

JANUARY 2022

Grande Prairie Composite High School Newsletter

# THE COMP

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From the Principal's desk

Mrs. Tracey Thiemann

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PRINCIPAL

*From the  
Principal's Desk*

Dear parent and guardians,  
Happy New Year! I was thrilled to welcome our students and staff on Monday for in-person learning. It was a cold break, but I hope that you all enjoyed your time together and that the new year finds you safe and healthy. Our fabulous custodial staff worked very hard to clean the school. All COVID-19 health and safety protocols remain in effect, and students were provided a kit that included 20 medical-grade masks and one rapid test kit. A reminder that exams will begin January 20th, and Semester 2/Quarter 3 begins on Monday, January 31st. For any questions you may have, please feel free to call us, and we will help support you.

I would also like to thank Mr. Adam Fragomeni, our departed Vice Principal, for his many years with us. We wish the him and his family well as they begin their new endeavors. Both staff and students will greatly miss him. At this time, I am delighted to RE-introduce you to Tracey Theimann into her role as Vice-Principal. Tracey is not new to us, nor is she new to the position of Vice-Principal, which she brings with her years of experience. She has been with us here at The Comp for many years. Mrs. Theimann has a well-developed relationship with most of our students already. We are very excited to bring her skills and personal assets to our administration team.



*Dennis Vobeyda*  
Principal

# Mrs. Tracey Theimann

Hi everyone,

My name is Tracey Thiemann, I am excited to move into the role as Vice Principal. Many of you may know me as I have worked at Grande Prairie Composite High School for the last seven years as Academic Advisor and Counsellor in Student Services. Previous to that, I was Vice Principal at Maude Clifford Public School.

I will be taking over Mr. Fragomeni's portfolio, including Grade 11 and Grade 9 cohort groups 907, 908, 909.

I look forward to getting to know you and your families and support you in your academic success!



# USEFUL LINKS

[GPCHS Web page](#)

[Back to School Plan](#)

[The Comp Spiritwear Online Store](#)

[The Comp Grad Clothing Store](#)

[Covid-19 Daily Checklist](#)

[Revised GPPSD 2021-2022 Calendar](#)

[The Comp Facebook Page](#)

[Design your Grad ring with Jostens](#)

[The Comp Cafe Menu](#)

[PowerSchool Login](#)

[SafeArrival/SchoolMessenger](#)

# 2021-2022 Registration Update Form

Here are the instructions on how to login to PowerSchool and fill out the forms:

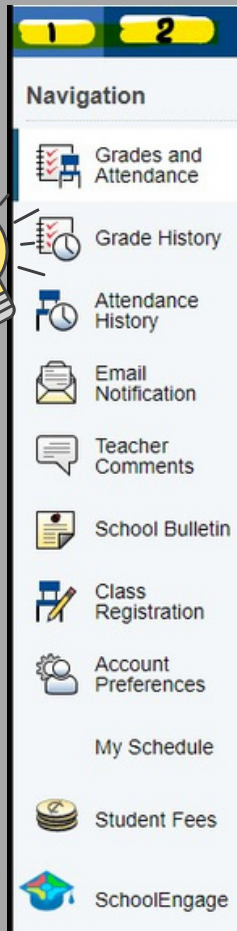
# 1

Go to PowerSchool by clicking this link:

<https://powerschool.gppsd.ab.ca/public/home.html>




Enter the username and password you previously created. **If you have forgotten your login information, please call the school at 780-532-7721 to reset it for you, DO NOT CREATE A NEW ACCOUNT.**

Once you login you'll see something like this. If you have more than 1 child in our division, you'll see their names at the top where the 1 and 2 are, click on each name to go in and see their information.



