Grande Prairie Composite High School Newsletter

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From the

Principal's Desk

Dear Students and families,

On-Saturday, the Premier announced the Province would be moving forward with Step 2 of the plan to phase out public health measures, effective Tuesday, March 1, 2022. Included in Step 2 is the removal of all remaining requirements in schools.

• The mandatory isolation guidelines established by the Province are still in effect. Staff and students are to reference the Alberta Health daily checklist and are expected to continue staying home when not feeling well or test positive for COVID-19.

• Parents are not required to notify the school when children test positive for COVID-19. Our schools will no longer be sending an email notice to those who may have been exposed.

- Our schools will continue to support enhanced cleaning of our facilities and continue with a focus on hand hygiene and practicing responsible respiratory etiquette.
- Our schools will continue to support all individuals who choose to wear a mask.

March 202

• Alberta Education has identified that school buses are not considered public transit; therefore, students and staff are not required to wear masks on First Student buses.

Thanks again for all of your support and flexibility as we continue to navigate this next phase of COVID-19.

Dennis Vobeyda

Principal





From the

Principal's Desk

A TELEVISION CONTRACT

WE WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS TIME TO REMIND PARENTS THAT SCHOOL FEES ARE DUE NOW. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADD A YEARBOOK TO YOUR STUDENT'S ACCOUNT, PLEASE CALL THE SCHOOL. 2021-2022 YEARBOOKS ARE \$50 AND WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP IN OCTOBER 2022. (DEADLINE TO PURCHASE/PRE-PAY IS APRIL 30., 2022) SCHOOL FEES CAN BE PAID ONLINE THROUGH THE POWERSCHOOL PARENT PORTAL OR AT THE SCHOOL. ANY OVERDUE LIBRARY BOOKS WILL NOW SHOW ON YOUR STATEMENT. IF YOUR CHILD RETURNS THE BOOK, WE WILL REMOVE THE FEE.

IF YOU MISSED ANY OF OUR ONLINE MEETINGS REGARDING THE BOUNDARIES FOR NEXT YEAR, PLEASE <u>CLICK HERE TO VIEW</u> MORE INFORMATION PROVIDED TO YOU BY OUR GPPSD. REMINDER THAT MARCH 10 & 11TH THAT THE SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED AS OUR TEACHERS WILL BE BUSY DEVELOPING NEW SKILLS AT THE TEACHERS CONVENTION TO BRING BACK TO OUR SCHOOL AND ALL OUR STUDENTS.

Dennis Vobeyda Principal



March 20



USEFUL LINKS

<u>GPCHS Web page</u> <u>Back to School Plan</u> <u>The Comp Spiritwear Online Store</u> <u>The Comp Grad Clothing Store</u> <u>Covid-19 Daily Checklist</u> <u>Revised GPPSD 2021-2022 Calendar</u> <u>The Comp Facebook Page</u> <u>Design your Grad ring with Jostens</u> <u>The Comp Cafe Menu</u> <u>PowerSchool Login</u> <u>SafeArrival/SchoolMessenger</u>

