

December  
2022



CHINOOK'S EDGE SCHOOL DIVISION NO 73

# Didsbury High School

## Principal's Message

### From the Principal's Desk:

Well December had her presence ushered in by a November that returned to normal temperatures (unfortunately) in the last few days of the month. It is probably fitting that the ground is covered in snow as we head towards Christmas but it was certainly nice to get a relatively forgiving November.

As 2022 comes to a close, it is important to note that there are some important beginnings as well. With the close of a successful volleyball season, we celebrate the beginning of the basketball season with Dragons teams kicking things off as the month begins. On the Arts side of things the DHS Drama production, Biggety Bad and the Three Little Pigs will have three showings between December 2 and December 3. Our annual Christmas Concert is also coming up soon on Sunday, December 18th at 2:00 PM where Mr. Wassmer and the band will play great music while I attempt bad jokes. Please see the newsletter for more information on these events.

On Friday, November 25 our staff spent their Collaboration Day continuing their work of creating Google Classrooms for the school division. The purpose of these classrooms is to provide resources so that new teachers or teachers new to a course will have a high quality package of materials to use as a starting point or as a scaffold to build upon. The afternoon of the Collaboration day was used to allow all teachers the time to discuss and make plans for students that are experiencing difficulties. These Collaborative Response meetings are designed to allow teachers the opportunity to collectively problem solve and strategize around some of our more at-risk students.

As we head into these last fourteen school days of 2022, it is important to remember that there is still a lot of work to do. Both the days and tempers tend to get shorter as we approach Christmas -- a stressful time for many despite the festive atmosphere of the season. The DHS admin team would like to ask that everyone -- students, parents and staff (including ourselves) -- stay mindful of this as we find the edges of our patience frayed as we head towards a well deserved break.

Have a great December and a great holiday and remember -- our door, phone lines and email are always open.

Have a Merry Christmas and Happy  
New Year!

Scott MacDonald  
Principal



### Inside this issue:

Superintendents' Message	2
Band News	2 & 3
Drama News	5
Grad 2023 News	6
Leadership News	6 & 7
Community News	8
January 2023 Final Exam Schedule	10

**DIDSBURY HIGH SCHOOL**  
**1515-15 AVENUE**  
**DIDSBURY, AB T0M 0W0**  
**P 403-335-3356 F 403-335-8036**

*Principal—Scott MacDonald*

*Vice Principal—Curtis Dick*

[www.didsburyhigh.ca](http://www.didsburyhigh.ca)

## Modeling what great citizenship truly means

A Message from Superintendent Kurt Sacher

I believe that positive energy is present in Chinook's Edge whenever people from our school communities gather, and this fall there has been a renewed sense of gratitude for our time together in school each day. We know the holiday season ignites an even greater sense of compassion and goodwill in our schools, as students and staff answer the call to be good global citizens. They are sharing our caring culture by ensuring the shelves are well stocked at area Food Banks, filling hundreds of shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child, performing seasonal concerts at seniors' homes, and gathering warm mittens for those less fortunate.

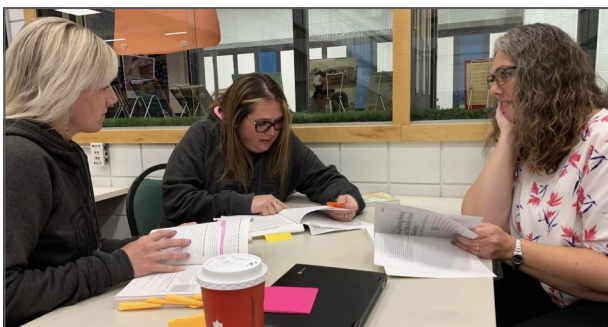
Our students model what great citizenship truly means. In Chinook's Edge, we believe citizenship involves the character of an individual and their respect for the greater societal good. At a time when lessons in the importance of being a good neighbour, a helpful friend and a respectful citizen are needed, we applaud our students and staff for the plentiful examples of their kindness.

Thank you to everyone who nurtures this generosity of spirit all year long in Chinook's Edge!

