

# DIDSBURY HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Dear DHS Families,

Spring has officially arrived, and with it comes one of the busiest—and most exciting—times of the school year. April marks the beginning of budgeting and planning for the 2025–26 school year, and we're already diving into discussions about programming, staffing, and school improvement initiatives. As always, we appreciate your support and input as we work to make Didsbury High the best it can be.

Before we get too deep into the details, though, we have a *major* announcement to share...

After months of consultation and careful deliberation, Didsbury High School has been selected as one of only three schools in Alberta to participate in an innovative new pilot project:

The 3-Day School Week Initiative!

That's right—starting this fall, DHS will shift to a Tuesday-to-Thursday school week. The initiative, spearheaded by a newly formed task force called the Alberta Coalition for Less is More Learning (ACLML), is designed to explore alternative education models that prioritize student wellness, efficiency, and 4-day weekends.

Here are a few key highlights of the program:

- **Longer School Days:** To maintain instructional hours, each school day will run from 7:45 AM to 5:30 PM. This includes two 45-minute recess breaks and an extended 90-minute lunch, during which students can participate in optional nap pods, yoga, or mindfulness scavenger hunts.
- **Themed Days:** Each day will have a theme to keep students energized: Tuesday Tech-Off (no screens after 10 AM), Workout Wednesday (PE for everyone, staff included), and Think-Tank Thursdays (group puzzles during Block 4).
- **No More Homework:** All assignments must be completed during school hours. Instructors will provide "Power Hour" blocks each day to ensure students stay on track. (Some exceptions apply. For example: Biology.)

We understand this is a big change, and there will be plenty of time to ask questions and provide feedback during the upcoming information night on April 31st in the DHS gym.

Of course, we should also mention:

It is April 1st sooo.....yeah forget all that nonsense.

On a more serious note, Easter/Spring Break will run from April 18th to 27th, and we wish all our students, staff, and families a restful and rejuvenating holiday.

Thanks for your continued support, and as always, please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or ideas as we head into planning for the next school year.

Warm regards,  
The DHS Admin Team



## March 2025

### IN THIS ISSUE

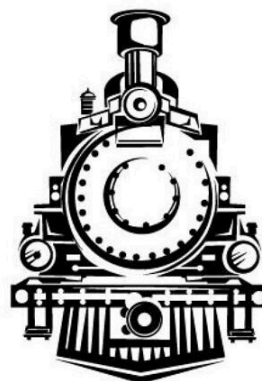
- Principal Letter
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## Prairie Whistle's Bratwurst Bonanza for Grad Banners!

Prairie Whistle is firing up the grills! This Friday, April 4th, head to Daphne's Market for a delicious Bratwurst on a Bun lunch! From 11:30 am until they're all gone, we're serving up juicy brats, crispy chips, and refreshing pop for just \$10 (cash is king!).

Every single penny raised by Prairie Whistle goes directly into the 2025 Grad Banner Fundraiser Account. Let's make those grad banners shine! ✨

Daphne's Market is located at 2103 20th Street, with plenty of parking and accessibility. Come hungry, support our grads through Prairie Whistle's efforts, and let's make this a delicious success! Don't miss out – these brats won't last!



**PRAIRIE  
WHISTLE**  
*Food Co.*

# Library News

With students knee-deep in mid-semester projects and assignments, we'd encourage you to remind them that the library is a great place to go for help. Whether they need support in properly citing their references, looking for credible online sources or making use of online tools such as Google Slides or Docs, Miss Budd is here for them.



2025  
Yearbooks  
on sale now!

Order online using  
your school fee  
account or stop by  
the office/library.

Didsbury High School  
1515-15 Ave  
Didsbury, AB  
TOM OWO

This year's theme:  
DHS: deCLASSified

# Leadership News

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## Get Ready to Ride the Wave with Beach Week!

Mark your calendars! Didsbury High is thrilled to announce "Beach Week," a fun-filled, spirit-raising event taking place from April 14th to 17th. Get ready for a week of exciting activities, cool competitions, and lots of prizes!

Here's a breakdown of the week's events:

- Monday, April 14th: Sock and Sandals Day - Kick off Beach Week in comfort and style! Don your favorite socks and sandals and get ready for the "What is That Sound" competition.
- Tuesday, April 15th: Adam Sandler Day - Embrace your inner Adam Sandler! Also, get ready for some fun in the sun with a Beach Volleyball competition. Don't forget that Tropical Drinks will be sold in the kitchen today!
- Wednesday, April 16th: Hawaiian Shirt Day - Break out your brightest Hawaiian shirts and get ready for a barrel of laughs with the Dad Joke Challenge!
- Thursday, April 17th: Twin Day - Grab a friend and dress alike for Twin Day! Test your luck and skill in the Rock Paper Scissors Challenge.

