

October  
2023



CHINOOK'S EDGE SCHOOL DIVISION NO 73

Didsbury High School

# From the Principal's Desk

October 1, 2023

So far we have been lucky in avoiding the early preview of winter we normally get, September at Didsbury High School has been relatively smooth and productive as students and staff have transitioned from summer vacation back to school. Students and staff are starting to get used to the concept and use of our Guided Learning Time and both groups have been using it to help with the completion of work, the administration of tests as well as the opportunity to give and receive extra support.

With a small class of grade 12's leaving us last year and a large group of grade 9's coming in DHS numbers are up by about 20 students this year -- a trend that is expected to continue over the next few years. More students means more FTE so we have added time to some of our part-time staff to allow them to become full-time employees.

Our Academic/Careers Counselors have been busy working with students changing timetables and discussing future plans. In the coming weeks they will be meeting with all Grade 12's as University registrations are beginning in October. All students are encouraged to connect with Ms. Wassmer or Ms. Roy regarding post secondary by the end of their 11th grade year. As a school we are committed to ensuring that those career and post secondary conversations and experiences happen earlier. We will be targeting grade 9 and 10 students later this year, with the grade 10's already being scheduled to take part in an open house at Olds College on October 13th.

October 3 at 6:00 PM we will have our first online School Council meeting of the school year. Look for the link to that meeting coming out with this newsletter. Any parent in the school is welcome to participate in school council, so please feel free to join us at 6 PM on October 3 to have your say. October 26th will also be a big night with Parent Teacher Interviews happening that evening from 4 PM until 7 PM.

Here is hoping we get a little bit more Fall to play with this year and have a great October.

The DHS Admin Team



## Inside this issue:

CESD Survey	2
School Fee Information	2
Band News	4-5
Leadership News	6-7
Parent/Teacher Interviews	8
Community News	8
Grad 2023 News	9
Yearbook News	9

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

*Principal—Scott MacDonald*

*Vice Principal—Tyler Jesse*

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



# PARENTS, WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK! PLEASE TAKE OUR SURVEY!

We're updating the Chinook's Edge website. We want to know what you like about the current website, and what you think needs to be improved.

Your opinion will help us!

**TAKE THE SURVEY:**

Survey closes October 2, 2023 [Click Here for Survey](#)



## School Council News



The first School Council Meeting of the 2023/2024 School Year will be Tuesday October 3rd at 6:00 pm.

We will have this meeting on Google Meet to enable as many parents as possible to participate.

[Click Here to join the meeting](#)

## School Fee News

2023/2024 School Fee invoices will be emailed out to parents the week of October 3, 2023. If you do not receive your student's copy or you would like a paper copy mailed to you, please contact the office at 403-335-3356.

CESD encourages parents to pay school fees online.  
[didsburyhigh.ca/onlinepayments](https://didsburyhigh.ca/onlinepayments)  
Please check your account periodically because new fees are added for activities throughout the year.  
Thank you!

**School Fees are Due by  
November 30, 2023**





CAREERS

We are currently looking for School bus drivers in all areas. If you are interested in becoming a school bus driver please apply online at [www.cesd73.ca](http://www.cesd73.ca) under Careers/ Casual

Support Staff, by email at [transportation@cesd73.ca](mailto:transportation@cesd73.ca) or by calling our office at 403-227-7072

Chinook's Edge is one of the largest school divisions in the province, serving over 11,000 students in 43 Central Alberta schools between Calgary and Red Deer. Our schools are located in 13 small communities that sprawl east and west from the Highway 2 corridor, conveniently providing Chinook's Edge staff and families with the best of both worlds



## **DHS BAND SOCIETY**

The DHS Band Society is a group of dedicated parents who assist the Music Department in a variety of ways. All parents are members of this group by virtue of their child's participation in Music at DHS. Meetings are held the second Wednesday of every month. Our Annual General Meeting for the 2023/2024 school year will be Wednesday, October 11th at 7:00 PM in the DHS Band Room.

## **UNIFORMS**

Concert dress for all groups is black DHS Music dress shirt, black dress pants, black socks and black dress shoes. Leggings and yoga pants are not appropriate concert attire. The DHS Music shirt is available through the Music Program at a cost of \$40 per shirt. Cheques can be made payable to the DHS Band Society. Etransfer is also available - please contact me if you require the information.

## **UPCOMING CONCERTS**

The DHS Music Department Fall Concert is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, November 7th at 7:00 PM in the DHS Gymnasium.

## **MUSIC DEPARTMENT TRAVEL**

Travel to music festivals and special performance tours is a big part of music at DHS. I really believe that getting our students out to national and international festivals is a big reason why our program sounds as it does. In addition to getting feedback from some very well respected conductors and clinicians, these trips also give our students the opportunity to hear what other programs are doing and to learn by listening.

## **GRADE NINE CONCERT BAND TOUR**

The Grade Nine Concert Band will be traveling to the Regina Downtowners Optimist Band Festival in Regina, SK.

