



# The David Thompson Compass



David Thompson High School  
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Issue #1

October 2015

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

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

## Important Dates:

October 8 @ 7 p.m.:  
Fall Awards Ceremony

October 12:  
Thanksgiving - No School

October 13: Picture Re-Takes

October 23:  
PD Day - No School

## Get Connected with DTHS!

Check out our new website:

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

Like us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/davidthompsonhs>

## *Students of the Month - September*



Pictured from left to right: Baily Dell, Laurel Lee, Kanyon Hiitola

Not pictured: Tanner Steenbergen

## *Athletes of the Month - September*



Pictured from left to right: Sydney Elliot, Owen Smith, Alyssa Ahlstrom

Not pictured: Samantha Gaetz, Stefanie Neukom, Hunter Smith, Nicole Weber



# News From Parent Council



Wednesday, October 7: Free Hot Lunch - a hamburger, baked goodie and juice box

Wednesday, October 21 @ 7 p.m. - Parent Council Meeting

**Fall Awards Ceremony**  
**Thursday, October 8 @ 7 p.m.**

*Please join us in celebrating our students' successes for the 2014-2015 school year!*

## DTHS Athletics

## October 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Jr. Boys 3:15-4:30 5-7: JV Girls	2	3
4	5 6:30-8:30- Sr. Girls Sr. Boys @ SV	6 Jr. Boys 3:15-4:30 JV Girls @ St. A's	7 Jr Black 3:15 Sr. Girls Host (5:00-9:30) DT Blue @ Pioneer	8 Awards night 7-9	9	10
11	12	13 Jr. Boys 3:15-4:30 JV @ St. Dom's	14 DT Blue vs Black DT Boys vs St. Matts 6:30-8:30- Sr. Girls	15 Jr. Boys 3:15-4:30 5-7 JV Girls	16 Sr. G at West Island Sr. Boys @ Eckville	17 Sr. G at West Island Sr. Boys @Eckville
18	19 6:30-8:30- Sr. Girls Sr. Boys @ St. As	20 Jr. Boys 3:15-4:30 JV Girls Host (5:30-7:30)	21 DT Black vs Caroline DT Blue @ St. Matts Sr. Girls @ St. A's DT Jr Boys @WC	22 Jr. Boys 3:15-4:30 Grad Turkey Supper	23 Jr G Black and Blue at Ca	24 Jr G Black and Blue at Car
25	26 Sr. Girls @ Rimbey	27 Jr. Boys 3:15-4:30	28 Sr. Boys @ Eckville 6:30-8:30- Sr. Girls DT Black @ Sunchild DT Boys @ Sunchild	29 Jr. Boys 3:15-4:30	30 Sr. Boys @ Stettler	31 Sr. Boy
		Important Reminders				



# Distance Education News



***David Thompson is a small school that works hard to accommodate all students. One accommodation is Distance Education, where students can take courses that are not taught at the school or will not fit into a student's timetable.***

These courses are available online or in print depending on the student's preference.

All Distance Education courses are to be completed by the end of the term.

A \$100 deposit will be taken and given back upon successfully completing the course. This amount was brought forth by Parent Council last year. Distance Education is meant to supplement a student's timetable, not replace in-class learning. If a student chooses to register for a Distance Education course that is being offered in the traditional classroom format at DTHS, the student will be responsible for the full Distance Learning fee, which is non-refundable.

When possible, courses are marked in-house with a few specialized courses being marked by the Alberta Distance Learning Centre. Current marks will be included in the student's progress reports.

Questions? Please contact Linda Tomlinson, [linda.tomlinson@wrsd.ca](mailto:linda.tomlinson@wrsd.ca) or phone the School at 403-729-3930.



## Principal's Message

Another exciting year of learning is underway at David Thompson High School. The grade eights and nines have attended their camp trips, grade tens have been out golfing, and the grade twelves are out enjoying their camp trip. Although these trips and other co-curricular and extra-curricular activities enrich our students' education, our number one priority is still on their studies. DTHS has also joined in on the High School Re-Design. See below for common questions with the changes we have made.