Beach Week promises to be an unforgettable experience for everyone. Join in the fun, show your school spirit, and participate in the competitions for a chance to win amazing prizes! Let's make a splash!



# Leadership Activities

# Beach Week

**April 14th - 17th**

Join in the fun!!  
Lots of Prizes and Cool  
Competitions

**MONDAY**

## Sock and Sandals

WHAT IS THAT SOUND COMPETITION

BEGINS!!

**April 14th**



**TUESDAY**

## Adam Sandler

*Day*

Beach Volleyball

**April 15th**



**WEDNESDAY**

## Hawaiian Shirt

DAD JOKE CHALLENGE!

**April 16th**



**THURSDAY**

## TWIN DAY

ROCK PAPER SCISSORS CHALLENGE!!

**April 17th**



**TROPICAL DRINKS** will be  
sold in the Kitchen on  
**Tuesday!!!**



# Leadership Activities

**IT'S BACK!**

## **ROCK PAPER SCISSORS**

**Challenge - APRIL 17th**



**Rules: All Competitors will be given two beaded necklaces at the start of the day. The object of the game is to get as many necklaces as you can from other competitors by winning battles.**

**Two Ways to Win:**

**Match - One Round only: Winner takes one necklace.**

**Challenge - Best out of three: Winner takes ALL but one necklace from challenger.**

# Leadership Hot Lunch



The poster features a teal background with a dark blue brushstroke at the bottom. It includes a logo with a fork and knife, three circular images of food (a burrito, chicken fingers, and fries), and a list of dates and restaurant names. Prices are shown in blue starburst shapes.

**Leadership Lunch!**

## April Lunch Menu

**\$7**  **\$10 DQ**

**\$7**  **\$7** 

**Subway**

**April 2nd - Subway**  
**April 9th - Donairs**  
**April 16th - Chicken Fingers & Fries**  
**April 30th - Dairy Queen**

YUM! YUM! GIMME SOME!!!

Made with PosterMyWall.com

# GRADUATION 2025

## **Class of 2025: Growing Smiles & Important Parent Meeting!**

Our amazing Class of 2025 is in the final stretch towards graduation, and they're bringing some sunshine to our community with their "Growing Smiles" fundraiser! Support our grads by purchasing beautiful flowers, fragrant herbs, and other delightful plants. It's a fantastic way to brighten your home or garden while contributing to their graduation celebrations.

Ready to order? Visit the DHS website for the ordering link and bring some "Growing Smiles" to your space!

### **Important Parent Meeting: May 1st, 6:30 PM**

All parents of the Class of 2025 are invited to a crucial meeting on Wednesday, May 1st at 6:30 PM. We will be discussing graduation fees, the Cap and Gown ceremony, Celebrations schedule, expectations for the ceremony, and answering any questions you may have. This is an in-person meeting to ensure a smooth and memorable graduation for our students. Please make every effort to attend. We look forward to seeing you there!





# Band News

## **Band Excels at Kiwanis Festival!**

A huge round of applause to our talented band students for their outstanding performances at the Kiwanis Festival in Olds! Your dedication and hard work truly shone through. We're incredibly proud of your achievements!

## **Symphonic Winds: Westglen Collaboration Performance**

Mark your calendars! Symphonic Winds will be joining forces with Cremona School and Vincent Massey High School for a special collaborative concert at Westglen on the afternoon of April 17th. This is a fantastic opportunity to showcase our musical talents and connect with fellow musicians. Remember to wear your full band uniforms for this event!

## **Grade 9 Band: Moose Jaw Trip Approaching!**

Get ready, Grade 9 band! Your exciting trip to Moose Jaw is just around the corner. We know you've been eagerly anticipating this adventure, and we're thrilled to share that the detailed itinerary will be released very soon. Stay tuned for all the essential information!

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# Athletic News

## **Get Ready to Cheer! Divisional and Zonal Championships Approaching**

The spring sports season is heating up, and our athletes are preparing to compete. Mark these important dates on your calendar to show your support:

### **April 8: Sr./Grade 10 High Divisionals:**

Come witness the determination and skill of our senior athletes as they compete for divisional titles. This is a crucial step towards zonal qualification, and your support can make a real difference!

### **April 16: Sr. High Zones:**

Our top senior athletes will advance to the zonal championships, facing off against the best from other schools. Let's pack the stands and cheer them on to victory!