The Regina Optimist Band and Choral Festival is an outstanding, non-competitive festival that consistently brings in some of the finest adjudicators in North America to help school groups improve their skills. In addition, students will get to perform in the beautiful Conexus Arts Centre as part of their festival experience!

The dates for the tour would be Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Cost for this trip would be approximately \$500.00, and would include transportation, accommodation, all festival fees and attractions and breakfast and supper daily. Although the festival is in Regina, we would be staying in Moose Jaw so that we could also take in the Tunnels of Moose Jaw, Temple Garden Spa and a concert in the historic Mae Wilson Theatre.

At this time all students who wish to participate in this trip must submit a \$100.00 deposit in order to secure their spot. Cheques can be made payable to the DHS Band Society, and etransfer is also available (please

# Band News Continued

---



## SYMPHONIC WINDS TOUR

The DHS Symphonic Winds will be participating in MusicFest - The Nationals from May 14th to May 18th 2024 in Toronto, ON!

This exciting opportunity is a result of the Symphonic Winds' outstanding performance during last year's tour to the Maritimes. Cost for this year's tour will be approximately \$2100.00, and will include transportation, accommodation, all attractions and breakfast and supper daily. The only additional costs would be for lunches and any individual shopping students may wish to do.

While we are still working on the itinerary, highlights of this trip will include:

- Accommodations at University of Toronto residences;
- Tour to Niagara Falls;
- MusicFest performance and workshops;
- Royal Ontario Museum;
- CN Tower;
- Ripley's Aquarium;
- Broadway show at the Mirvish Theatre;
- Toronto Blue Jays game; and
- MusicFest Jazz Dinner and concerts

The DHS Band Society will be providing fundraising opportunities throughout the year in order to help as many students as possible take advantage of this outstanding travel opportunity.

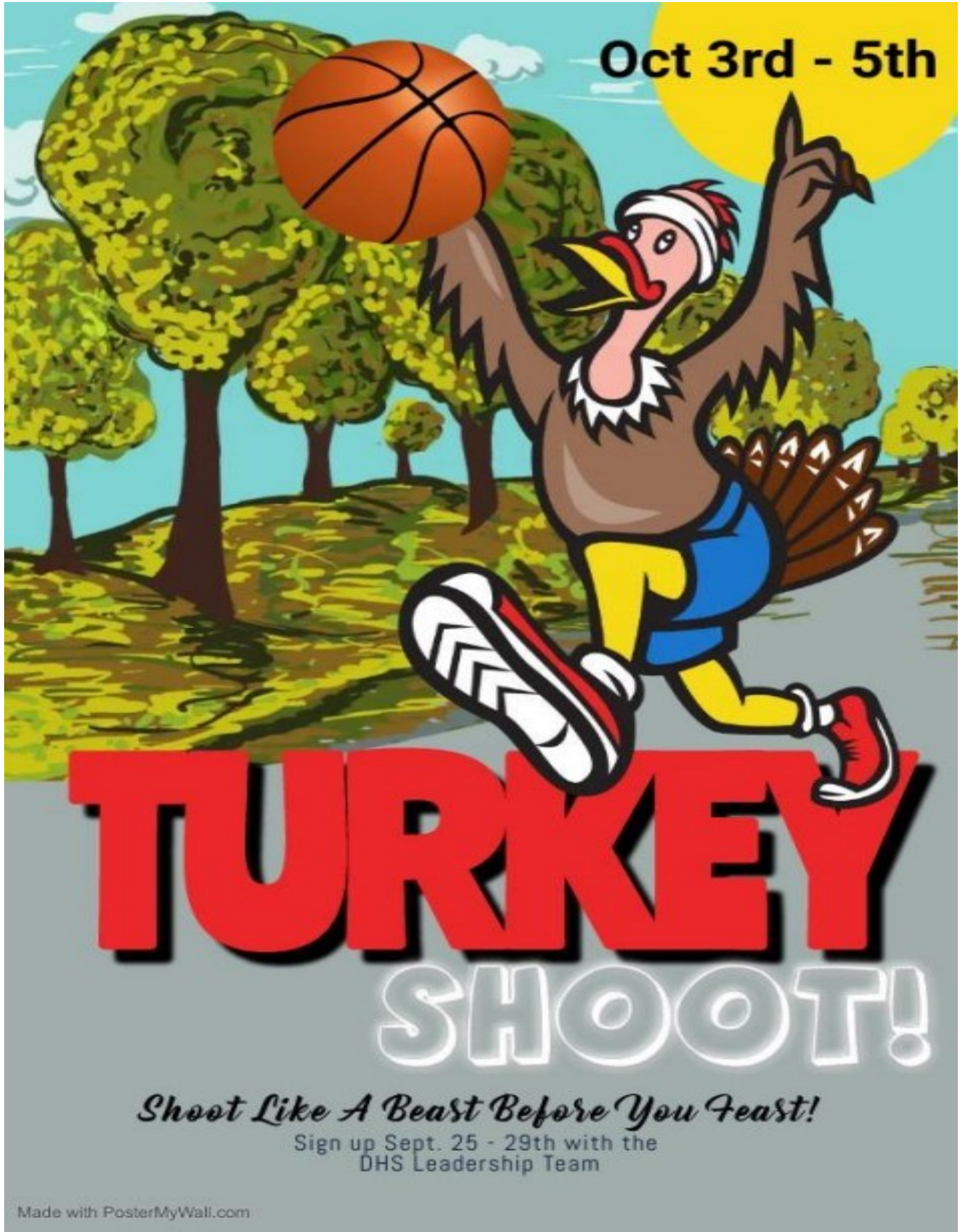
All students who wish to participate in this trip should have already submitted a \$300.00 deposit in order to secure their spot, BUT IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO SIGN UP. Bring in your \$300 deposit as soon as possible to Mr. Wassmer. Cheques can be made payable to the DHS Band Society, and e-transfer is available. If students wish to use money that is in their fundraising account, please indicate so in a note.

