by Christopher's Studio since 1981.
- Lifetouch has agreed to come in and take a group picture of the SRC, all athletes and drama students at the end of the year for framing and display in BHS.
- Our contract with Lifetouch includes them offering grad photo packages to grads and their families and for the exclusive rights to take pictures for the yearbook.
- We can't accept pictures from all photographers for the yearbook as it is very important to have the same resolution, size, picture quality, and color for all grad pictures to ensure a professional and high quality yearbook product for grads.

I hope this information has helped clear up any confusion. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this service, please contact us directly at the school and we will be happy to talk with you.

Shaun MacDonald
Principal
Bathurst High School