# 2

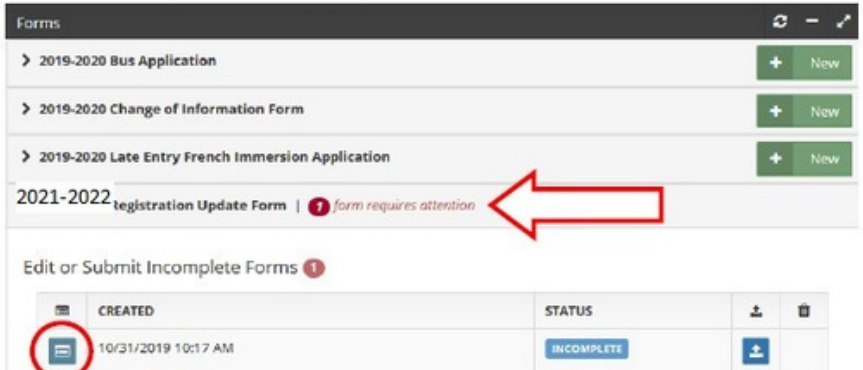
## Once Logged In




1. Click on the  SchoolEngage icon at the bottom left hand menu. A new screen will load.
2. Click  Students in the left menu
3.  Students Click on your child's name. Repeat the next steps for all registered children.

# 3

## REGISTRATION UPDATE FORM

4. After clicking your child's name, you will see a list of forms on the right side of the screen. Please select the **2021-2022 Registration Update Form**. Click the blue icon (circled in red) and follow the steps to complete your registration update.



CREATED	STATUS		
 10/31/2019 10:17 AM	INCOMPLETE		

5. Click **SUBMIT** when done.

If you have any other questions, please call the school at 780-532-7721



## In Need Of Food?

If you need food, contact The Salvation Army Food Bank, we are here to help!

**Please give us a call at 780-532-3720**

### ***Food Bank Hours***

Monday	9am – 11:45am – 1:30pm – 4:15pm
Tuesday	9am – 11:45am – 1:30pm – 4:15pm
Wednesday	9am – 11:45am – 1:30pm – 4:15pm
Thursday	9am – 11:45am – 1:30pm – 4:15pm
Friday	9am – 11:45am – 1:00pm – 4:15pm

**Closed on weekends &  
Statutory Holidays!**

### ***When you visit the food bank you will need:***

- ID for each member of your household. Alberta Health Care Cards are a good ID for your children.
- Proof of your CURRENT address (such as a rent receipt, utility bill etc.).
- Latest statement of income (such as a latest bank statement, current cheque stub from work etc. or most recent tax assessment).

### ***How often may I use the food bank?***

If you qualify for food – you are able to access the food bank once every 30/31 Days days (1 Month) for a food hamper. In addition you can drop in during food bank hours to access bread/bakery items and 'near date' canned food (up to 5 items per day) on the racks in the foyer area.

Snack packs for school age children, diapers and hygiene packs, socks etc. may also be accessed apart from a food hamper, provided you qualify and if we have the items in stock.

# GP Centre for Newcomers



## GRANDE PRAIRIE CENTRE FOR NEWCOMERS

### OUR MISSION

The Settlement Worker in School program is a response to challenges facing newcomer immigrant students and their families to settle and integrate successfully in their new communities and schools.

### OUR CLIENTS

Our clients in this program include newly enrolled newcomer immigrant students and their families who are:

- Permanent residents;
- Accepted Refugees.



Funded By:



### PROGRAM'S OBJECTIVES

The SWIS program's objective is to provide various settlement services to newcomer immigrant students in partnership with schools and school districts, specifically to work with newcomer students and their parents within the educational system, to support them, to advocate for their needs and to help support their settlement and integration in Grande Prairie and surrounding areas. The program aims to:

- Assist newly arrived immigrant students and their parents to understand the school system in Alberta and Canada.
- Foster contact and collaboration between student, parents, and school personnel.
- Raise awareness of diversity in schools to create a more welcoming and accepting attitude among students and newcomer families.

### OUR PARTNERS

To succeed in our mission, we work in collaboration with school districts and schools to identify students who need our services.

### OUR SERVICES

#### 1. Direct Services to Parents

- Meeting with the newcomer student and their family at the time of registration.
- Assist parents with the registration process and utilization of school resources such as personnel, agendas, school calendars, etc.
- Perform an adequate needs assessment and help with appropriate responses to the identified needs.