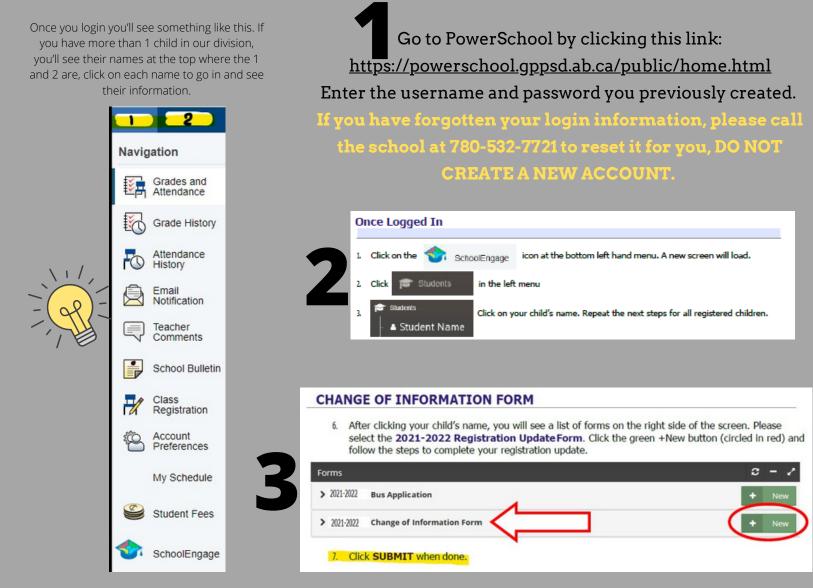




2021-2022 Change of Information Form

If you need to change an address*, phone number, email address, emergency contact, update a medical condition, etc. please fill out a change of information form. Staff cannot change any information on your behalf.

*if you're changing an address, you will need to provide proof of address



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

TACEBOOK PAGE TODAY AND FOLLOW ALL THE COMP NEWS!



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Attention Grads!



Q: WHAT DO I NEED TO EARN A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA?

Alberta High School Diploma Requirements:

- English 30-1 or 30-2; and
- Social Studies 30-1 or 30-2; and
- 10 additional 30 level credits
- Mathematics 20-1 or 20-2 or 20-3; and
- Science 20 or 24 or Biology 20 or Chemistry 20 or Physics 20; and
- Physical Education 10; and
- Career and LifeManagement (CALM) 20
- 100 credits

Some workplaces or post-secondary institutions may require additional credits and/or specific courses. Talk to your school counsellor for more information about diploma requirements.

Wondering how many credits you have? 0: WHY SIGN UP FOR MYPASS?

A: It is an Alberta Education self-service website where students can access the following information anytime, anywhere!

Courses and Marks	Document Orders	Student Profile	Student Connections
View Credential > View diploma / certificate progress	Order Transcript >> Order an Alberta Transcript of High School Achievement	Personal Information >> Review and update personal and contact information	Connect to a Student >> Obtain access to the student information
Detailed Academic Report > Download high school course and mark history	Order Credential >> Order a diploma / certificate reprint	Verification Document >> Generate letters for proof of name, school enrolment, age and who a student resides with	Access to Student Information >> Review who can or has accessed student information
Diploma Exam >> Add and manage exam registrations and late payment >> View results and request rescores PAT Results >> View Provincial Achievement Test Results	Order History >> View all orders >> Edit unsent orders	Q: HOW DO I SIGN UP FOR MYPASS? A: <i>Easy!</i> Visit Student Services to register your <i>personal</i> email address. You do not need to book an appointment.	

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Attention Grads!



Q: WHAT IS APPLYALBERTA?

A: **applyalberta** is an online application and transcript transfer system that anyone can use to apply to undergraduate programs at one or more of Alberta's post-secondary institutions

Before You Start

The ApplyAlberta system will allow you to create a profile with your personal information and academic history. This information is filled in automatically on your application(s) to Alberta post-secondary institutions.

You will need the following:

- A MyAlberta Digital ID. You will be prompted to create a MyAlberta Digital ID if you do not already have one. If you
 have previously used ApplyAlberta, you will need to transfer your former SIAMS account to your MyAlberta Digital
 ID the system will walk you through the account transfer process.
- 2. Your Alberta Student Number (ASN). If you have applied to or attended a school or post-secondary institution in Alberta, you will already have an ASN. To find your ASN, you can use the C ASN Lookup service. If you do not have an ASN, the ApplyAlberta system will assign one to you.
- 3. Names of all high schools and post-secondary institutions you have attended or are currently attending.
- 4. High school courses and marks (for currently enrolled Canadian students only).
- 5. A credit card will be necessary to pay any application fees charged by the institution(s).

Scholarships and Awards

Please see the <u>GPCHS Scholarship Booklet</u> to access a broad range of information and visit our <u>webpage</u> for more resources





to Student Services, Ms. Mahaney!

