

February
2023



CHINOOK'S EDGE SCHOOL DIVISION NO 73

Didsbury High School

Principal's Message

Today marks the beginning of the second half of the school year and with it a host of changes to most students' schedules and teachers' timetables. At this time, a few of our Grade 12 students will have already completed all the requirements of a high school diploma and will shortly be receiving that diploma in the mail. We congratulate them on that milestone even though many of those students will continue to come to school to complete requirements for post-secondary admissions. All students from 9-12 will also be exploring new complementary courses and beginning a new set of core classes.

The first few days of the semester are usually quite busy with course changes. During the time that Mr. Dick is on leave, the primary responsibility for those changes will lay with Mrs. Roy and Mrs. Wassmer who are based in the Career High. Students wishing to change their schedules should make an appointment at the main office. The Career High team, Mrs. Doiron or Mr. MacDonald will then meet with them to discuss the changes they wish to make.

Now that exams are done and we are moving into a new semester, we would like to invite all of our students, staff, and parents to reflect on the past five months. Our students should examine their study and work habits of the past semester and see if there are changes they could make to improve those habits that might positively impact their success going forward. DHS teachers met on the Organizational Day on January 30 to reflect on our first half of the year and discussed possible changes in practices for the second half. Parents might wish to take the new start to investigate whether some changes to routines at home would have a positive effect on their children's success at school -- whether it be setting aside dedicated homework time or limiting late-night technology use to name a few examples.

Things that will not be changing include the fact that all final exams in June will be worth no more than 20% -- keeping us aligned with the stated value of Diploma Exams and first-semester exam weighting.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank all the parents who filled out the survey about School Council. Based on the feedback, we are going to try an online meeting on February 7 at an earlier time to see if we can get more involvement. Information on how to receive the link to the meeting and agenda is contained in this newsletter.

We hope that all our students took the opportunity to relax and recharge over their three-day weekend and we look forward to a great second semester here at DHS.

Have a great February!

Scott MacDonald
Principal



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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

Embracing Indigenous students and their families

A message from Superintendent Kurt Sacher

Acting in support of our commitment to our 900 Indigenous students and their families, and to embrace Indigenous Learning for all students and staff, we will be installing Treaty flags inside schools across our division as a sign of respect to Indigenous Peoples.

Recently, our Board of Trustees, Leadership Team, and School Administration Teams shared an important flag ceremony with Elders, Knowledge Keepers and special guests from Treaty 6, Treaty 7 and the Métis Nation.

It was a touching and historic moment for our school division. It fills us with tremendous pride as we continue to make authentic steps forward with respect to truth and reconciliation. It was a special day in our critically important journey.

I would like to thank our Indigenous Learning team for bringing us together with our honoured guests, and to all our administrators, staff and trustees for what they have all done to this point and for what they will continue to do.

The admin team from your child's school will provide further information on their own flag ceremony as their plans evolve, and we thank you for walking alongside us throughout this journey. In Chinook's Edge, our actions will always speak louder than our words.

Kurt Sacher



Superintendent Kurt Sacher shared a warm greeting with honoured guests before addressing the audience, while students provided a spirited celebration in dance at the Indigenous Flag ceremony. Chinook's Edge is working to ensure our Indigenous students and families feel welcome, cared for and respected through our Indigenous Students Matter committee, our Indigenous Learning Team with reps in every school, and our heartfelt commitment. Please read more [here](#).

Band News

It is so nice to be able to plan for Spring tours and festival performances again! That being said, there is a lot going on in DHS Music this semester; if at any point you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me.

DHS Band Society:

The next meeting of the DHS Band Society will be Wednesday, February 8th at 7 PM in the DHS Music Room.

Fundraising:

Your student should be bringing home information on the Mom's Pantry fundraiser, which will be starting this week. Orders must be returned by Wednesday, February 15th.

There is also a bottle drive planned for Monday, February 13th. Students and parents wanting to take part should meet in the foyer of DHS at 5:30 PM to sign in and receive routes.

Upcoming Trips:

Planning continues for the Grade 9 tour to the Moose Jaw Band and Choral Festival, and also the Symphonic Winds tour to the Maritimes. A reminder that the next payment for both trips is due by Friday, March 3rd. Grade 9 tour participants will need to submit \$200 and Symphonic Winds tour members will need to submit \$500.

