DIDSBURY HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Dear DHS Families,

May has arrived, and it's shaping up to be one of the most exciting months of the school year at Didsbury High School!

We kick things off on Tuesday, May 6th with our Grade 9 and Grade 10 Orientation Evenings.

- Grade 9 Orientation will run from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.
- Grade 10 Orientation will follow from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

These events are a great way for students and parents to meet the staff, explore course offerings, learn about high school graduation requirements, and get ready for the next big steps in their educational journey. We look forward to welcoming all of our future students!

Hot on the heels of orientation, our Grade 9 Band students will be heading out on an exciting adventure to Moose Jaw from May 12th to 15th! This trip will be an amazing opportunity for our young musicians to perform, learn, and create memories that will last a lifetime. We are proud of the hard work they've put in all year and know they'll represent DHS with energy and excellence.

Then, the spotlight shifts to our amazing graduates. On Thursday, May 23rd, we will gather for our Cap and Gown Ceremony, honouring the achievements and perseverance of the Class of 2025. The following day, Friday, May 24th, we will celebrate with our Grad Celebrations — a time for laughter, reflection, and well-deserved recognition.

Thank you for being such an important part of our school community. May promises to be a month full of celebration, pride, and new beginnings!

Sincerely,

The DHS Admin Team







May 2025

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■ Calling All Future High School Stars! ■ Get ready to shine!

- Future Grade 9 Trailblazers (Current Grade 8): Your adventure begins with an important orientation on Tuesday May 6, 2025 from 6:00 PM to 6:45 PM in the Learning Commons. Discover what exciting things await you!
- Grade 10 Bound Leaders (Current Grade 9): Level up your high school experience! Join us for your orientation on Tuesday May 6, 2025 from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM in the Learning Commons. Get the inside scoop on your next chapter!
- ¶ Where the Magic Happens: All presentations will be held in the Learning Commons. See you there!

<u>Didsbury High School staff are planning for the upcoming year.</u>

We are asking parents and guardians to ensure they can sign into their PowerSchool parent portal account before the end of the school year. If you are having issues with your username or password, please contact the office before the end of May to get help.

When Mid-August rolls around, our school division will be sending you an email to complete your "Annual Re-Enrollment and Consents" for the 2025-2026 School year. The form will need to be completed and submitted prior to the start of the school year to ensure your student's registration and certain consents for the upcoming school year.

The completed form gives consent for your child(ren) to walk within Didsbury, and consent for your child(ren) to use Technology. These need to be completed every year before your child can participate in these activities and use technology.

Please do not create a new registration. We will send you the form when it becomes available

Yearbook News

LAST CHANCE TO ORDER YOUR 2024-2025 YEARBOOK!

Orders must be in by May 16, 2025.

We cannot guarantee books for anyone who has not ordered before this date.

Frequently Asked Questions

Have I ordered a yearbook?

If you are unsure if you have ordered a yearbook, have your student check their school email account. Anyone who is NOT on our order list will have received an email from Ms. Budd on April 29.

How can I order?

You can order online using your student's school fee account or get in touch with Ms. Budd or Ms. Harvey (cbudd@cesd73.ca or pharvey@cesd73.ca). If you choose to email, please let them know who you are ordering a book for and whether you would like it personalized with their first and last name on the cover.

How much do they cost? The cost is \$40.00 per book or \$45.00 with personalization.

If you have any questions or concern, please get in touch.



Leadership News

Your Leadership Initiatives & Sweet Treats Coming Your Way! 🚱



Our student leaders are working hard to bring some fun and deliciousness to our school community!

 Crumbl Cookie Day in the Works! Get ready for a taste of heaven! Our leadership team is planning a special Crumbl Cookie Day. Keep your eyes peeled for the official date and details on how to treat yourself!





 Milkshake Mondays are Brewing! Start your week with a smile (and a milkshake!). Thanks to the initiative of our student leaders, Milkshake Mondays are coming soon. Stay tuned for announcements on when you can grab a refreshing milkshake to kick off your week.

Stay tuned for more exciting news and events brought to you by our dedicated student leaders!

Leadership Hot Lunch



DHS Grad 2025





The following includes important information regarding the upcoming Graduation Ceremonies for the Class of 2025, including a schedule of important dates and times. Please take the time to read it carefully.

The cost of grad is divided into two events: The Cap and Gown and the Celebrations Banquet. The Cap and Gown are a shared cost between the school and the students. Each grad will have a fee added to their School Fee Account to go towards the gown rentals and for the cap/tassel that each student can keep. DHS staff will look after the setup and takedown of the stage, sound system, and chairs for this event.

The cost and the decorating for the Celebrations Banquet will be covered by the graduate and their parents. We will divide the cost of the facility, any required rentals, the decorating, the sound system, and the meal costs of VIP's (Ross Ford and Westglen staff) equally among the grads participating in the Celebrations Banquet. The cost of the meal will be added as a "per plate" ordered by the grad. Each grad will have their grad fees added to the Student Fee Account, which covers their credits and final costs (\$200 deposit, fundraising totals) for Celebrations. If you feel there is an error, please contact us immediately. The invoice must be paid by May 12, 2025, for grads to take part in Celebrations.

