

Woodhaven Middle School Newsletter

March, 2023

Leadership Message

February has flown by and we are finally into March...and let's hope we get a Spring Break with spring weather! This next month is a busy one for sure with Report Cards, Interviews, Book Fair, Tournaments, Ski Trips, a Talent Show and likely a Dance all to come! I just wanted to take this opportunity to speak about the importance of students attending school regularly and on time.

We cannot stress enough how important it is for students to attend regularly. The learning that occurs in a classroom involves discussion, teaching, collaboration and at times quiet seat work. When a student does not attend regularly, they miss out on very valuable learning occurring in the classroom, thus making it very difficult for them to complete the assignments posted to Google Classroom without the instruction. We totally understand that kids get sick and need to stay home, and we are not asking that kids start coming to school ill. Rather, we just ask that you take a look at your child's report card and make note of the attendance percentage. From an educational perspective, anything below 85% is concerning. PSD collected the following statistics and compared grade 9 Attendance Rates to Graduation Rates 3 Years later. Attending school is essential to increasing a student's opportunity for graduation. If you are struggling with getting your child to attend school, please reach out so we can do our best to support you.

PSD Attendance in Gr 9 (2015/16)	PSD Graduation Rate in 3 Years (2018/2019)
Greater than 90	83%
85-90	73%
80-84	64%
75-79	44%
Less than 75	35%

Key dates this month:

- March 1, 8th, 15th - Ski Club at Snow Valley
- Feb. 27 - March 6th- Junior Basketball Playoffs
- March 6th - 13th - Senior Basketball Playoffs
- March 15th - School Council & Parent Association Meeting
- March 17th - Report Cards Available through Powerschool
- March 20th - 23rd - BOOK FAIR
- March 20th - Parent Teacher Interviews - ONLINE
- March 21st - Parent Teacher Interviews - IN PERSON
- March 22nd - Marmot Trip Gr. 7-9
- March 24th - 31st - SPRING BREAK - No School

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS will be open on WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8TH AT 9:00 AM UNTIL MARCH 15TH AT 11:00PM Click [Here](#) to book

Please do not hesitate to reach out should you have any questions or concerns.

Take care,

Nealle Dickson, Principal

General Information

Parent Handbook

Please click [here](#) to view our Parent Handbook for the 2022/2023 School Year.

Reporting Absences

To report an absence for your child, please email woodhaven@psd.ca or call and leave a message at the school office (780-962-2626). Please include the student's name, teacher (or grade), and reason for the absence in your message.

Drop-Off & Pick-UP

Our doors open to students at 8:15am when outside supervision begins. If students arrive prior to 8:15, there is no outside supervision. After school supervision is from 3:06 to 3:10pm. Please give buses the right of way when entering and exiting the parking lot.

Visiting Woodhaven

We are happy to welcome you to our beautiful new school. When you arrive at the school, please check in at the office.

School Fees

Please login to the Parent Portal to view and pay your child's school fees. If you have questions or need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact our school office.

2022-2023 Bell Schedule

Our attendance calls go out automatically at 9:10am. If your child will be late or absent, please let the office know.

Bell Times	Breaks and Periods
8:20am	Warning Bell
8:23-9:11am	Block 1
9:14-10am	Block 2
10-10:15 am or 10:15-10:30 am	Recess
10:18-11:04 am	Block 3
11:07-11:54 am	Block 4
11:54 am-12:16 pm	Lunch Break First Half
12:16-12:38pm	Lunch Break Second Half
12:38-12:41 pm	Warning Bell
12:41-1:28pm	Block 5
1:31-2:17pm	Block 6
2:22-3:06pm	Block 7

Athletics

Physical Education- February was a short but busy month in PE land. Our students successfully participated in many different cooperative games, a handball tournament, and we have started our wrestling unit. As spring approaches we will be getting into some badminton and pickleball in the month of March.

Basketball - Basketball season is winding down here at Woodhaven. All of our teams have successfully hosted a tournament this season. Most recently, our Senior teams hosted the Woodhaven Hoops Classic, where the Senior boys finished 4th and our Senior girls finished in 2nd place. Both the Senior boys and Senior girls got an opportunity to play a feature game in the afternoon in front of many students, staff, and families that came out to watch. Our junior B teams will be playing in their final tournament of the season at the start of March. Our Junior A and Senior teams are starting their playoffs in early March as well. Both the Junior A boys and the Senior boys will be battling it out in division 2, while the Junior A girls and the Senior girls will be competing in division 1.