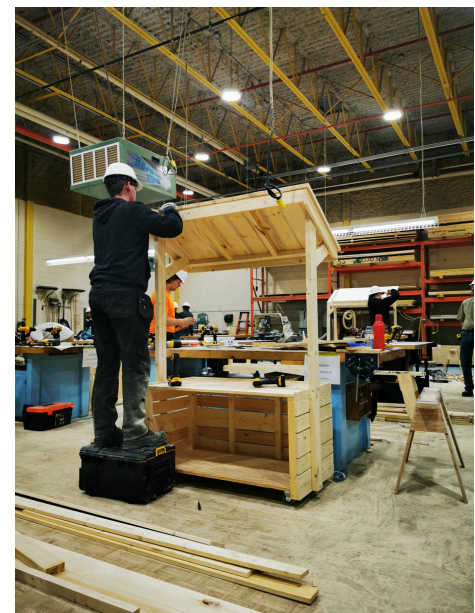
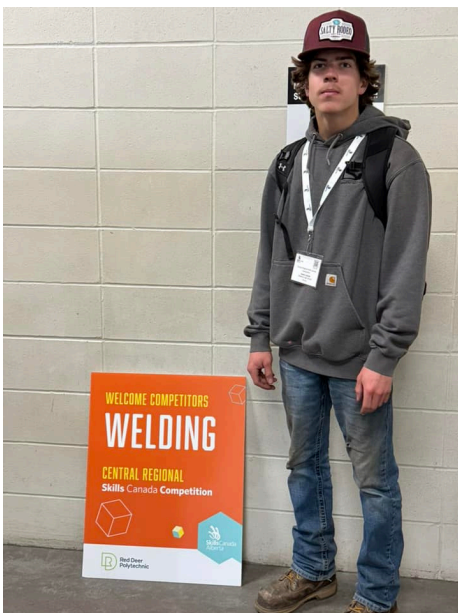
### **May 10: Jr. High Zones:**

The excitement continues with our junior high athletes competing in their zonal championships. These young athletes have worked hard, and they deserve our enthusiastic support.

These events showcase the dedication and talent of our students. Let's show our school spirit and support our athletes!

# School News

Congratulations are in order for the five Dragons who competed in the regional Skills competition on March 15. We are so very proud of the work they put in! Johan E. (gr. 12) and Ryder M. (gr. 11) competed in Carpentry and received 2nd and 3rd, respectively. Logan S. (gr. 11) placed 2nd in Welding, Jaren L. (gr. 11) competed in welding as well (we are still waiting to hear how he placed), and Levi R. (gr. 10) earned 2nd place in Video Production. Johan, Logan and Levi will all be moving on to Provincials in May. So exciting!



Future Oceanographers and Marine Biologists?! We wouldn't be surprised after hearing this glowing report of the Bamfield trip from Mr. Read:

"During the week of March 17-20, 21 students from Didsbury High School had the amazing opportunity to visit the Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre out on Vancouver Island! The trip included old growth forest walks, dock life exploration (lots of tube worms and tunicates), sea floor dredging, oceanography data sampling and testing, microscopic plankton studies, invertebrate exploratory lab, and a beach tide pool exploration! It was a busy (and sometimes cold and rainy) week, but filled with fun learning and an experience they will never forget!

The students were amazing ambassadors for our school and continually impressed the staff with our participation, attitudes and respect. An amazing trip!!!!"

So proud of you, Dragons! Can't wait to hear more about your adventure!



# A Week of Secret Smiles: Staff's "Underground Spirit Week"

While our students were diligently focused on their studies, a delightful secret unfolded behind the scenes. Our dedicated staff embarked on an "Underground Spirit Week," a series of themed days designed to foster camaraderie and inject a bit of playful fun into the work environment.

The week began with "Blackout Monday," where faculty members displayed their most sleek and stylish all black attire. Then Tuesday brought a denim explosion with "Jean on Jean Jive," where staff showcased their most creative denim ensembles, proving that double (or even triple) denim can be surprisingly stylish!



On Wednesday, "Hat's Off to Fun" saw a delightful array of headwear, from elegant fedoras to cozy beanies, adding a touch of whimsy to the day. Thursday's "Lumberjack Legends" brought out the flannel and rugged charm, with staff embracing their inner woodsmen (and women!). Finally, "Fancy Friday" provided a glamorous conclusion, transforming the staff lounge into a scene of sophistication.

The students, blissfully unaware, observed a subtle shift in the atmosphere, perhaps noticing a few extra smiles and a touch of playful energy. This secret spirit week served as a reminder that even the most dedicated educators know how to embrace a bit of lighthearted fun, strengthening the bonds that make our school community so special.

A heartfelt thank you to all the staff who participated, bringing their creativity and enthusiasm to each themed day. Your efforts created a week of shared laughter and memorable moments.