Velcome



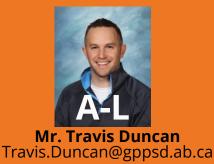
Ms. Blythe Mahaney Blythe.Mahaney@gppsd.ab.ca I have been at the Comp since 2005 teaching math through Grades 9 to 12, as well as dabbling in Science and Biology, on rare occasions. On return from my maternity leave, I was involved in student intervention and credit recovery. This opened the door for my entrance into the academic advising and counselling role. I'm excited for this opportunity to work with students in a different capacity and fulfilling a valued role in the school. I will be working with students that formerly saw Mrs. Thiemann, last names starting with M through to Z. I look forward to assisting students and parents/guardians with their questions and needs.





REMINDERS

Mr. Duncan and Ms. Mahaney are available to meet with students to answer any academic, post-secondary and career planning questions.





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, all 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 last month's Newsletter (page 10) to help you sign the document using Adobe Sign. <u>Click here</u> to view.





We are happy to announce another increase in student mental health supports at our school!!

Tuesdays and Wednesdays we are able to provide counselling support from our Division Social Worker and our Division Mental Health Lead. In addition to that, we are able to continue providing the counselling from Paramount Counselling on Thursdays.

If you feel that your student may benefit from some extra support, please speak to their respective counsellor for a referral.

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MENTAL

HEALTH





Grande Prairie Composite High School Mrs. Slobodian Grade 9 Coordinator

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.

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



ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE & ATTENDANCE Maria asks meaningful questions, participates in class, set goals for improvement and attends tutorials for extra help. Her efforts have led to significant academic improvement. I am very proud of her! -Mrs. Cochrane

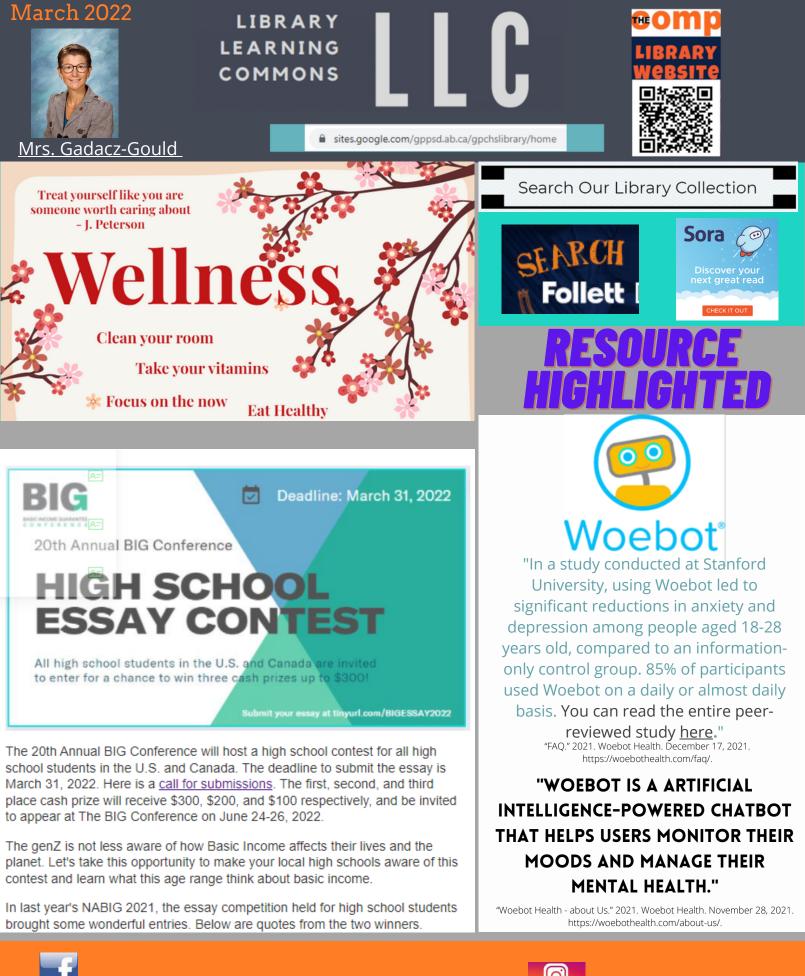


Murphy is a kind-hearted student who has shown what it truly means to be a supportive classmate in small group settings. She is diligent in her studies and self-motivated to turn in her best work. In addition, she goes above assignment expectations and continues to challenge her understanding of course content. Great job, Murphy!