### Welcome to Kindergarten!

Beginning in January, Chinook's Edge will be accepting Kindergarten registrations for the 2023-2024 school year. Children must turn five years old by December 31, 2023 to begin attending Kindergarten in the fall of 2023. **Online registration will begin on January 9, 2023.** Please visit our website for [Kindergarten information](#), including the Chinook's Edge schools that offer Pre-Kindergarten programming!

### Professional Learning Day November 25



These teachers and staff at Westglen School, as in schools throughout Chinook's Edge, have been engaged in high leverage strategies to support student progress during the division's Professional Learning Days.

Focussed efforts on Professional Learning Days have improved student achievement results, and support for those having difficulty, so that high school graduation is a reality for everyone! Read more [at this link](#).

### Responding to the rise of respiratory viruses



The chief medical officer of health, Dr. Mark Joffe, has issued a statement about the increase of respiratory viruses in Alberta. As always, Chinook's Edge takes its lead in these matters from the officials at Alberta Health Services, and share their priority to keep our school communities safe. The government's full statement can be read [at this link](#). We appreciate your attention to the preventative measures Dr. Joffe outlines. Our efforts together make a huge impact in our safe and caring schools!

## Band News

---

### **PURDY'S CHOCOLATES**

Purdy's Chocolates will be available for pick-up after school on Wednesday, December 7th.

### **BAND SOCIETY MEETING**

The next meeting of the DHS Band Society will be Tuesday, December 13th at 7 PM in the DHS Music Room.

### **DHS BAND CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

The Didsbury High School Christmas Concert, Tea and Silent Auction will be held on Sunday, December 18th at 2:00 P.M. in the Didsbury High School Gymnasium.

In addition to being a beautiful afternoon of music, food and Christmas cheer, this is also an outstanding fundraiser for the Music Department. In order to make this event a success, we need every family's participation in the following ways:

- \* We are asking each family to donate an item for the silent auction. You may request a donation from a store or business you are familiar with, or some families choose to purchase an item for donation. These can be brought into the Music Room anytime between now and the concert. Please don't send perishable food items as part of your silent auction contribution!
- \* We also require each family to bring a plate of squares or cookies on the afternoon of the concert. Please send these with your son/daughter when they come for their call time on Sunday. All food items should be cut and on a disposable plate.
- \* Finally, we will be setting up and decorating the Gym on Sunday morning at 9:30 A.M. Although we will have a number of students on hand, parent help is always appreciated.

If you are coming to bid on items in the silent auction, you are urged to pre-register your name through our online system. Please go to [dhsmusic.ca](https://dhsmusic.ca) and click on the Fundraising tab to register and receive a bidder/buyer number for the auction.



## Symphonic Winds Springs Tour

While some fine details are still being worked out, our general itinerary for the trip will be as follows:

<b>Friday, April 7</b>	Depart DHS at 5 PM
<b>Saturday, April 8</b>	Arrive Halifax at 5 AM Peggy's Cove Tour of Historic Halifax Citadel Hill National Historic Site
<b>Sunday, April 9</b>	Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21 Halifax Seaport Farmers Market Shared concert at Paul O'Regan Hall
<b>Monday, April 10</b>	Travel to Wolfville Performance/workshop with Dr. Mark Hopkins Tour of Acadia University Tour of Wolfville
<b>Tuesday, April 11</b>	Maritime Museum of the Atlantic Exchange performance with local high school Grafton Street Dinner Theatre
<b>Wednesday, April 12</b>	Bay of Fundy Joggins Fossil Cliffs Lunch in Amherst Travel to PEI via the Confederation Bridge Ghost tour of Historic Charlottetown
<b>Thursday, April 13</b>	School performance Guided tour of the north shore of PEI Ceilidh group dinner
<b>Friday, April 14</b>	Return to Halifax via the Confederation Bridge Depart Halifax at 3:55 PM Arrive Didsbury at 8:45 PM

BAND TRIP PAYMENT SCHEDULE

	SENIOR (Maritimes)	GRADE 9 (Moose Jaw)
December 2	\$500	
January 27	\$500	
March 3		\$200
March 31	Balance Due	
April 28		Balance Due

The cost of this trip has been fixed at \$2850 per person. This would include: airport transfers from Didsbury to YYC, airfare, transportation while in Nova Scotia and PEI, accommodation, breakfasts and suppers, admission to all group attractions and activities, and a DHS Music tour jacket.