# 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.

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](https://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 public health or community health center [[ahs.ca/info/page17791.aspx](https://ahs.ca/info/page17791.aspx)]. Individuals who are 14 years of age and older can check their immunization record at [myhealth.alberta.ca/myhealthrecords](https://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 [myhealth.alberta.ca](https://myhealth.alberta.ca) about measles, who is at risk, and how it spreads, including:

- immunization: [myhealth.alberta.ca/topic/immunization/pages/measles.aspx](https://myhealth.alberta.ca/topic/immunization/pages/measles.aspx)
- frequently asked questions: [myhealth.alberta.ca/topic/immunization/documents/measles-faq.pdf](https://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 Didsbury* 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

# DHS Scholarship



### Requirements:

- Minimum Average: 65%
- 2 letters of reference (not from teachers or relatives)
- Essay submission
- Participation in extra-curricular
- Leaderships & Community Service

### Deadline:

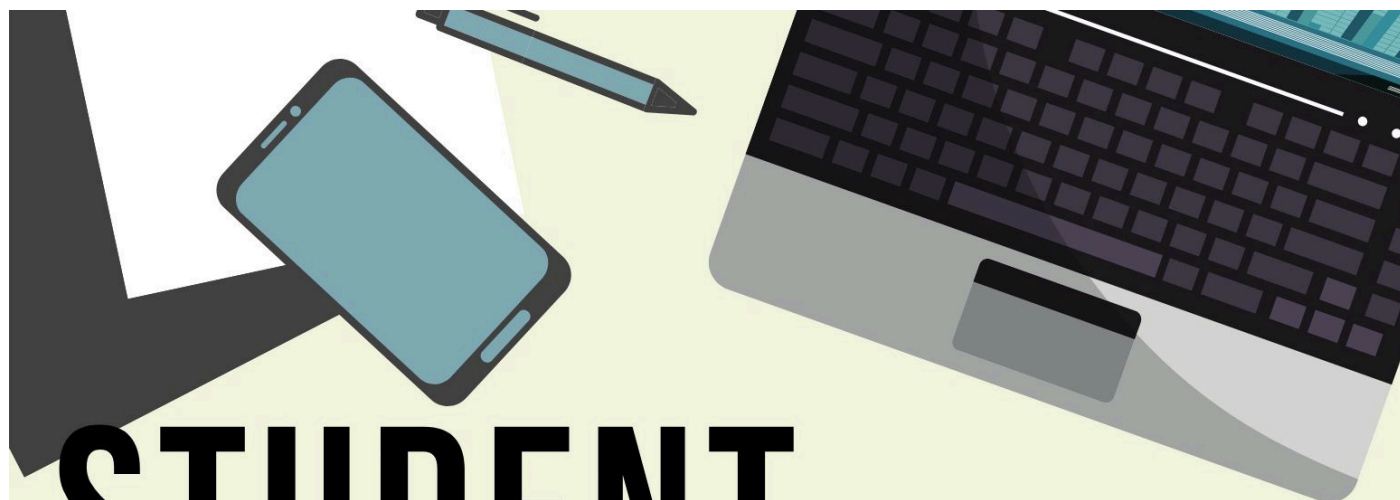
April 25th

### Amount:

Applicants will receive anywhere from  
\$200 - \$5,000

Pick up an application at the office/hub

# Community News



# STUDENT

# HELP DESK

GET HELP WITH:

**A PLACE FOR ALL STUDENT INQUIRES**

POST SECONDARY INFO

HOUSING

APPLYING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

JOB APPLICATIONS

AND MORE!

CREATING RESUMES

**@ DIDSBURY LIBRARY**  
**APRIL 3RD, 10TH & 17TH @4:00PM**



# Community News

FACEBOOK: [HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/HSSFOOTBALL](https://www.facebook.com/HSSFOOTBALL)  
EMAIL: [HSSFOOTBALLASSOCIATION@GMAIL.COM](mailto:HSSFOOTBALLASSOCIATION@GMAIL.COM)  
[HTTPS://MOUNTAINVIEWFOOTBALLASSOC.CA](https://mountainviewfootballassoc.ca)

**\$65**  
grade 5-12  
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

QB CAMP  
\*INVITE  
ONLY\*  
JUNE 7TH,  
2025

Spring  
**CAMP 2025**

**MVFA**

**JUNE 4-6 2025**

[register here](#)

<https://go.teamsnap.com/forms/474002>



# Important Dates



2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
			Subway hot lunch			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
			Donairs			
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	Socks and Sandals	Adam Sandler Day	Chicken fingers & Fries Hawaiian Shirt	Twin Day	Good Friday No School	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	Easter Monday	Spring Break		Spring Break		
27	28	29	30			
			Dairy Queen			



2025

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