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Mr. Sandboe

Phys. Ed. Department



Monthly Healthy Heroes

Every month our Phys Ed department has a monthly draw for students that do something positive in our department. Things that will get you an entry are; helping with equipment without being asked, sweeping gym floors, helping other students, and so on. Prizes awarded are Comp Tshirts, Comp cafeteria cards, Bowling Stones gift cards, and GPRC Climbing Wall passes.:

Darius Scovill



Ethan Thompson Cecily Phelps





Winners

*other heroes not pictured Payton Penner, Ava Charrock







Composite Cosmetology

Haircut	\$ 10
Shampoo with style	\$5
Scalp treatment	\$ 10
Up dos	\$ 15
Colours	\$20-60
Perm	\$20-30
Brow Waxing	\$5
Armpit Waxing	\$10
1/2 Leg Waxing	\$25
Eyebrow or Lash Tinting	\$5
Lash Perming	\$5

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WARRIOR DRAMA



Warrior Drama 9 is starting the semester by working on improvisation and movement. Soon they will be studying classic children's stories in the hopes of performing for an audience in the near future.

Film 15 has begun their semester by studying the history of film and the link between past classics and the blockbusters of today.

Film 25 is exploring directors and their unique film language.







INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PROGRAM





The IB Programme at GPCHS (Three paths of IB available)

<u>IB Diploma (full IB program)</u>

- French AB Initio
- EE (Extended Essay) * Introduces students to the demands and rewards of independent work. Explore
 your passion across several knowledge areas.
- TOK (Theory of Knowledge) * Interdisciplinary course designed to help students question and understand how they know what they know
- CAS (Creativity, Action, Service) * Experiential learning component. Students can complete a wide variety of extracurricular, community service and athletic options.
- IB Standard Level (SL) Math and Chemistry
- IB Higher Level (HL) Biology, World History and English

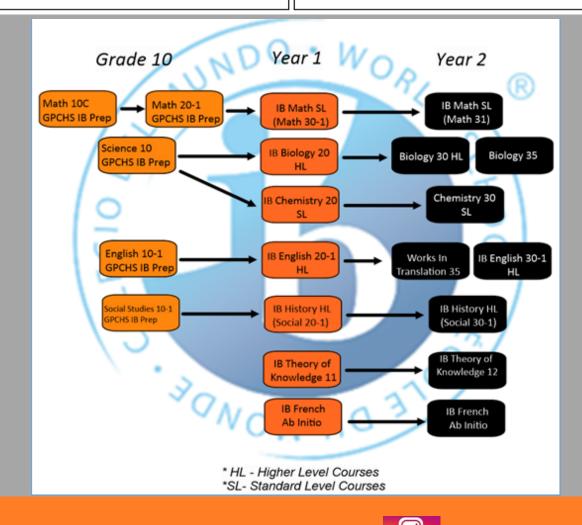
*Core Components of the IB

IB Certificate (partial IB program)

 Students may take individual HL/SL courses and TOK for IB credit

IB Cohort

 Students may enroll in individual HL/SL courses and TOK, but choose not to register for the IB assessments







ASSESSMENT CORNER

MR. BRENTNELL



Welcome to Assessment Corner Christmas Edition! As we move into the holiday season and exams coming up in January here are some healthy study habits.

For a full list of Diploma and School based exam schedules please check our school website @ https://bit.ly/2 SaY3QP



