

David Thompson Secondary School

NEWSLETTER | FEB 2024

Principal's message

We're now three weeks into our second semester, and I hope all our students are settled into their new classes. I would encourage parents and caregivers to connect with your child's second semester teachers if you haven't done so already, and also to sign up for the parent teacher interviews taking place in early March. Details of how to sign up have been sent out by email, and are also provided in this newsletter.

Course selection assemblies will be held in the last week of February. Students will be given information about course options for next year, and will then complete forms to indicate their preferred choices. Once students have made their selections a parent form will be sent home for you to review and sign, and there will be a parent meeting on March 6th to provide more information about high school graduation requirements. It is very important that students consider their selections carefully at this stage, as once the schedule for the year is finalised changes can only be made in exceptional circumstances.

Finally, I would like to congratulate all our student athletes for a very successful year so far, and to thank all the teachers and parent volunteers who give up their time to make these opportunities possible for our students. Here's to an equally successful spring season!

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

Feb 26	Grade 9 course selection assembly
Feb 27	Student White Hatter presentation (in school)
Feb 28	Parent/caregiver White Hatter presentation (online)
Feb 28	Grades 10 & 11 course selection assembly
Feb 29	Grade 9 immunizations
Mar 6	1:50 - 4:00: Parent-teacher interviews 4:30: Parent course selection meeting
Mar 8	Deadline for parent course selection forms
Mar 16 – Mar 31	Spring break



Notices and events

The DTSS PAC now has a dedicated email address: dtsspac@gmail.com

This email address can be used for all parents and caregivers to communicate with the PAC, which welcomes you to email with any questions or ideas to enrich our students' educational experience at DTSS.



White Hatter Parent and Caregiver Presentation

Wednesday February 28 2024, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

SD6 has coordinated with schools to offer presentations on digital literacy and on-line safety for students and parents/caregivers this school year.

On February 28 from 6:30-8:30 pm, a parent and caregiver presentation will be offered called **"Supporting Youth Being Targeted by Aggression, Cyberbullying, Threats, Hacks, and Violence"**.

More details about the sessions and a link to join the parent/caregiver presentation can be found on the district website [here](#).

REMINDER:

Pets are not allowed in school



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**.

Parent/Teacher Interviews

Parent/Teacher Interviews will be held on **Wednesday March 6th** from **1:50pm – 4:00pm**. We are booking online appointments as of **Monday, February 20th**. The process takes only a few minutes and may be changed right up until 9:00am on March 6, 2024

The following steps will help parents to negotiate the site and set up appointments:

1. Open your internet browser. In the address bar type this address: **dtss.schoolappointments.com**. This address is not typical because it DOES NOT begin with www Hit “enter” and you should arrive at the David Thompson Secondary School Appointments Website.
2. Below the “Login” button, parents will see the link to register as a new user. Click this link and follow the onscreen instructions. We are asking parents to enter the “Preferred user ID” in this format: firstname.lastname. Select a password unique and private.
3. After registration, parents may immediately “Add a student”.
4. Students are identified only by their names; parents will NOT NEED to enter any ministry or school student numbers. Once created, parents then “Manage Students” by clicking this button. At this window, you will see a button on the right side of the screen labeled, “March 6, 2024 Parent/Teacher Interviews” Click this button to see a list of DTSS teachers.
5. Parents may select up to 6 teachers and see their appointment schedules all at once. While scrolling through the list of teachers with your mouse, hold down the “Ctrl” key on your keyboard. This will allow you to select several teachers from the list by clicking on their names as you hold down the “Ctrl” key. After you have selected the teachers you would like, click the “View Calendars” button.
6. In the next window you will see columns of teacher appointment schedules placed side by side. In this fashion, parents can easily see available appointments and book all the interviews they want in one step. After you have chosen the times that work in your evening schedule, click the “Book Appointments” button. This will complete the process. The next window will allow parents to print a copy of their appointments. Clicking “Print Appointments”, will launch a pdf version of the schedule which can be saved and printed. Parents can return to this site to add, remove, or change appointments anytime up to 9am on March 6th.

If you are unable to schedule a time in the selected calendars, you may request a call back. You will be contacted by phone or email. To do so please select the bar to the right of the **Call Backs** bar above the appointment times.

Athletics update

DTSS Sports Season Recap: Achievements on Court and Slopes!

DTSS athletes have excelled this season both in basketball and on the slopes, showcasing talent and sportsmanship at every turn.

On the basketball court there has been no shortage of excitement, with Boys and Girls competing across Bantam, Junior, and Senior categories. Our Junior Boys team secured second place in Zones, displaying impressive skill and teamwork in front of a home crowd.

Our skiing and snowboarding teams have earned qualification for Provincials! All four teams will compete, with the Boys Ski and Boys Snowboard teams claiming top spots, and the Girls Ski and Girls Snowboard teams securing third-place finishes. Dylan Gray's first-place finish in skiing, Jack Steele's third-place, and Lewis Turgeon's second-place in snowboarding showcase the exceptional skiing and riding talent in the valley!

**Congratulations to all our athletes
for a season to be proud of!!**

Upcoming Spring Sports:

Junior and Senior Girls Soccer, Golf, Track and Field, Badminton, Mountain Biking, and Rugby. Students - check the Athletics board outside the gym for more info!