At this time all travelers (including chaperones) should have \$900 in their tour accounts. The next payment of \$500 is due Friday, December 9th.

Because our trip has been approved by CESD, we are eligible for group travel insurance from our Division insurance provider. Details of this plan can be found here:

<https://www.mshgroups.com/armicoutbound>

If you would like to purchase additional insurance for your trip through our tour organizer **it must be done when we send in our deposit on December 9th**. Purchasing additional insurance is optional and not included in the tour cost.

Ellison Travel (our tour organizer) offers two insurance packages:

- 1. Manulife Ellison Youth All-Inclusive Package (EYP) \$159.00**
- 2. Manulife Premium Protection Plan (PPP) \$324.00**

**If you wish to purchase either of these policies, please let me know ASAP so I can inform our tour organizer.** Also please note that both of these plans are available to unvaccinated travelers for an additional \$29.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact Mr. Wassmer at DHS [kwassmer@cesd73.ca](mailto:kwassmer@cesd73.ca) or 403.335.3356, ext. 5959.



# Didsbury High School Presents: Biggity Bad

&

## The Three Little Pigs

Written By: Edith Weiss

Directed By: Cali Beazley



December 2nd & 3rd  
Friday, Dec. 2nd - 7:00 PM  
Saturday, Dec. 3rd - 1:00 PM  
Saturday, Dec. 3rd - 7:00 PM  
AT DIDSBURY HIGH SCHOOL

Tickets For Sale At:  
Didsbury High School &  
Value Drug Mart  
Matinee - \$10.00  
Evening - \$15.00  
Children under 5yrs Free

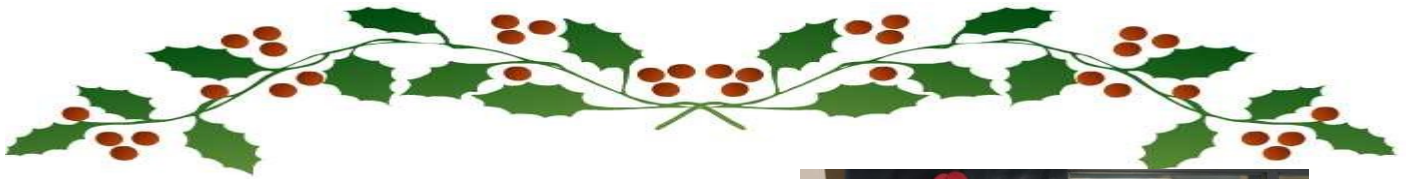


The minutes for the November 23th Graduation Planning meeting will be available on the DHS website, [didsburyhigh.ca](http://didsburyhigh.ca), for anyone who missed it.

The next Planning meeting is on Wed January 25 at 7:30 pm! The Agenda is also on the website.

## Leadership News

---



### Christmas Door Decorating Contest

Door Decorating - December 12-16

Judging - December 19



### *Christmas Helpers Food Fundraiser*

*On behalf of the Zion Church, Didsbury High School  
will be collecting food items for the Didsbury Christmas Helpers Program.*

*Items will be collected during second period classes until December 12th.*

*We are aware that the need within our community is great this year. The Zion Church is hoping for more community members to come forward and adopt a family or prepare a food sleigh. Please contact the Zion Church if you or your family are able to help a family in need this Christmas.*









# Female Lacrosse Come Try it Nights!!

**All Female players  
between the ages of 10-16 across Central Alberta  
This is a FREE Event ot take place over three Mondays in January  
at the Collicut Center in Red Deer  
Ages U13-U15 January 9,16 and 23 715-815pm  
Ages U15-U17 January 9-16 and 23 815-915pm  
Register using the link on website (under Camps and Clinics tab)  
[centralalbertalacrosse.com](http://centralalbertalacrosse.com)**

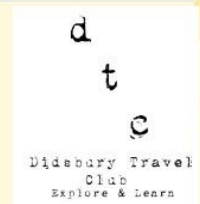


*“She believed  
she could  
so she did.”*

—R.S. Grey



## Adventure in COSTA RICA



In April 2024, the Didsbury Travel Club is planning a trip to Costa Rica. The Didsbury Travel Club has taken many trips with students and adults to countries such as Italy, France, Greece, South Africa, and Peru. We travel through EF Education Tours which is a student travel company that prides itself on safety and quality experience

### INTERESTED? QUESTIONS?

Talk to Catherine Morgan or Mark Leggette.