The following payment schedule will be used for the balance of the trip:

- Friday, September 29th - \$450
- Friday, December 1st - \$450
- Friday, February 16th - \$450
- Friday, April 26th - \$450

If you are interested in joining us as a chaperone, please contact me as soon as possible so that I can add your name to our tour list. Please note that all costs and payment dates are the same for chaperones.

If you have any questions or concerns about our Music Program please feel free to call (403.335.3356, ext, 5959) or email ([kwassmer@cesd73.ca](mailto:kwassmer@cesd73.ca)).






# LEADERSHIP

## Lunch

october menu

**OCTOBER 4TH**

Poutine




**OCTOBER 11TH**

Coconut Chicken & Rice



**OCTOBER 18TH**

Mac & Cheese



**OCTOBER 25TH**

Donair



**\$5** FOR ALL LUNCHES

# Report Cards & Parent Teacher Conferences for Semester 1 23/24

## Report Cards for Semester 1:

**Interim Report Cards** (Online PowerSchool Only) October 16, 2023

**Parent/Teacher Interviews** October 26, 2023 4:00 pm—7:30 pm

Appointment Required (call 403-335-3356 to book an appointment)

**Report Cards** (Online PowerSchool Only) November 17, 2023

**Final Report Card** (Online PowerSchool Only) January 31, 2023

Picture Retake Day will be  
Wednesday October 4 @ 8:30 am



**Good luck to all DHS Participants in  
Cross Country Meets in Sundre on  
October 4th and Trochu October 11!  
Go Dragons!**

## COSTA RICA APRIL 2024



Didsbury Travel Club Trip to Costa Rica  
APRIL 12 - 22, 2024

Didsbury Travel Club  
will be having a  
meeting for the April  
2024 trip to Costa  
Rica on Wednesday  
October 11 at 7 pm in  
the DHS Library.  
There are still spots  
available to join the  
trip if you are  
interested in  
travelling to  
Costa Rica!





## Grad 2024 General Parent Meeting

Tuesday October 3, 2023

7 pm in the DHS Gym

All Grads and Parents are encouraged to attend

## Yearbook



### 2023/2024 DHS Yearbook

Don't forget to order your Yearbook!

Orders can be placed through the online school fees payment program, or see Ms. Budd if you have any questions.

A blue banner with a white dotted pattern on the left and right sides. On the left, a laptop screen displays the Facebook page for Didsbury High School, showing a photo of the school building and the text "Didsbury High School - Didsbury, AB". On the right, the text reads "FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK FOR THE LATEST PHOTOS AND SCHOOL NEWS Didsbury High School - Didsbury, AB".



## Looking Ahead

### November Dates to Remember

Remembrance Day Service 10:00 am	November 7
Fall Band Concert 7:00 pm	November 7
Fall Break—No Classes	November 9—12
Report Cards	November 17
Professional Learning Day—No Classes	November 24

# October 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 School Council Mtg 6pm  Grad 2024 Parent General Mtg 7pm	4 Picture Retakes	5	6 Non Instructional Day—No Classes	7
8	9 <i>Happy Thanksgiving</i>	10	11 Band AGM Mtg 7pm @ DHS	12	13 Gr10 Olds College Field Trip  Social 20 Indigenous Field Trip	14
15	16 Interim Report Cards	17	18	19	20 Professional Learning Day - No Classes	21
22	23	24	25	26 Parent/Teacher Interviews 4pm-7pm Appointments required	27	28
29	30	<i>HAPPY HALLOWEEN</i> 31 Leadership Halloween Activities				

# November 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7 Remembrance Day Ceremony 10 am  Fall Band Concert 7pm	8	9 Fall Break No Classes	10 Fall Break No Classes	11 Remembrance Day
12	13	14	15	16	17 Report Cards	18
19	20	21 School Council Mtg 6 pm	22	23	24 Professional Learning Day— No Classes	25
26	27	28	29	30		