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IN A PREVIOUS COLUMN, I WROTE ABOUT THE HERO'S JOURNEY. THIS CONSISTS OF A HERO WHO IS FORCED OUT OF THEIR MUNDANE EXISTENCE BY EXTERNAL EVENTS. THIS HERO IS HELPED ACROSS THE THRESHOLD INTO AN EXTRAORDINARY WORLD BY A MENTOR, AND PROCEEDS TO ENCOUNTER ALL KINDS OF OBSTACLES, ENEMIES, THREATS, AND EVEN SOME ALLIES. THE HERO APPROACHES THE INMOST CAVE, REPRESENTING THEIR DEEPEST FEARS. THE HERO UNDERGOES A SYMBOLIC DEATH AND REBIRTH, AND EMERGES FROM THE CAVE TRANSFORMED, CARRYING THE BOON WHICH WILL BE BROUGHT BACK TO THE ORDINARY WORLD. ONCE THE PATTERN IS IDENTIFIED, YOU CAN SEE IT EVERYWHERE - MOVIES, NOVELS, VIDEO GAMES, GRAPHIC NOVELS, ETC. THERE IS EVEN A CHARTER SCHOOL BASED ON THE CONCEPT, WHERE, ACCORDING TO THE WEBSITE, STUDENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO "LEARN THAT HEROES ARE PEOPLE WHO GET UP WHEN THEY FALL DOWN."

I BELIEVE THAT STORIES HAVE AN IMPACT ON HOW WE LIVE OUR LIVES. THIS IS WHY EXPOSING STUDENTS TO A VARIETY OF NARRATIVE STYLES AND APPROACHES IS SO IMPORTANT. JUST AS HAVING A BALANCED DIET IS CRUCIAL FOR ONE'S PHYSICAL HEALTH, CONSUMING A VARIETY OF TEXTS AND NARRATIVES CAN MAINTAIN AN INTELLECTUAL BALANCE. WHICH MEANS THAT AS AN ENGLISH TEACHER, I NEED TO GO BEYOND THE HERO'S JOURNEY. THANKFULLY, THE TEXTS WE STUDY IN HIGH SCHOOL ENGLISH PROVIDE ENOUGH DIVERSITY THAT STUDENTS CAN GO ON JOURNEYS EVEN MORE COMPLEX AND REWARDING THAN THE HERO'S JOURNEY.

FRANZ KAFKA UNDERMINES THE HERO'S JOURNEY IN HIS FAMOUS NOVELLA THE METAMORPHOSIS. NO SPOILERS: KAFKA PUTS US DIRECTLY INSIDE GREGOR'S HEAD, AS HE STRIVES HEROICALLY FOR HIS FAMILY. AT THE SAME TIME, WE HAVE OUR OWN PERSPECTIVES ON GREGOR'S ACTIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS, WHICH ARE AT ODDS WITH THE CHARACTER. WHICH BEGS THE QUESTION - WHAT IF WE ARE EQUALLY RIDICULOUS IN OUR OWN (POSSIBLY?) MISGUIDED EFFORTS? HOW WOULD WE KNOW? A CYNICAL PERSON MIGHT ASK WHO BENEFITS FROM PEOPLE ATTEMPTING TO LIVE LIKE EPIC HEROES, WILLING TO SACRIFICE THEMSELVES FOR SOMEONE OR SOMETHING ELSE. THIS IS WHY I TEACH JOHN WYNDHAM'S THE CHRYSALIDS - DAVID REPRESENTS A DIFFERENT KIND OF HERO, ONE WHO ASKS HARD QUESTIONS OF PEOPLE IN POWER.

IS THERE ROOM FOR EIGHT BILLION HEROES? WHEN DOES ONE PERSON'S HERO BECOME ANOTHER PERSON'S VILLAIN? OR IS THE IDEA OF AN INDIVIDUAL HERO JUST AN ILLUSION, CREATED WHEN ONE PERSPECTIVE IS PRIVILEGED? EVEN IF THE HERO'S JOURNEY IS REAL, AT SOME POINT, OUR JOURNEYING DAYS MUST END. PERHAPS WE NEED MORE STORIES ABOUT THE FIGURES WHO PUT DOWN ROOTS, AND HELP GROW COMMUNITIES. WE COULD CALL IT THE GARDENER'S PLOT.



