



P.O. Box 610  
Nanton, Alberta, T0L 1R0  
Phone: (403) 646 2264  
[www.lrsd.ab.ca/school/jtfoster](http://www.lrsd.ab.ca/school/jtfoster)  
[s-jtfoster@lrsd.ab.ca](mailto:s-jtfoster@lrsd.ab.ca)

**February 12, 2021**

**From the Principal's Office: ([doucetr@lrsd.ab.ca](mailto:doucetr@lrsd.ab.ca))**

Today marks the last day of school and the beginning of a break for both teachers and students. Monday being the Family day holiday, and Tuesday and Wednesday as a February break. The Break is followed by the Teachers Convention Thursday and Friday. Over the years, I have had many people ask what we do during teachers' conventions. Convention 2021 will be different in that it will be online, but the days will be very similar. Typically each day will have a keynote speaker. Rick Mercer is our keynote this year. Afterward, there will be several breakout sessions throughout the day. One such session for me this year is called Viewing Responsive Behaviour Support through a Lens of Collaborative Response. The days are also an opportunity to network with colleagues from other school jurisdictions. The convention is unique to Alberta, and it is paid for by the Alberta Teachers Association and through member dues. It is also a fantastic opportunity to recharge for teachers.

Last week, Joel and I were presented with an exciting research study on Dyslexia. Researchers are looking for participants in a research study conducted by Stelios Smirnakis, MD, Ph.D., Department of Neurology at Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School. They are doing this research to understand whether using an eye-tracking device to measure eye movements can help us better identify children with reading disabilities such as Dyslexia. They are also interested in whether this approach can help us distinguish among different reading disabilities and find ways to help children improve their reading. If you are interested in having your child participate, please contact us at the school, and we will forward more information.

Weather closures were a hot topic for some in the last week. The school division's superintendent can shut down a school for extreme weather. However, typically, schools will remain open as we did this past week. Each bus driver has the final decision on whether or not to operate during inclement weather. Even if busses are not running, the school remains open, and classes continue. Over the years, when we have had closings because of inclement weather, we have had angry comments about why we closed. Other times, when the school remained open, the school received angry remarks about why we did not close schools. Please contact us if you would like more detailed information, and we would be happy to share it.

Report cards are in the mail, and many should already be receiving them. Next year, schools in

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Livingstone Range will move to new software for grading and reporting. Therefore our report cards will have a different look to them.

AHS provided us with the inspection report from environmental public health. A site inspection was done following confirmed COVID cases in our school. They inspected the school and performed a deep dive into our school relaunch plan. I am happy to report that no deficiencies were found. The report recommended the following, and we will be implementing these changes.

1. Limit change room capacity in the gym to ensure that distancing is maintained in this space.
2. Consider reconfiguring staff room for physical distancing by removing chairs or setting a maximum capacity.
3. Recommend that climbing wall be cleaned/disinfected regularly.
4. Science goggles recommend quarantine for 24 hours if not being cleaned/disinfected.
5. Ensure the fitness centre follows the guidelines for Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation, and any currently applicable restrictions.
6. Ensure any microwaves or equipment used for lunches by students can supply disinfectant products and hand sanitizer available.
7. If the congregation occurs with the chairs in the hallway, consider removing the chairs.

Overall I was pleased with the report. I am especially pleased with the response to the pandemic from all of the children. Our young have had their whole world turned upside down. Yet, have shown resilience and strength.

Have a warm family day weekend!

Roger

[doucetr@lrsd.ab.ca](mailto:doucetr@lrsd.ab.ca)

## Teacher Updates

### Grade 7:

**Baxter (Drama 7)** Students will continue to read their scripts.

**Doucet & Porteous (Social Studies A & B):** After the break students are beginning a confederation project. The project includes both classes working together for the following two to three weeks on a series of individual and group assignments related to confederation.

**Gammie (PE):** Students are demonstrating manipulative activity skills, fair play and effort while participating in badminton.

**Hatch (Science):** With section 4 just beginning, students are beginning to prepare for their unit test on February 24th. The students have also begun their unit project, Keep it Cool! This project will be due on the 25th.

**Howard (Math):** We have begun our next unit: Circles and Circle Graphs. Students will make use of their geometry and spatial thinking skills within this unit.

**MacLachlan (ELA 7A):** We are continuing with our "Wilderness Survival" unit - we've finished our film study and are beginning a novel study of *Hatchet*.

**Porteous (ELA 7B):** We have wrapped up our elements of fiction unit and will be starting our novel study of Hatchet after the break.

**Gamache (Shop 7B):** We are spending some time this week learning the general rules in the shop

## Grade 8:

**Baxter (ELA A & B):** Students are working in a partnership to research their chosen Greek character. The final product will be an oral presentation supplemented with Powerpoint. The students have all week, in class, to work on this assessment. Presentations will start on Monday, Feb 22. Remember to have your student read **“If you don’t like to read, you haven’t found the right book.” J.K. Rowling**

**Gammie (PE):** Students are demonstrating manipulative activity skills, fair play and effort while participating in badminton.

**Hatch (Science):** With our Unit Test out of the way, we have shifted our primary focus to the Mission Impossible Unit Project. This project will have the students utilize their knowledge attained in this past unit, as well as information from grade 7, to overcome an obstacle course full of lasers and motion detectors. Videos and pictures will be taken :)

**Henning (Social):** We have started a new Unit, looking at the Worldviews of the Aztecs and Colonial Spain. Students have spent this week examining the Aztec Worldview as concerned with their Geography and Belief system. An assignment where students detail one of these aspects of Worldview is posted to Google Classroom. We will have 2 work periods to complete this assignment after we return from the break.

