



The David Thompson Compass



David Thompson High School
RR# 1 Condor AB TOM OPO
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Issue #4

March 2020

<http://davidthompson.wrsd.ca/>

www.facebook.com/davidthompsonhs

Important Dates:

March 5:
Parent/Teacher Interviews
5:00 - 7:00 pm

March 8:
Daylight Savings Time

March 18:
Parent Council Meeting
7:00 pm

March 6:
PD - No School

March 17:
St. Patrick's Day

March 30:
PD - No School

Students of the Month



Left to right—Emma Buchta - Sam Flaherty

Athletes of the Month



Emma Buchta



Conner Fricke

PRIDE: It's What We're Going For!

Public Meeting Regarding the possible Closure of Leslieville School K-7 Program

The Wild Rose School Division Board of Trustees would like to announce a public meeting at 7:00 p.m. on March 31, 2020 at Leslieville School. The purpose of this meeting is to receive community feedback on the possible closure of the Leslieville School grades K-7 program effective June 30, 2020. The Board will be voting on this matter at their April 28, 2020 board meeting. However, prior to making this decision, the Board would like to receive community input.

Below are some questions and answers that provide additional background information:

1. Why is the Board considering the closure of the Leslieville grade K-7 program effective June 30, 2020?

In November 2019, Alberta Education announced support and funding for the building of a new grade 7-12 high school in Leslieville and a modernization of Condor School into an elementary K-6 program. The current Leslieville School will need to be demolished prior to the building of the new high school. The current Condor School will need to be vacated in order to ensure the safest and most efficient modernization possible. Both projects are projected to begin during the 2020-21 school year. As such, effective the start of the 2020-21 school year, the Board has decided to transfer the students from Leslieville and Condor to David Thompson High School (DTHS) where they will share space with our high school students. This transition period will be temporary until the new construction in Leslieville and the modernization of Condor is complete.

The Board also believes that the most efficient way to make use of the DTHS site during this time of transition is to operate 2 schools within one building rather than operating 3 schools within one building. The 2 schools they are proposing are Condor (K-6) and DTHS (7-12). In order for this to happen, the Board would need to close the current Leslieville K-7 program effective June 30, 2020.

2. How would closure of the Leslieville K-7 program affect the attendance area defined for that school and how would it affect the enrollment at other schools in the Corridor?

All students in the Leslieville School attendance boundary would be bused to DTHS starting the 2020-21 school year. Leslieville students in grades K-6 would be enrolled in the Condor School K-6 program temporarily located in DTHS and Leslieville students in grade 7 would be enrolled in the DTHS grade 7-12 program. Once the two projects are complete, all K-6 students that would have previously attended Leslieville School will be transferred to the modernized Condor Elementary School and all grade 7 students that would have previously attended Leslieville School will be transferred to the new high school located in Leslieville.. At that time, DTHS will be closed.

3. How many students would need to be relocated as a result of closing the Leslieville K-7 program? Leslieville School currently has 128 students from grades K-7.

4. How would busing be impacted?

We are not anticipating any significant changes in busing. All routes are reviewed on an annual basis to ensure that they are being operated as efficiently as possible.

5. Are there any program implications for other schools and their students?

There will be no programming changes at other schools as a result of this closure. Even during the transition period when all K-12 students are together in DTHS, students will continue to have access to a full educational program including specialty classrooms like the gym, shop and foods. Once the new high school in Leslieville and modernization of Condor School is complete, there may even be additional or enhanced program opportunities due to the upgraded facilities and the increased enrollment within both schools. DTHS will be closed once the construction projects at Leslieville and Condor are complete.

6. What are the educational and financial impacts of this decision?

Going from 3 schools to 2 schools in the Corridor will provide efficiencies and financial savings in terms of maintenance, utilities, technology and transportation. Furthermore, a new high school in Leslieville and a modernized elementary school in Condor will provide students and staff with safe and modern school facilities in their community that are more able to support 21st century programs and learning outcomes.

7. Will there be any capital expenses to DTHS due to its increased enrollment as a result of closing the Leslieville K-7 program?

DTHS is currently rated at less than 50% utilized. As such, we do have room to add several more students to the school. However, we will be going from its current 177 students to approximately 500 starting September 2020. As such, during the summer months, we will need to add 4 modular classrooms to support the increase in students, modifications to two interior spaces for more efficient use of space, as well as office space for the Condor School administration. A few additional items that will also be added including fences to enclose the school field to the north of the school building and lagoon, a play structure and possible other temporary playground improvements. We will also be taking measures to increase the student, staff and visitor parking on site.

8. What is the proposed use of the school building if the Leslieville K-7 program is closed?

The current Leslieville K-7 School building will be demolished, and a new high school will be built in its place on the same property. Government cost consultants determined it is more cost effective to build a new high school than to modernize the current Leslieville school building into one that could support the increased physical and program demands of high school students and high school programming.