- Inform and orient students and their parents about services and resources available in the community and provide referral whenever needed.
- Provide information about the school system in Alberta (credits, diploma, certification, degree, etc.) and help them make informed decisions.
- Help understanding cultural differences (parent-teacher relation, parent's role, communication with school, etc.).
- Assist parents to find financial assistance and employment.
- Facilitate social integration and engagement in the school and the community (volunteer, community connection, etc.)

#### 2. Direct Services to Students

- Assistance with comprehension and use of school resources (personnel, technology, schedules, etc.)
- Help understand cultural differences (student-teacher relationship, cultural diversity, etc.)
- Help students to find social assistance or employment if needed.
- Inform and orient students about career choices and career preparation.
- Facilitate social integration in schools (mentoring, homework clubs, camps, and other group activities).

#### CONTACT US:

Main Office:  
Suite 505 10014 – 99 Street  
Grande Prairie, AB T8V3N4  
(Nordic Court Building)

Tel: 780 538 4452  
Fax: 780 532 8857  
Email: [info@gpcn.ca](mailto:info@gpcn.ca)  
Website: [www.gpcn.ca](http://www.gpcn.ca)

[gpcn4newcomers](https://twitter.com/gpcn4newcomers)

GP Centre for



## GRANDE PRAIRIE CENTRE FOR NEWCOMERS

10014 99 St, Grande Prairie, AB T8V 3N4 | [www.gpcn.ca](http://www.gpcn.ca) | (780) 538-4452



The Grande Prairie Centre for Newcomers invites you to join the Homework Club and register for a free afterschool tutoring. This free service is open for permanent residents and refugees that are in Grades 3 to 12.

If you're interested, please call (780) 538-4452 or email us at [nicole@gpcn.ca](mailto:nicole@gpcn.ca) or [arnaldo@gpcn.ca](mailto:arnaldo@gpcn.ca) for more information.

Funded by: Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada / Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada

# REMINDERS

Mr. Duncan is available to meet with students to answer any academic, post-secondary and career planning questions. Please remember Mrs. Thiemann is now one of our Vice Principals and no longer in Student Services



**Mr. Travis Duncan**  
Travis.Duncan@gppsd.ab.ca

**Parents/guardians: If your child has an Academic Action Plan or Individual Program Plan, a reminder we will be sending these home via email this year. Keep an eye on your email for these documents which can be signed electronically, they do not need to be printed or scanned.**

**If you have any questions or concerns about these documents, you can contact your student's learning support teacher directly:**