**Howard (Math):** We have begun our new unit on 3D views of objects as well as the 2D nets associated with those. This will lead nicely into our following unit on surface area and volume.

**Gamache (Shop7B)**We are spending some time this week learning the general rules in the shop and working on our intro safety project.

## Grade 9:

**Baxter (ELA):** Students are researching their chapter in *The Odyssey*. The final product will be an oral presentation supplemented with Powerpoint. The students have all week, in class, to work on this assessment. Presentations will start on Monday, Feb 22. Remember to have your student read **“If you don’t like to read, you haven’t found the right book.” J.K. Rowling**

**Anderson (Science):** Students recently completed Lab Activity C-2 “Measuring Acids & Bases” along with Quiz #12 on Wed. Feb 10th. See PowerSchool for marks updates. Weekly extra help is available, just make arrangements with Mr. Anderson.

**Gammie (PE):** Students are demonstrating manipulative activity skills, fair play and effort while participating in badminton.

**McNutt (Math):** Students continue to learn about polynomials. This week we begin looking at multiplication of polynomials.

**Greven (Math 9B):** This coming week we will be finishing up the addition and subtraction of polynomials. The next unit will be multiplication and division of polynomials.

**Porteous (Social Studies):** We will be finishing up our look at the theory of the market economy. After the break we will be looking at how economies work in practice using the USA and Canada as our examples.

**Gamache (Shop 9A 9B):** We are continuing with our automotive work. This week we are evaluating the wear on tires and when to replace them.

## Grade 10:

**Anderson (Science 10/14):** Students recently completed a Lab Safety assignment. See PowerSchool for marks updates. Students are working on atoms, ions and isotopes this week. Weekly extra help is available, just make arrangements with Mr. Anderson.

**Doucet (Social 10):** The class is continuing to examine how globalization is shaping individual and collective indemnity. Our next chapter when we return from break will look at how technology has impacted the growth of globalization.

**Gammie (PE 10):** Students are demonstrating manipulative activity skills, etiquette and fair play while participating in badminton. CPR training begins Feb 22. Journal entry #1 is due February 23rd.

**MacLachlan (ELA 10):** We are working on our short story and poetry unit, and students will begin a poetry research project when we return from the break.

**McNutt (Math 10C):** Students begin Chapter 2 Exponents. This is an extension of the exponent laws from grade 9.

**Baxter (CALM):** Students are creating a Cover Letter and Resume - due Friday, Feb 12 - Submit to Google Classroom. We will begin the Human Sexuality unit on Monday, Feb 22.

**Greven (Foods 10B):** We will be continuing the Meal Planning module.

**Gamache (shop):** With the start of the new semester we are reviewing our safety training.

## Grade 11:

**Anderson (Bio 20):** Students recently completed Chapter 1 and are working on graphical representations of Pyramids of Numbers, Biomass and Energy within the Biosphere. We have an upcoming quiz on Wed. Feb 10th [Sections 1.1, 1.2, 2.1]. Weekly extra help is available, just make arrangements with Mr. Anderson.

**Henning (Philosophy):** We have been working through our introduction to Philosophy and are now beginning to analyze argument forms (Standard Form) and types of arguments (Deductive, Inductive, Abductive) Students were assigned an argument from Plato's *Euthyphro* to translate into Standard Form (Due Monday the 15th), and will be given an assignment regarding evaluating Argument Type and strength (Due Monday the 22nd)

**McNutt (Math 20-2):** Students begin Chapter 2 Mathematical Reasoning. This is a new concept for students which will require them to analyze and draw conclusions from data.

**Porteous/Doucet (Social Studies 20):** We have looked at some of the theory behind Nationalism and will be continuing our look at the French Revolution as one of the starting points for our modern understanding of nationhood.

## Grade 12:

**Anderson (Physics 30):** Students are nearing the end of our short Unit A [Chapter 9] on "Momentum & Impulse." We have a quiz planned for Tues. Feb 9th. See PowerSchool for marks updates. Weekly extra help is available, just make arrangements with Mr. Anderson.

**MacLachlan (ELA 30):** We are working on our short story and poetry unit, and will be working on reading comprehension strategies when we return from the break.

**McNutt (Math 30-2):** Students begin Chapter 2 Permutations and Combinations. This is a new concept to students as they learn how to calculate the number of ways things can be arranged or chosen.

**Porteous (Social 30):** We will be looking at the works of some of the famous philosophers who have influenced modern society. In particular, we will look at their own writings to see how they argued and presented the ideas that have grown to be accepted by many societies.

## **From the desk of our FSLC:**

With a much needed break coming up for students and staff, I encourage you to get creative and have fun together as a family. As the weather warms up, it is a good idea to spend at least 30 minutes a day outside. Being outside helps us connect with nature, can keep us grounded and help us relax.

This also presents a great time to check in with your child. Have they been in need of a break? What stressors are they facing that they need a break from? How can you maximize their break to help them feel prepared to return after?

This is a great article that may be helpful in responding to what your child might tell you, as always reach out if I can help in supporting you, your child and your family!

[How to Respond When Our Kids Confide in Us](#)

Angie Conway  
conway@lrsd.ab.ca  
Monday-Thursday 8:30-4:30

## **From the desk of our Career Practitioner:**



On Thursday April 29, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. The LRSD Career Services team is putting on a virtual information session for parents and students about financing post-secondary education: "It Doesn't Grow on Trees!"

We will have guest speakers sharing information about RESPs, student loans/grants as well as local and provincial scholarships for high school students. A registration link will be provided soon!

Feel free to contact Lettie Croskery 403-915-0781  
croskeryl@lrsd.ab.ca for all the details.

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