All fees need to be paid before dinner tickets are disbursed to students. If there is a concern with paying these fees, please contact Ms. Harvey about setting up a plan to pay.

There is a Parent Decorating Committee that has been meeting to plan the details of decorating the arena. This group will require parental help with decorating and setting up for the celebrations. The arena is booked from Wednesday, May 21, at 9:00 AM to the evening of Saturday, May 24th. Before you leave tonight, please sign up to help during this time. The grade 11 students and parents will help with the clean-up of the arena after Celebrations is complete, so grad families will not have to worry about this at the end of the evening.

So there are no surprises, we want to address our expectations for Graduation. If a student uses the Cap and Gown as a forum to embarrass the school, parents, and peers, they will not be allowed to take part in any further part of the Graduation Ceremonies. This includes showing up under the influence of any type of drug or alcohol.

Schedule of Events for Grad 2025 Friday, May 23, 2025

Cap and Gown Rehearsal Friday, May 23 @ 12:30 pm

This is a mandatory rehearsal for all participants. At the rehearsal, we walk through the Cap & Gown ceremony so students will know all the details of entering, coming across the stage to receive their "Diploma", and congregating to be introduced as the Class of 2025. After the rehearsal, grads will go to the arena for a Grand March Rehearsal. This will be the only practice that will be done at the venue of Celebrations.

<u>Cap and Gown</u> Friday, May 23 @ 7:00 pm DHS Gymnasium

6:15: All Graduates taking part will need to be at the school getting dressed and lined up to enter the gym. This is when the gowns will be distributed.

Open to the public.

This is the official graduation ceremony which signifies the student has met all of the requirements to graduate high school. Students will receive a certificate from the school, the actual diploma will be sent directly to the student from Alberta Education. Parents will have an opportunity to take photos after the ceremony, however, **the gowns must be returned that evening before leaving.**

7:00 - 9:00 PM:

- Grads march into the gym
- Scholarship and Award presentation
- Greetings from Special Guests
- Principal's Message
- Valedictory Address
- Presentation of Certificates
- Introduction of the Graduating Class (throwing of the hats)

GOWNS MUST BE RETURNED BEFORE LEAVING THE SCHOOL. THESE GOWNS CAN NOT BE TAKEN HOME!!

Saturday, May 24, 2025

<u>Graduates 2025 Group Photo</u>

Saturday, May 24 @ 2:00 pm

Meet at Westhill Park at 2:00 pm to arrange for the group pictures. We will not be taking attendance at this event, so if you are not there or late, and Mr. Neill takes the photo, you will not have a 2nd chance. BE ON TIME!!! If it is raining or the photographer believes that the field is too wet, all grads will be notified via your school email. Please make sure you check your email by 1:00 pm.

Graduates 2025 Reverse Parade

Saturday, May 24 @ 3:00 - 3:45 pm

Each student needs to be standing under their banner downtown, for the community to drive by. The information about the parade will be posted on our Website and on Facebook. The post will mention that the parade is weather dependent. If it is raining, the decision will be made at the same time as the picture in the park. It will be posted on Google Classroom.

Graduates 2025 Celebrations

For this ceremony, grads and families (anyone who has a ticket) are on the main floor; guests are welcome to attend in the stands.

4:30 pm - Graduates and Families Arrive at the Arena

Grads, parents, and invited guests attending the banquet will meet at the arena to find their tables and prepare for the evening.

5:00 pm - Welcome/O'Canada/Grace/Dinner

Only ticket holders are allowed at the banquet. Guests who are not invited to the banquet do not need to be at the arena at this time, as it is only supper.

6:00 pm – General Public Seating in the Arena Stands

6:30 – Program

Once the program begins, it will flow continuously and will include the following:

- Tributes and Replies
- Slideshow Baby and Grad Photos
- Guest Speaker
- Thank you
- Grand March
- Clean up

Note: The times above for the program are only estimates. The program will flow from the program to the slide show, to the Grand March.

Band News



Get ready for a May packed with memorable moments! Grade 9 adventurers, your journey to Moose Jaw is just around the corner, from May 12th to 15th. Have you peeked at the itinerary in your email yet? Don't delay!

And for our talented Symphonic Winds, prepare for a night of beautiful music! The Calgary Candlelight Concert awaits you on Friday, May 9th. Get ready to be swept away by the sounds!



Athletic News

Mark your calendars!

- Wedensday, May 14: Get ready to cheer on our senior athletes at the Sr. High Track and Field Divisionals!
- **Tuesday, May 21**: The top senior track stars will compete at the Sr. High Track and Field Zones.
- **Wednesday, May 22**: It's the junior high's turn at the Jr. High Track and Field Divisionals!
- Thursday, May 23: Our PE 20 students are off on an exciting Field Trip!
- Monday, May 27: Good luck to our junior high athletes at the Jr. High Track and Field Zones!
- Thursday, May 30: The PE 30 class will be heading out on their Field Trip.