## Questions and Answers:

**Q:** What is tutorial time?

**A:** Tutorial time is mandatory for all high school students. This block of time has been set aside as we have decreased our class time from 88 minutes to 66 minutes a day. The tutorial time will be used to complete homework; choose to get specific help with subjects that they need more assistance in; enrich their learning by pursuing topics/subjects they are passionate about; and to have time embedded into the day to read.

**Q:** What is Flex time?

**A:** Flex time is a period of time on the schedule when the student will work on Alberta Distance Learning or a course that is offered by another teacher in Wild Rose School Division.

**Q:** What is the TA Group?

**A:** Students have been assigned to a Teacher Advisory Group. In this group, students will be closely supported by a staff member and will build a strong connection with the staff member and students in the TA group. This time will also be utilized to convey important information to students, and to complete school activities that in years past we would have borrowed from academic class time.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the administration at 403-729-3930.

**Mr. Miles Trieber**



# DTHS Student Vote

## October 15



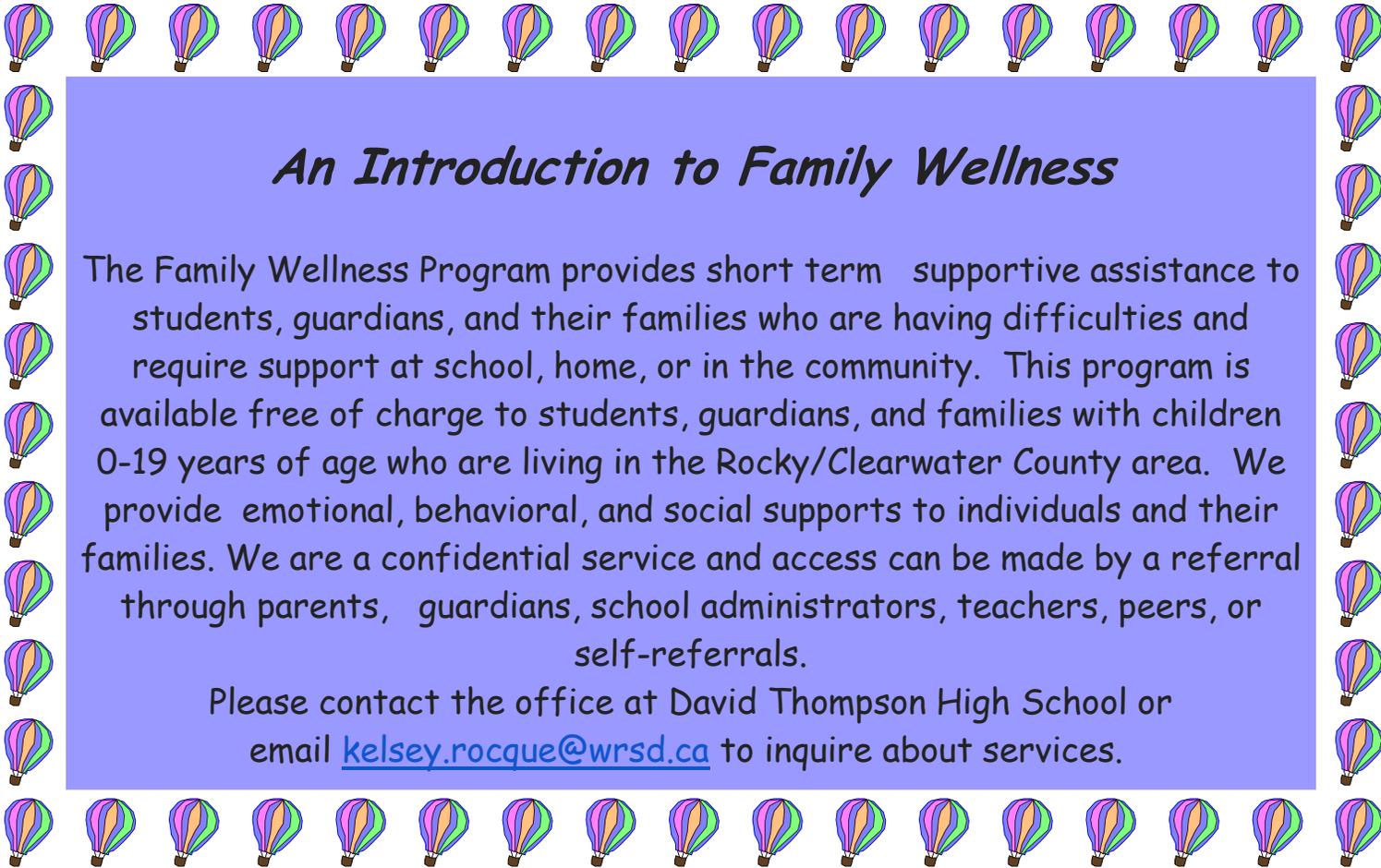
During National Student Vote Week (October 13-16, 2015), students across Canada will take on the roles of deputy returning officers and poll clerks, and organize a vote using authentic election materials. Identical to the official election process, students have the opportunity to vote for the candidates running in their local riding. The ballots are counted by each school and reported to CIVIX.