9. The time, date, and place of the public meeting.

The meeting will be held in the gymnasium at Leslieville School on March 31, 2020 starting at 7:00 p.m. We look forward to discussing this matter in greater detail with the community and receiving community input regarding this important decision.

In addition to the Leslieville School K-7 program closure, we will also be discussing in greater detail our plan for moving and managing all of the Corridor K-12 students at DTHS during the transition period. We look forward to your input at this meeting.



Yearbooks

Order forms for the 2019/2020 Yearbook are now available at the office. Price is \$40.00.
Orders can also be made online by visiting YBPay.lifetouch.com yearbook ID CODE is 11417920

ATTENTION 2020 GRAD PARENTS

We will be including the grad's baby pictures in the yearbook. Please help your son or daughter to find their cutest baby picture! They will be scanned and returned to you. These can be dropped off at the office. Alternatively, you can scan them yourself and email them to james.fuller@wrsd.ca

There are a few extra copies of last year's Yearbook available for purchase. Please talk to the office if you would like to purchase one.



Mrs. Glass invites you to subscribe to Remind!

Math 8 - Text @d9c86h to (780) 666-7355 or visit the website: rmd.at/d9c86h

Math 9 - Text @ab6gc to (780) 666-7355 or visit the website: rmd.at/ab6gc






Mrs. Morrish invites you to subscribe to Remind!

Mrs. Morrish Grade 8 Remind:

If you have a smartphone, get push notifications. On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link: rmd.at/dthsla8 Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. If you don't have a smartphone, get text notifications. Text the message @dthsla8 to the number (819) 410-1138.

Mrs. Morrish Grade 9 Remind:

On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link: rmd.at/dthsla9 or text the message @dthsla9 to the number (819) 410-1138.



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Has Your Contact Information Changed?

If your mailing address, telephone numbers or email address have changed, please contact Carrie or Irene in the office:

irene.dyck@wrsd.ca

carrie.lutz@wrsd.ca

403-729-3930

DRESS CODE REMINDER – Students are expected to:



- dress in a clean, neat manner
- not wear headgear in the school during school hours
- wear shoes at all times
- when appropriate, wear shorts and skirts of a reasonable length (Plus or minus one inch of arms straight down at student's side)
- no halter, backless, spaghetti, strapless, or short tops to school
- always wear a shirt (pinnies provided in P. Ed.)
- never wear shirts with unbecoming pictures, profane words or obscene slogans
- never wear fashion accessories that may be deemed to be dangerous
- keep pants pulled up



Distance Education News



It is always good to see students who are taking the distance education option to be progressing in their courses. This term is one-third over which means that students should have completed at least one-third of their material to be finished by the end of January.

It is always best to complete early and to have extra time to work on other courses.

Completed modules are stored in the Library with Mrs. Williamson.
They are returned to students before exams to study.

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All High School Students at DTHS



- If you are in Grade 12, and you plan to attend post-secondary any time in the future, remember that the courses you choose to take this year and the marks you get, count. Diploma exams are particularly important. **WORK HARD AND STUDY FOR THESE EXAMS!**
- If you are planning to pursue a post-secondary program next year, be sure you have done enough research on programs and institutions, so that you can make wise decisions based on factual information.
- Careers 30 is an important course for all Grade 12 students. Its purpose is to allow you to become an expert about opportunities in the workforce and in related post-secondary programs. When you have completed Careers 30 you will be able to make informed decisions based on the knowledge you have acquired. You will also know the process of applying for post-secondary programs and applying for the many scholarships available for all programs.
- Learning a trade is also considered to be a post-secondary program. Some students are already enrolled in a trade apprenticeship and are encouraged to make the best of the opportunity to start their post-secondary education early. Others need to do research in Careers 30 to access the best information possible before they choose a trade.
- If you have any questions on academic or career choices and how to achieve your goals, talk to Mrs. Thompson. Together we can choose the best path possible for you!

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FROM THE CAREER CENTRE



We're on the Road Again!

Many people believe that high school students should wait until grade 12 before they do any serious research and reflection on what they want to do when they are finished high school. One way we have attempted to provide important information for Grades 10 and 11 students is to encourage them to travel with us to the post-secondaries in Calgary, Edmonton Red Deer, Red Deer and Olds. Two planned trips to Calgary in the fall were shut out by snowstorms. We are now planning a trip to Calgary to visit Mount Royal University and SAIT on March 24 and to Edmonton to tour the University of Alberta and Grant MacEwan on April 7. We will take Grade 11 students first and then Grade 10 students to complete our group.