School News

Didsbury High School is proud to announce that three students are headed to Edmonton on May 7–8 to compete in the Provincial Skills Competition. Johan Eriksson (Grade 12) and Ryder Mierke (Grade 11) will represent the school in the Carpentry competition, while Logan Swanson (Grade 11) will compete in Welding.





Both events will take place over two days, during which students will spend a total of 12 hours working on their respective projects. These students earned their spots by placing in the top three at the Regional Skills Competition held in Red Deer on March 15.

Best of luck to all our competitors—we're cheering you on!

Information About Measles

Parents, Guardians, School Staff and Volunteers

Measles cases are increasing globally, with numerous countries and travel destinations reporting outbreaks including the United States, Europe and Canada. So far in 2025, Canada has seen a significant increase in measles cases and a number of jurisdictions have reported measles outbreaks. Cases of measles have been reported in New Brunswick, Ontario, Quebec, British Columbia, Manitoba and most recently, Alberta.

There are no confirmed measles cases at your school at this time; however, it is important that parents are aware of the risk and are supported by Alberta Health Services (AHS) Public Health.

Measles Illness

Measles is very contagious and is easily spread through the air. Some people who get measles can have serious health problems. In rare cases, measles can lead to death.

Measles is a viral illness. Symptoms include fever, cough, runny nose, red eyes, and a blotchy rash. Symptoms usually start 8-12 days after exposure but can take as long as 21 days to appear.

Measles may cause complications including ear infections, pneumonia, seizures, or inflammation of the brain. Complications are more common among children under five years and people who are pregnant or immunocompromised.

A person with measles symptoms should stay home, avoid contact with others, and call Health Link at 811 before visiting any healthcare facility or any healthcare provider.

Protection against Measles

The best protection against measles is to get immunized. Measles vaccines are highly effective.

In order to be adequately protected against measles, individuals born in or after 1970 need two documented doses of measles-containing vaccine.

Date: 2025-Mar-18

Created by: Medical Officers of Health



In Alberta, measles-containing vaccines are available free of charge for eligible individuals. The routine childhood immunization program includes two doses of measles containing vaccine.

For more information about measles-containing vaccines please go to ahs.ca/immunize or talk to your/your child's healthcare provider. Parents and guardians can check that their child has received two doses of measles vaccine by calling Health Link at 811 or by contacting their local local public health or community health center [ahs.ca/info/page17791.aspx]. Individuals who are 14 years of age and older can check their immunization record at myhealth.alberta.ca/myhealthrecords.

Measles Case Response

If measles is confirmed at your school, Public Health will immediately begin working with the school to keep everyone safe and reduce the risk of measles spreading.

To reduce transmission of measles, provincial Public Health guidelines require those with infection and their contacts who are not immune to measles to stay at home and away from others until the risk of spreading the disease is over.

Further, we encourage you to keep children home when showing any signs of illness. Two doses of measles vaccine given before a school measles exposure provides protection against measles and avoids possible exclusion.

Next Steps

If your child is not immunized, or you are unsure about you or your child's immunization status, please call Health Link at 811.

You can also learn more from <u>myhealthalberta.ca</u> about measles, who is at risk, and how it spreads, including:

- immunization: myhealth.alberta.ca/topic/immunization/pages/measles.aspx
- frequently asked questions: myhealth.alberta.ca/topic/immunization/documents/measles-faq.pdf
- text "measles" to 88111 for information by text message.

Thank you for your support.

Scholarships

Town of Widsbury SCHOLARSHIP

- 1. Be a resident of the Town of Didsbury and be in the final year of high school.
- 2. Good academic standing in high school programs.
- 3. Involved in extra-curricular activities, shows enthusiasm and initiative, has demonstrated involvement in voluntary community activities and exhibits leadership qualities.

Pick up an application at the Didsbury High School



Amount: \$1,500

Deadline: June 1st

Deliver to the Town Office





May 30th, 2025 6:00-9:00 pm

@ Didsbury Library Enjoy after hours, teen only fun!







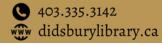
Plant and Seed * Exchange *

Saturday May 10th 12:00pm - 4:00pm

Bring plant cuttings or seeds to exchange with other plant lovers!









Important Dates



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Mandatory Grad Parent Meeting	2 PD Day No School	3
4	5	6 Grade 9 & 10 Meet and Greet	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16 PD Day No School	17
18	19 Victoria Day No School	20	21	22	23 Cap and Gown	24 Celebrations
25	26	27	28	29 ELA 9 Part A	30	31



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 English 30-1 Part A English 30-2 Part A	12 ELA 9 Part B Social 30-1 Part A Social 30-2 Part A	13 Math 9 Part A	14
15	16	17 Mathematics 30-2 Math 9 Part B	18 English 30-1 Part B English 30-2 Part B Social 9	19 Social 30-1 Part B Social 30-2 Part B Science 9	20 Biology 30	21
22	23 Chemistry 30	24 Physics 30	25	26	27	Hello Summer
29	30					