**Ms. Mary Ellen Skinner**  
**Grade 10, 12 & 13 students**  
maryellen.skinner@gppsd.ab.ca  
780-532-7721 ext. 1208

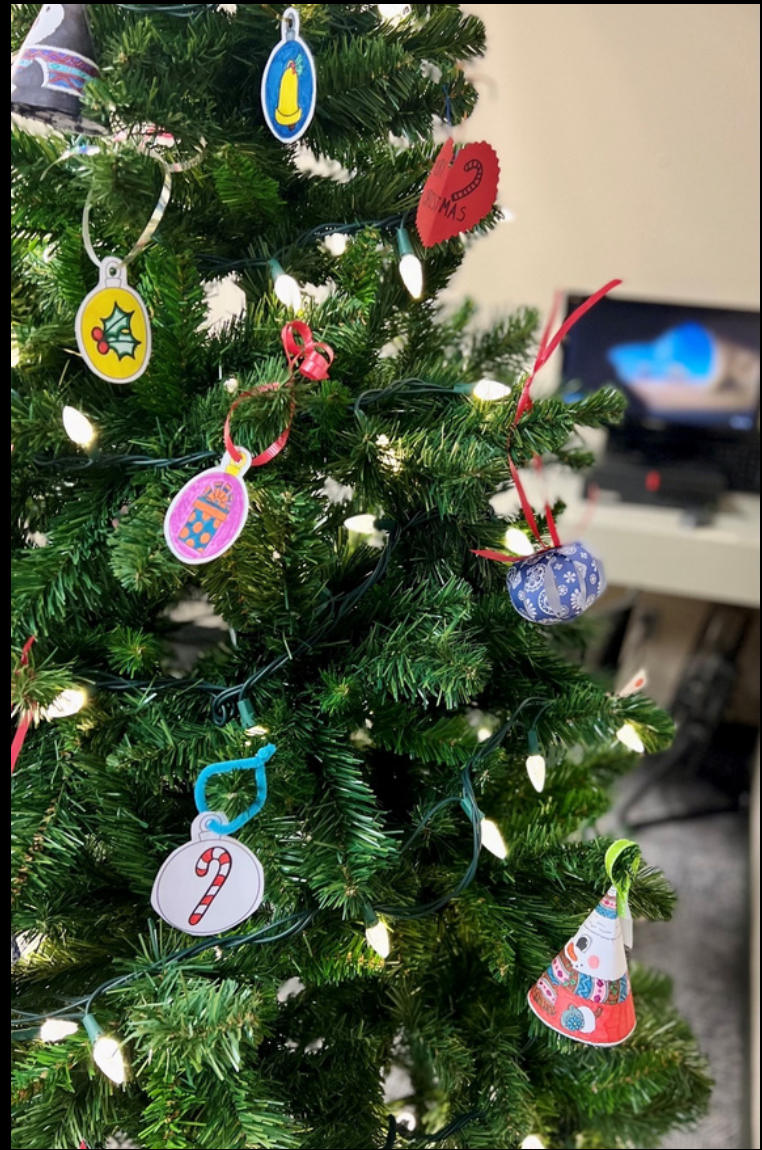


**Mrs. Tanya Ayre**  
**Grade 9, 11 & K&E students**  
tanya.ayre@gppsd.ab.ca  
780-532-7721 ext. 1205

**\*If you are unfamiliar with electronic signatures, please look at the instructions on November's Newsletter (page 10) to help you sign the document using Adobe Sign. [Click here to view.](#)**



# December Activities - Student Services



Our tree was decorated by our wonderful students. Some chose to color their ornaments, others chose to make paper strip ornaments. Beautiful, isn't it! We sure loved it!



# DIY Christmas Make & Take

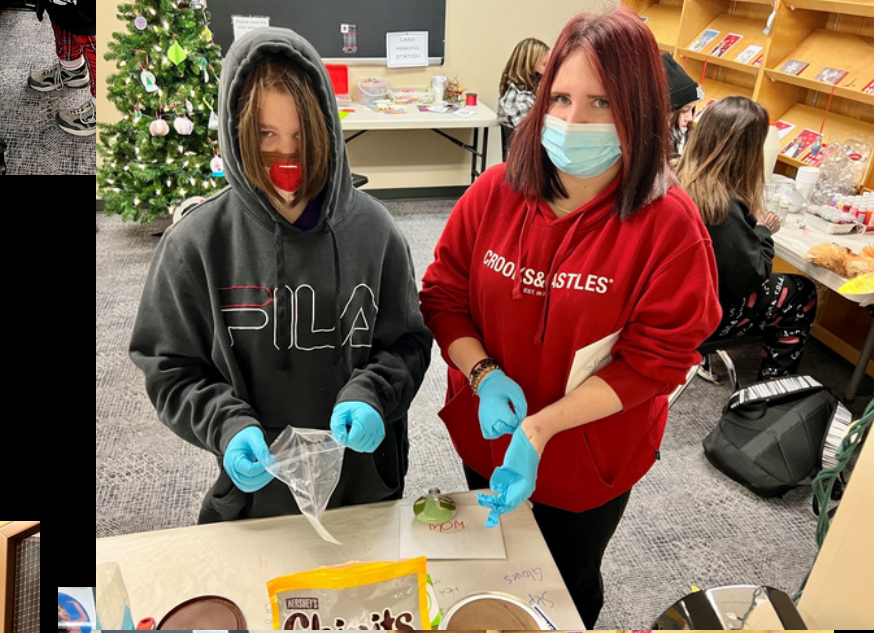
This year we came up with the idea to provide students an opportunity to create a beautiful gift for a loved one. With a little (and by little, we mean a lot!) help from Micheals, our vision came to life!