Science Department Highlights: Students doing Chem 30 Calorimetry







Coryl Moran, Alyssa Edwards, Robin Pippus, Justis Fenlly, MacKenna Dort, Avneet Gill, Kali McQuaig

https://science.howstuffworks.com/life/evolution/10-worst-animal-adaptations.htm? utm_source=HowStuffWorks+Newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=themedevolution-02-17-22



Relax, turkey. You're not on the list. Or this list at least. JASON DOIY/GETTY IMAGES

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Ms. Veronica Bouvier

Indigenous Student Support

Tan'si! (Hello in Cree), my name is Veronica Bouvier and my roles are:

Liaison Role:

I liaise for students, families, school staff and community partners. I am here to help students obtain resources needed for school success.

·Relationship Building:

Assist and help build positive relationships with Indigenous students, families, and community agencies within Grande Prairie.

•Transition Support:

Grade 9 can be a challenging year as students are now entering the high school level and this can be intimidating to some students. I offer a safe space for students to talk and access supports if they are struggling; which is completely natural. I would like to make your child's new school environment safe, comfortable, and healthy.

Monitoring Attendance and Academics:

To identify students requiring supports with academics or personal issues. I will monitor attendance and discuss with you and your child as to how I can assist you either with school or community resources. It is also important to identify and acknowledge Indigenous students who are excelling!

·Supporting Indigenous Students with Graduation Planning:

There are resources at the school level to assist. I work with students regarding career planning, post-secondary planning, and scholarships. Please inquire.

·Indigenous Cultural Support and Programming:

Providing cultural supports, information and organizing activities as required for student, families and staff.

Please feel free to call me if you have questions or concerns at 780-532-7721 ext. 1284. Parents and Students are always welcome to drop-in for a visit. However, due to Covid-19, it is mandatory for visitors to wear a mask and to respect social distancing protocols while in the building.





Mar<u>ch 2022</u>

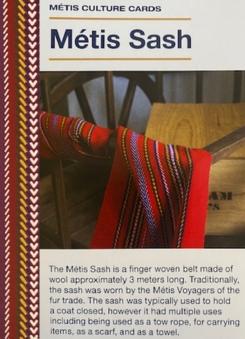
Indigenous Student Support

MÉTIS CULTURE CARDS

Métis Flag



The Métis Flag is the oldest Canadian patriotic flag indigenous to Canada. The flag was presented by Alexander MacDonnell of the North West Company and was first used in 1814, which predates the Canadian flag by 150 years. The flag symbolizes the creation of a new society with roots in both Aboriginal and European cultures and traditions. The sky blue background of the flag emphasizes the infinity symbol and suggests that the Métis people will exist forever.



The Métis Sash is a finger woven belt made of wool approximately 3 meters long. Traditionally, the sash was worn by the Métis Voyagers of the fur trade. The sash was typically used to hold a coat closed, however it had multiple uses including being used as a tow rope, for carrying items, as a scarf, and as a towel.



First made their appearance in 1801 at Fort Pembina. In 1878 Harpers Magazine described the Métis Red River Cart as "... the wheels are broad in the felloes (rims), so as not to cut through the prairie sod. They are long in the spokes so as to pass safely through fords and mud holes. They are very much designed so that they can be strapped together and rawhide stretched over them to make a boat. The whole cart is made of wood so if anything breaks the material to repair it can easily be found. The axles are never greased making the red river carts heard from miles away."

Mr. Edey's senior construction students are currently

Original Totem Pole refurbishing our schools totem pole, Today I saw quality work and pride of that workmanship from these young men posing for my picture!!! What a difference already from the years and years of wear an tear from being exposed to the outdoor elements. Stay tuned more pics to come!!!



(L-R) Mr. Edey, Carter Patenaude, **Carlos Martinez, Keenan McKeever**



Carter Patenaude

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Indigenous Student Support



(L-R) ????, Cherish Bulldog-Wright, Cagney Cardinal

We have started a Beading Club that takes place every Thursday during our lunch hour in the library

Parents that would like to share or teach an Indigenous craft (*or know of someone who would*) please let me know.



Please read the attached image of The Moose Hide Campaign May 12, 2022

<u>Click here</u> for the Moose Hide Campaign website to get all the information you need, and **please share with others**

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IMPORTANT DATES

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 - 28

• Exam Week

Tuesday, June 28

• Last Day for students

Wednesday, June 29

• Last Day for all staff