Students will learn that post-secondaries do not all provide the same programs and even those that do have different requirements for these programs. They will also find out that some post-secondaries use grade 11 marks to determine whether or not they offer conditional acceptance into a program.

In the meantime, it is very important that Grade 11 students do the best job they can with their core Grade 11 courses and research carefully the programs and post-secondaries that may provide them with the qualifications to pursue a chosen program.

Grade 10 Students CAREER Expo

On April 30, our Grade 10 students will be traveling to Red Deer to participate in the Central Alberta CAREER Expo. This event brings together students and educators, from all schools in central Alberta where local employers representing trades, technologies, health, many other occupations in high demand, associations and Alberta post-secondary institutions are showcased. More than 3500 students took the opportunity last year to visit over 100 exhibits.

High School students discover career opportunities in their community through hands on, interactive exhibits and speak to post-secondary education providers to connect learning to earning. Grade 10 students will receive information before the event so that they can prepare to make the best of their time at the Expo. All Grade 10 students are required to attend this event as part of their high school program.

Grade 12 Students

Registering for post-secondary courses for next year?

Registering for courses in post-secondary is much more complex than it is at DTHS. To avoid lack of choices for times and sections, be sure to begin the registration process as soon as your post-secondary makes it available. If there are enough students attending Red Deer College who want help with course registration, we will ask an advisor to come to the school. For other post-secondaries, check your post-secondary account for information and/or ask Mrs. Thompson for help. On another note, if you are planning to stay in residence next year, now is the time to finalize your application for residence.

Finding Funding for Post-Secondary

As you have all discovered, post-secondary education is an expensive venture! One way to off-set these expenses is to apply for and win scholarships. Most students in Grade 12 who are planning post-secondary programs qualify for at least some funding from the Rutherford Scholarship. Applications for the Rutherford Scholarships are not usually available until late spring. Apply for it on Student Aid Alberta as soon as the application opens. A number of scholarship applications have been added to CAREERS 30 Google Classroom. Other scholarship info will be updated on the Careers 30 Classroom as soon as it becomes available. Be sure to check it out often! Apply early so you are not filling out applications while you are studying for diploma exams! If you wish to apply for the Clearwater County Scholarship and/or the Future Vision Scholarship make sure that Mrs. Thompson has a copy of your essays. **IF YOU DON'T APPLY, YOU CAN'T WIN!**

Please Note:

The DTHS office will no longer automatically print receipts for fee payments. If you require a receipt, please contact the school office and we will be happy to send one home with your child.



Parking at School



If you are visiting DTHS, during school hours, we have three available areas for you to park. The middle of the parking lot where stalls are marked by yellow lines and either the east or west end of the parking lot.



Please do not park in the bus parking located directly along the front sidewalk of the school during school hours.



Thank-you for your cooperation.



BREAKFAST FOR LEARNING™
Feeding hungry minds throughout the day™

NOURISHMENT
+ EDUCATION
BRIGHTER FUTURE



Breakfast for Learning

Our school's nutrition program is proudly funded by Breakfast for Learning. Thanks to their support, we are able to offer our students a healthy meal or snack during the school day.

Breakfast for Learning is a national charity that is committed to ensuring students attend school well nourished and ready to learn, giving them the best chance of success in life.

In the 2013/14 school year, Breakfast for Learning funded 2,402 breakfast, lunch and snack programs, served 251,531 children and youth and provided over 40 million nourishing meals and snacks.

Since 1992, Breakfast for Learning has helped serve over 510 million meals to children and youth across Canada.

For more information, please visit breakfastforlearning.ca.

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GREEN CERTIFICATE

Congratulations to the students enrolled in the Green Certificate program. We had two students test in Cochrane at the end of January and 10 students successfully completed 14 tests on February 10 and 11. All marks were above 90.

Students can sign up for the Green Certificate program at any time. They can choose from any of the following streams: cow/calf, crops, swine, feedlot, poultry, sheep, equine, bees, dairy, green-house and irrigation. Students work with a mentor outside of school hours learning the course material and complete an oral test at Olds College or in the case of equine they have the chance to test in Cochrane.

Students that are working, at home or away, have the opportunity to put the hours they work towards credits with the maximum being 30. To receive credits students must fill in a form and have their parents, employer approve and sign the form. Once the form is handed in, students start recording their hours. Every 25 hours worked equals 1 credit. To qualify, students must complete 125 hours for 5 credits.

Employment opportunities are being posted outside the Career Center, updated weekly.



Any students currently in grade 10 or 11 that are interested in travelling to Greece during our Spring Break of 2021 are invited to check out our tour on eftours.ca. The tour number is 2211089WN. For more information see Mrs. Morrish or contact her at the school at 403-729-3930 or email janine.morrish@wrsd.ca.

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