Email:  
[didsburytravelclub@gmail.com](mailto:didsburytravelclub@gmail.com)

Need more info? Ready to sign up?  
Scan the link below or go to  
[eftours.ca/enrol](http://eftours.ca/enrol) enter trip# 251870DT



*Currently, cost is \$3654 for  
students; \$4114 for adults.  
This includes insurance. This  
cost can increase the closer the  
trip gets.*



Didsbury Travel club is not affiliated  
with Chinook's Edge School Division





Don't forget to order your  
**2022/2023 YEARBOOK**  
On sale now through Student Quick Pay

## Christmas Café



Calling all DHS musical talent!! Christmas Café will be the afternoon of December 23, 2022. The DHS "Cheer Meisters" will be leading the festivities! If you have an act you wish to share, please contact Mr. Wassmer.

### Looking Ahead

#### January Dates to Remember

Students back to Classes	January 9
Diploma Exams - Part A	January 12 & 13
English Diploma Exam - Part B	January 20
Last Week of Final Exams	January 23 - 27
Organizational Day—No Classes	January 30
First Day of Semester 2	January 31

The Staff of Didsbury High School wish you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!




## January 2023 Exam Schedule

### DHS EXAM SCHEDULE - JANUARY 2023


(Subject to Change)

DATE	EXAM	TIME
Thursday, January 12	English 30-1 / 30-2 Diploma Part A	9:00 AM
Friday, January 13	Social 30-1 / 30-2 Diploma Part A	9:00 AM
Friday, January 20	English 30-1 / 30-2 Diploma Part B	9:00 AM
Monday, January 23	Social 30-1 / 30-2 Diploma Part B Social 9 PAT Science 10 Math 20-1 / 20-2 / 20-3	9:00 AM 9:00 AM 9:00 AM 9:00 AM
Tuesday, January 24	Biology 30 Diploma English 10 Part B English 20-1 Biology 20	9:00 AM 9:00 AM 9:00 AM 9:00 AM
Wednesday, January 25	Science 9 PAT Math 10C Social 20-1 English 20-2	9:00 AM 9:00 AM 9:00 AM 9:00 AM
Thursday, January 26	Physics 30 Diploma Social 10 Chemistry 20 Math 9 PAT Part A Math 9 PAT Part B	9:00 AM 9:00 AM 9:00 AM 9:00 AM 10:00 AM

# December 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 DHS Drama Presents "Biggity Bad & The Three Little Pigs" 7pm	3 DHS Drama Presents "Biggity Bad & The Three Little Pigs" 1pm & 7pm
4	5	6	7	8	9 Collaborative Day—No Classes	10
11	12	13 Band Society Mtg 7 pm	14	15	16	17
18 DHS Band Christmas Concert 2 pm	19 Red & Green Day	20 Christmas Hat Day	21 Ugly Sweater Day	22 Elf/Reindeer Day	23 PJ& Slipper Day Christmas Café @ 1pm	24
25 	26 Christmas Break - No Classes	27 Christmas Break - No Classes	28 Christmas Break - No Classes	29 Christmas Break - No Classes	30 Christmas Break - No Classes	31

# January 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 	2 Christmas Break - No Classes	3 Christmas Break - No Classes	4 Christmas Break - No Classes	5 Christmas Break - No Classes	6 Christmas Break - No Classes	7
8	9 Students back to classes	10	11	12 English 30 Diploma Part A	13 Social 30 Diploma Part A	14
15	16	17 Parent/School Council Meeting 7pm	18	19	20 English 30 Diploma Part B	21
22	23 Social 30 Diploma Part B Final Exam Week	24 Final Exam Week	25 Final Exam Week Grad 2023 Planning Mtg 7pm	26 Final Exam Week	27 Final Exam Week	28
29	30 Organizational Day—No Classes	31 Semester 2 Begins				