We were able to offer stations for nail polish marbled ornaments, pour painted ornaments, tinsel & sharpie ornaments, and hot cocoa to go. We also provided students with a card making/gift wrapping station.

We hope you loved receiving your gift as much as they loved making them!



# Thank you, Michaels!







# Grade 9 Student Spotlight

Each month, GPCHS staff nominate grade 9 students for the GPCHS Grade 9 Student Spotlight recognition award. Our hope is to celebrate GPCHS student achievement by creating a culture of belonging and community that values student academic and citizenship success, while continuing to recognize other aspects of student life.

*GOAL  
Getter*

Students are nominated based off of the following criteria: academic performance, attendance, character, citizenship, and/or personal development.



## SECTION 903: MARTIN WOLF

Martin brings a positive attitude to class daily. He is a student that accepts challenges and is thoughtful and reflective during class discussions. His empathy for others is also appreciated. Awesome work, Martin!



## SECTION 907: ANDREW LORD

Andrew is a kind-hearted and considerate student that continues to treat others with respect, empathy, and compassion. He is a student that has exemplified active personal development since the beginning of September. Great job, Andrew!

# Academy 10

Mrs. Dechant



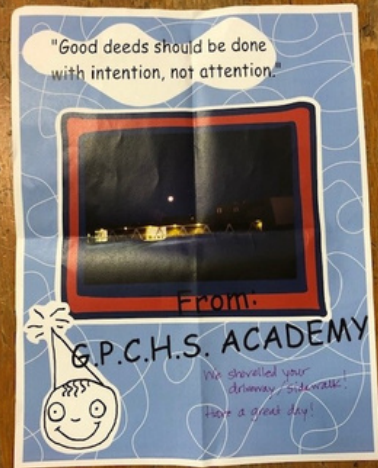
**Academy 10  
students created  
Winter Olympics  
Events such as  
Snoccer,  
Snowshoe Relay  
and Dizzy Ball.  
Team China won  
the gold medal  
overall!**



# Academy 10



Bring outdoor gear.  
Meet in the weight room.  
\* Shovelling for our neighbors (v)



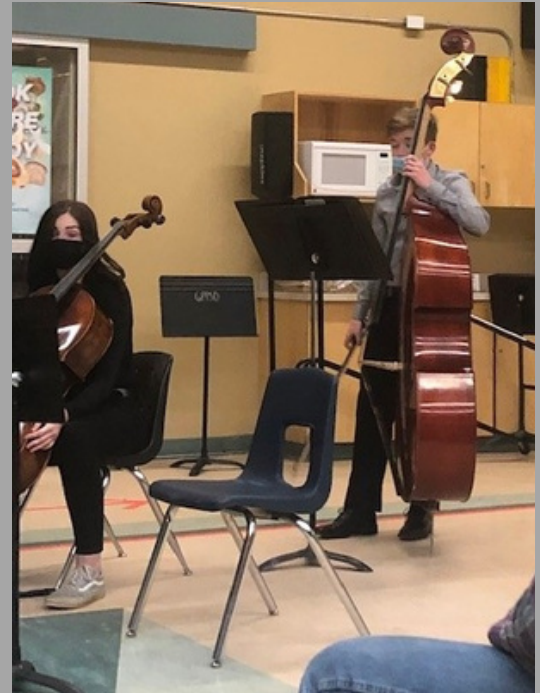
Block 4 - Academy 9

# Orchestra

Mr. McLauchlan



**1st live performance for the Orchestra with Mr. McLauchlan, at The Comp in 2 years. A very successful evening**



**Mr. McLauchlan brought his travelling orchestra around the school to provide us with some beautiful Christmas music. Thank you!**