The Student Vote results are released publicly by CIVIX on election night and shared with media for broadcast and publication.

Students from grades 9-12 at David Thompson High School will be participating in Student Vote on **Thursday, October 15**. They will be examining the various political parties' platforms during class times so they will be ready to cast an informed vote. Conversations at home regarding the various political parties are encouraged!



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



## *An Introduction to Family Wellness*

The Family Wellness Program provides short term supportive assistance to students, guardians, and their families who are having difficulties and require support at school, home, or in the community. This program is available free of charge to students, guardians, and families with children 0-19 years of age who are living in the Rocky/Clearwater County area. We provide emotional, behavioral, and social supports to individuals and their families. We are a confidential service and access can be made by a referral through parents, guardians, school administrators, teachers, peers, or self-referrals.

Please contact the office at David Thompson High School or email [kelsey.rocque@wrsd.ca](mailto:kelsey.rocque@wrsd.ca) to inquire about services.



## *Career Corner - October 2015*



**Green Certificate:** Olds College came to present the Green Certificate in September. If you missed the presentation and are interested in learning more, or have questions, please contact the school.

Those who are wishing to do the Green Certificate need to register at the school and put down a \$200 completion deposit. The school pays \$1000 per person. Five students went to Olds on October 1 to test. The next testing time is Dec 1, 2015. The areas of specialization are: Cow/Calf; Dairy; Equine; Bee Keeping; Field Crop; Sheep; Swine; Feedlot; Irrigated Crop. On completion of this 3-part program, students will earn 16 credits and a technical level Green Certificate in their area of specialization. This certificate is recognized across Canada and in many other countries. Interested students may take more than one specialization.

**Work Experience:** If students are working at home or for another, they are eligible for up to 30 work experience credits. They will receive 1 credit for every 25 hours worked but must have a minimum of 125 hours.

Contracts must be signed and handed in before hours are counted. I will be visiting workplaces and talking to employers and supervisors. Students need to record their working hours and bring in a copy signed by their employer or hand in copies of their pay stubs.

**Employment Opportunity:** A Dairy farm in the community is looking for students to help after school. If you are interested please contact me, Linda Tomlinson [linda.tomlinson@wrsd.ca](mailto:linda.tomlinson@wrsd.ca) or phone the school at 403-729-3930.



## Junior High Language Arts Update

Grade 9 LA students have created colourful tri-fold jargon brochures.

Grade 8 LA students read Ray Bradbury's story "The Veldt" and have designed magazine advertisements and written complaint letters in response to the story.



**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](http://breakfastforlearning.ca).



### **Has Your Contact Information Changed?**

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

**ashley.gaehring@wrsd.ca or 403-729-3930**

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

## Grade 8 Fall Leadership Camp

The Grade 8 class travelled to Camp Kuriakos September 15 and 16 to attend a leadership camp. They enjoyed the challenge of a high ropes course, canoeing and swimming in the lake (despite cloudy skies and cool weather), archery and various other leadership activities. They also provided excellent leadership and teamwork by preparing and cleaning up for all participants of camp. Well done, grade eights!



