

David Thompson Secondary School

NEWSLETTER | DEC 2023



Principal's message

Welcome to the last DTSS newsletter of 2023, which provides details of two exciting new developments at DTSS – the completion of the new Art room and the launch of our new extracurricular music programs.

I am thrilled with the early interest shown by parents and students in the music programs. We are blessed to have the talent and commitment of Mr. Bryant Olender to lead us forward. Mr. Olender's commitment to fostering music talent and filling the valley with music is an inspiration.

The art program has now moved from its temporary home and things are off to an amazing start. We waited months as we witnessed the new art room rise from ground that it now occupies. The process captured the imagination of many young artists. It also captured the imaginations of future engineers, trades people and architects. The final product is an amazing space that is large and bright, providing an ideal space for embracing modern project-based learning and teaching methods.

Finally, I hope that all our DTSS families have an enjoyable and relaxing winter break, and wish you all the best for the new year.

M. Hubick

2023-24 bell schedule

Monday to Thursday: 8:50am - 3:30pm

Friday: 8:50am - 1:30pm

The full bell schedule, including period times and day rotations, is available on our website: [CLICK HERE](#)

UPCOMING DATES

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| Dec 23 – Jan 7 | Christmas break |
| Jan 11 | Grad parents meeting |
| Jan 17 | PAC Meeting |
| Jan 26 | Last day of Term 2 |
| Feb 6 | Term 2 report cards go home |
| Feb 19 | Family Day |
| Feb 20 | Pro-D day |
| Mar 6 | Parent Teacher interviews |
| Mar 16 – Mar 31 | Spring break |



Important Information

Parent Advisory Council

The DTSS Parent Advisory Council is the collective voice of parents advocating for students. It supports, encourages and improves the quality of education and the well-being of students by:

- exchanging ideas and information;
- providing information about educational and community matters to parents;
- providing the parental voice to educational decision making organizations.

The PAC meets once a month, and parents can attend either in person or virtually on Microsoft Teams (only those who come in person will get free pizza though!) This year, different teachers will be invited to attend each PAC meeting to discuss their subject areas and their plans for the school year.

In the new year, Ms. Dunlop will be sharing details of the Grade 12 Capstone project, and Mrs. Salzbrenner will be giving a tour of the kitchen facilities used for our fantastic chef's program (and hopefully even serving some of their delicious creations). Definitely one not to be missed!

Last chance to purchase pre-paid cards for the Rocky Mountain Cafe!

Anyone wanting to get a gold or silver card, please purchase it from the school office by **December 14th**.

Gold Card - \$50
Silver Card - \$30



The Science Fair on Thursday Dec 7th was a great success! There were over 100 fascinating science projects on display, and visitors included DTSS students, parents, and students from neighbouring schools

Absence reporting

GOOD ATTENDANCE
is crucial for
students' academic
success and
wellbeing.

We use School Messenger to notify you by phone and email whenever your child is absent from class.

The call will always say that your child missed the afternoon session, because DTSS only sends calls out in the afternoon. However, if you do receive a call it means your child could have missed the morning, afternoon or a full day.

If you know in advance that your child(ren) will be absent, please call the Attendance Secretary voicemail at **250-342-9213, ext 1**.

Focus on... Art and Music

Students engaging in a variety of project-based learning (PBL) activities in the new art room...



PBL engages students with design challenges and critical questions, putting the student in the driver's seat of their learning. Teachers play a nontraditional role, facilitating learning by providing opportunities and guidance from the side based on a solid understanding of the learning outcomes in the curriculum.

Mr. Olender working with students who are participating in the new extra-curricular music program.

His ability to engage students and capture their imagination is second to none!



Available to buy...

Are you wanting some David Thompson Secondary School Spirit Wear?

We are excited to introduce Sport X Marketplace for DTSS! Every purchase made on this site donates money back to our school.



You can check it out by going to: <https://marketplace.sportxcanada.com/login>
(this website does not track or use your information in algorithms)

Email: marketplace@DTSS.com

Password: password

****Purchases made now will be delivered to the school in January****

Nothing jumping out at you? It operates on 2 month cycles, so check back once in a while for new and exciting products!

If you have any questions please contact christina.paolini@sd6.bc.ca



Yearbooks for the 2023-24 school year can be purchased for \$40 from Dec 1 2023 to April 10 2024.

You can pay by cash or cheque at the school office, or online at:

SchoolCashOnline.com: [Welcome](#)