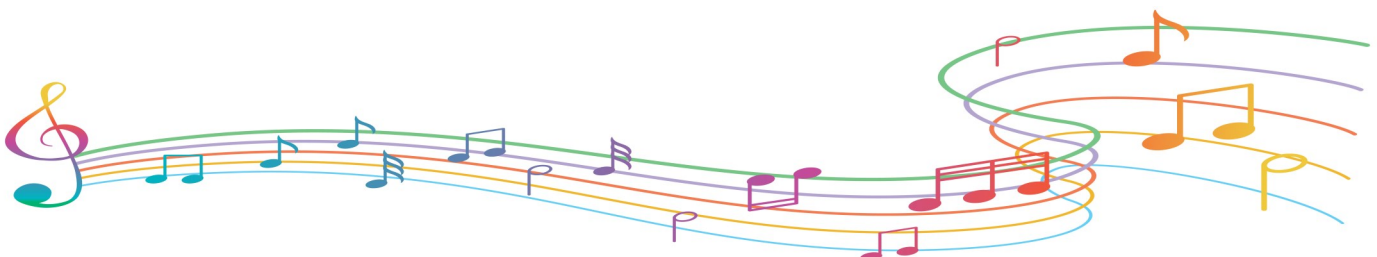
All Symphonic Winds members and chaperones travelling to the Maritimes please note that we will be having a mandatory group meeting on Thursday, March 30th at 7 PM in the DHS Music Room to discuss final preparations for our departure.

IMPORTANT DATES:

February 8th	Band Society meeting (7 PM, DHS Music Room)
February 13th	Bottle drive (5:30 PM, DHS foyer)
March 3rd	Tour payments due (Gr 9 - \$200, SW - \$500)
March 3rd - 5th	ABA Provincial Jr Hr Band/Wind Symphony
March 10th	Odds Jazz to Edmonton Jazz Festival
March 21st - 22nd	Olds Kiwanis Music Festival (times TBD)
March 30th	Departure meeting for SW Maritimes tour
March 31st	Final payment due for SW Maritimes tour



As always, if you have any questions or concerns please contact Mr. Wassmer at DHS (403.335.3356, ext. 5959).





February Activities



Feb 6th - Feb 13th

Valentine's button pins and cookies sold
at lunch



Feb 14th

Shoe Game in the foyer at lunch



Feb 17th

Pink Shirt Day
• sticky note for a lemonade



DHS SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY FEBRUARY 7th Online @ 6 PM

Thank you to everyone who participated in our survey about the DHS School Parent Council. We appreciate your feedback. Based on the information you provided us, we are going to try Online School Council Meetings. Starting Tuesday February 7th, we will have an online meeting at 6pm. If you are interested in joining the meeting, the link to the Google Meet and Agenda will be posted on the DHS website, didsburyhigh.ca. Everyone is welcome to join.

GRAD 2023



Grad 2023 Portraits will take place during the week of
February 18th to 24th.

Time slots run from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm on these days.
See Ms. Lerbekmo for an information sheet from the photographer that will explain everything.

The next Grad Planning meeting will be
Wednesday March 8th at 7:00 pm in the DHS Library

Pink Shirt Day



*Take a Stand Against Bullying join us on
Friday February 17, 2023
in support of anti bullying by wearing pink to raise awareness*



**ELKS OF
CANADA**

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Didsbury No. 514

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By Appointment Only

For more information contact
Margo Ward at 403-556-5201

All appointments will take place
at the **Didsbury Elks Hall**
1914 - 20 Street in Didsbury, AB

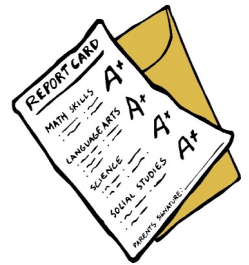




ON SALE NOW!
2022/2023 YEARBOOK
Available through Student Quick Pay
or order through Miss Budd or Mrs. Nielsen.

Semester 2 Report Cards and Parent Teacher Interviews

- ◇ Interim Report Cards - March 15, 2023 (online only through PowerSchool)
- ◇ Parent/Teacher Interviews - March 22, 2023 4:30pm - 7:30pm
Appointment Required - please call 403-335-3356 to book starting March 1.
- ◇ Report Cards - April 14, 2023 (online only through PowerSchool)
- ◇ Final Report Cards - June 28, 2023 (online only through PowerSchool)



Library Reminder

Reminder to students that all library books are to be returned
before the start of the second semester.

Semester 2 Textbooks cannot be signed out until Semester 1 Textbooks
and Library books have been returned/renewed.




Looking Ahead

March Dates to Remember

Collaborative Day—No Classes	March 10
Interim Report Cards	March 15
Parent Teacher Interviews—Appointment Req'd	March 22
Collaborative Day—No Classes	March 24



February 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		31 Semester 2 Begins	1	2	3	4
5	6	7 School Council Mtg Online @ 6PM	8 Band Society Meeting	9	10 Collaborative Day—No Classes	11
12	13	14 Valentine's Day Activities 	15	16	17	18
19	20 Family Day Winter Break No Classes	21 Winter Break No Classes	22 Winter Break No Classes	23 Teacher's Convention Winter Break	24 Teacher's Convention Winter Break	25
26	27	28				

March 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6 PE9/10 Nakiska Ski Trip	7	8	9	10 Collaborative Day—No Classes	11
12	13	14	15 Interim Report Cards (PowerSchool Only)	16	17	18
19	20	21 Olds Kiwanis Music Festival	22 Olds Kiwanis Music Festival Parent/Teacher Interviews Appt required	23	24 Collaborative Day - No Classes	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	