### ATTENTION GRADE 12 STUDENTS!



#### POST SECONDARY APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN!

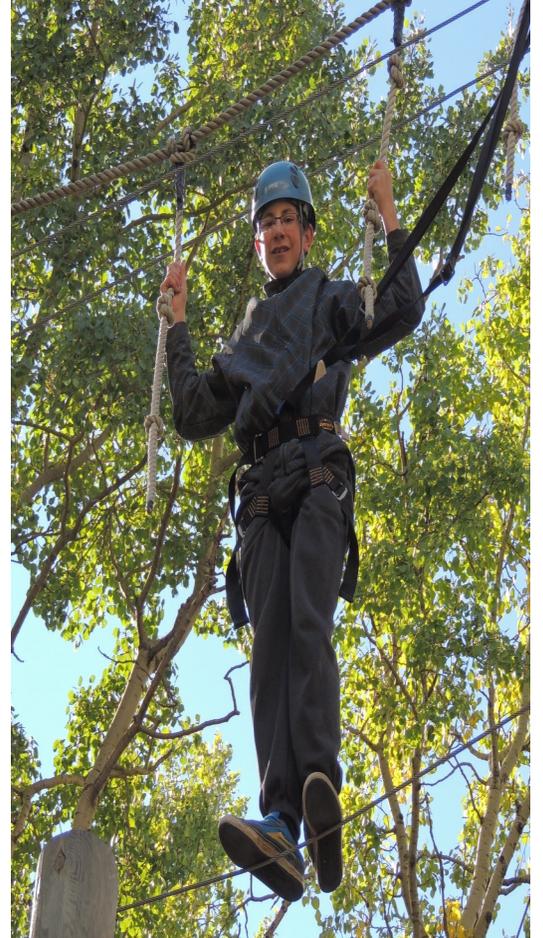
*If you plan to enroll in a post-secondary program for next fall, you need to apply for your program of choice as soon as possible. Many popular programs fill up quickly so you don't want to miss out on an opportunity to prepare for your future. If you have any questions or challenges deciding what you should apply for or how to navigate Apply Alberta, see Mrs. Thompson.*

#### START THE SEARCH FOR MONEY NOW!

*Scholarship season is upon us and there are some scholarships that have deadlines early in the year. Be sure to check out any scholarship that you might qualify for and submit an application before the required date. Use your file to write quality scholarship essays and save your essays so they can be tweaked and used for applying for another scholarship. For help researching scholarships and completing applications, see Mrs. Thompson.*



# Grade 9 Fall Leadership Camp



The grade nine classes travelled to Camp Kuriakos for a two-night leadership camp from September 21 - 23. They enjoyed many leadership activities which included the high ropes course, canoeing and swimming in the lake, archery, the climbing wall and a hike to a wilderness site. They also cooked and cleaned for the entire group, and showed many leadership capabilities throughout the 3-day camp. Congratulations, grade nines!



# ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Once attendance becomes an issue, disengagement is heightened and once a student is disengaged from their learning then the student struggles with the purpose of their education.  
(Government of Alberta, 2011)

## Reasons for not attending

-  Do not feel they belong, struggle in their academics, feel unsafe
-  May be due to home issues such as parental substance abuse, neglect, negative peer influence or financial concerns.
-  Family experiences multiple transitional moves
-  Health related: physical and psychological, substance abuse, no clear goals or not valuing education.
-  Home background & lack of parental involvement, older siblings who drop out



**MAKE SURE YOUR CHILD IS IN SCHOOL EVERY DAY.**

## Here are some results when students don't regularly attend classes!

Students may experience:

- Isolation from peers
- Low self-esteem
- Failure to learn school work
- Unwanted pregnancy
- Violence



May continue to adulthood:  
poorer health, lower paying jobs,  
increased likelihood of a life of poverty  
and increased incarceration



Students who return to classes after a long absence disrupt the learning of other pupils, divert their attention and frustrate and demoralize staff

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It's that time of the year again – time for the David Thompson High School Graduating Class of 2016 Harvest Supper.



Thursday, October 22, 2015  
Leslieville Community Hall  
5 – 8:00 p.m.

### Admission Prices

13 - Adult - \$12.00

Seniors - \$10.00

12 and under - \$7.00

Preschool – Free

Turkey and Roast Beef

Take Out Orders Available