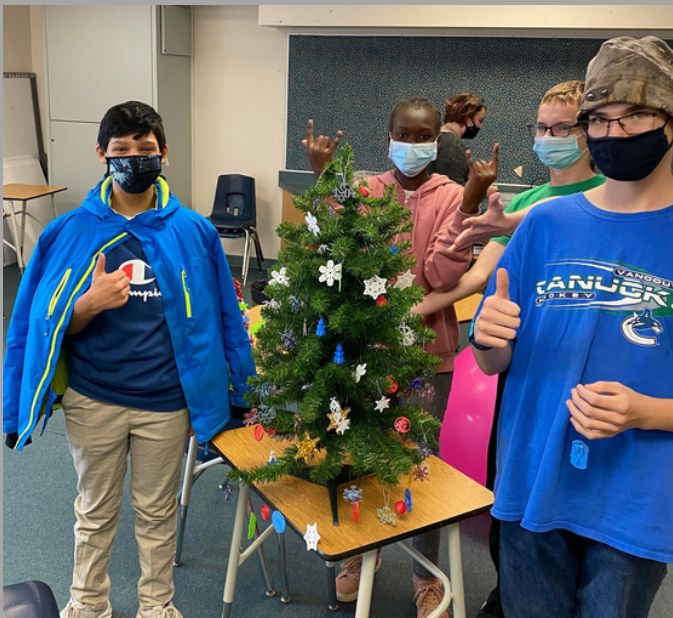


# ISC with Mr. G



Mr.Gorgichuck

**Mr. G and the ISC students created decorations using a 3D-Printer and sold them to raise money for the Salvation Army! Thank you all for your hard work!!**



# ISC Student Projects with Mr. A



Mr. Atkinson

Check out these awesome Teepees! We used: wood boards, bamboo, fabric, rocks, pipe cleaners, paint, sharpies, and glue to complete!



We just finished these winter mosaics with support from staff. They are super!

These wooden kits were assembled and glued together with assistance from staff. Students then used sharpies for some contrast and color. Enjoy!



## Special project and events this season



Thank you to all the students and staff that worked so hard gathering donations for our local Salvation Army.

This is merely one picture containing one drop off of non perishable food items that they received.

Thank you to Mr. Gorgichuk, Mrs. Cochrane, and Mrs. Anderson for being leaders for this!!

# Special project and events this season



Wild Wednesday

Grinch day



Pj Day/Christmas sweater



Ugly sweater day

# Staff Theme Days

# IMPORTANT DATES

## **Thursday Jan 20-Friday Jan 28**

- Exam Week

## **Monday, January 31**

- Semester 2 begins

## **Friday, February 4**

- PL Day (no school for students)

## **Monday February 21**

- Family Day (school closed)

## **Thursday/Friday, March 10 and 11**

- Teacher's Convention (no school for students)

## **Friday, March 18**

- PL Day (no school for students)

## **Monday-Friday, March 28- April 1**

- Spring Break

## **Monday, April 4**

- First Day Back from Spring Break

## **Friday, April 15**

- Good Friday (school closed)

## **Monday, April 18**

- Easter Holiday (school closed)

## **Tuesday, April 19**

- Quarter 4 begins (for grade 9 students)

## **Monday/Tuesday, April 25 and 26**

- Parent Teacher Interviews

## **Friday, April 29**

- PL Day (no school for students)

## **Friday, May 20**

- PL Day (no school for students)

## **Monday, May 23**

- Victoria Day (school closed)

## **Friday, June 10**

- PL Day (no school for students)

## **Tuesday, June 21 - June 28**

- Exam Week

## **Tuesday, June 28**

- Last Day for students

## **Wednesday, June 29**

- Last Day for all staff

# School Messenger

## How to report student absence

[Go to school messenger](#)

Create an account or Log in

Top left has 3 bars (menu) select  
ATTENDANCE

Select REPORT AN ABSENCE  
(purple circle)

Select:  
Student  
Type of absence  
Reason



Download [SchoolMessenger App](#)  
(if you prefer)

**Report lates, leaving  
early, appointments,  
absences. View current  
grades, teacher  
comments, newsletter  
and more**