Indoor Games Running Team -Our indoor games running teams continue to practice in

preparation for the Running Room Indoor Games competition at the Butterdome in Edmonton. Our grade 5-6 team has already qualified for the quarter finals, as both the boys and girls team finished with the top qualifying time of all schools when they competed in late February at the Butterdome. Girls were 1st out of 196 girls teams. Boys were 1st out of 201 boys teams. Very impressive!

Ski/Snowboard Club - Ski and Snowboard Club continues into the month of March. Hopefully the weather cooperates and we get some fantastic days in. There is also a ski trip planned for late March to Marmot Basin for the grade 7 to 9 students that have signed up. A big thanks to Mrs. Schaber for all of her hard work and time organizing these events!

Badminton - Badminton season is almost here! This year we hope to once again have a Junior and Senior badminton team here at Woodhaven. Tryout dates and information will be coming out the first couple of weeks of March.

Spring League Basketball -We are excited to announce that we are once again going to run our Woodhaven Spring League basketball league for grade 4-5-6 students. This is a great opportunity for students in the younger grades to have a chance to develop their basketball skills, meet some new friends, and play on a team. Sign-up information will be coming out closer to Spring Break.

Instagram - Follow us on our Athletics Instagram Account@WoodhavenAthletics
<http://www.instagram.com/woodhavenathletics/>

Fine Arts

On Thursday, February 23rd, Woodhaven brought 50 staff, students and parents to Broadway Across Canada's performance of "Anastasia" at the Northern Jubilee Auditorium in Edmonton! Our students represented our school incredibly well and we are excited to be able to provide more opportunities like this in the future!



Woodhaven Performing Arts rehearsals are underway for "My Classmate's an Alien!" Woodhaven classes will have the opportunity to see the show before our

performing arts students take the show to the Zone II West One Act Play Festival in Edson, AB April 27-28.

Calendar

Our School Calendar has changed from last year...and boy is it more user friendly than the previous calendar. As it is no longer a google calendar, all you have to do is go to the [calendar on our website](#) and click on one of:

[Download to iCal](#) [Add to Google Calendar](#) [Subscribe to Calendar](#)

located at the top of the calendar on our website. You can then search by grade level, event or topic to find information you are looking for as needed.

School Council & Parent Association

WE WANT YOU TO JOIN US!

School Council News

Please email: woodhaven.scchair@partner.psd.ca if you are interested in joining our school council committee as our secretary or if you have any questions.

Woodhaven School Council Secretary – Vacant

• Please email woodhaven.scchair@partner.psd.ca if you are interested in joining our school council committee as our secretary, or if you have any questions.

Purdy's Chocolate Fundraiser Due: March 8th, 2023

Want to know the most DELICIOUS way to support us? Order Purdys chocolates from our fundraiser!

This year, we're hoping to raise \$1000 + for our school, and we need YOUR help!

From now until **March 8th**, you can order Purdys treats from our fundraiser by joining our campaign and browsing the tastiest selection of Easter chocolates online. Our pick-up date will likely be on March 23rd just before Spring Break.

Shop gifts for family, friends, neighbours AND yourself in one convenient place. After all orders are submitted, we'll sort, distribute, and let you know when you can collect your goodies.

What you'll need to order:

1. Our campaign number: **67575**
2. Go to our fundraising website: <https://fundraising.purdys.com/1731353-105938>
3. Click "Join Campaign"
4. Shop, shop, shop away!

Thank you EVERYONE for your support. Even if you can't buy chocolates from us, it would mean the world if you could share this fundraiser link to everyone you know!

Happy chocolating!

Woodhaven Middle School Parents Association (WHMSPA)

School Council Meeting & Parent Association Meeting: Wednesday, March 15th @6:00pm at Woodhaven School. Come and meet fellow parents and learn what is going on in our school and Parkland School Division!

Message from our Counselor

COUNSELLOR'S CORNER- MRS. SCHEIDL

Spring Break is almost here (March 27-31). Spring is also an exciting time to plan for sports, clubs and fun events to build self esteem, resilience, motivation and connectedness. Here are just a few links to help your family stay active and healthy:



-[Summer activities in Spruce Grove link](#)

-[FCSS Spring Programs](#)

-[EMSA - Soccer programs](#)

-[Lacrosse](#)

-[Softball/baseball](#)

-[Spring Break Camps at TLC](#)

Need some Addiction and Mental Health Support Resources? [click here](#)
Help For Hard Times - [click here for support numbers](#)

Parent Learning Opportunities

Check out this month's [Newsletter from AHS](#) Caregiver Education Series. Registration Sessions are offered online through the Zoom conferencing application. A link to access the online session will be sent by email to those who have registered for the session. To register, click [HERE](#) or go to: www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca

Parenting Teens in the 21st Century

Part 1: Tuesday, March 7 12:00 – 1:00 pm

Part 2: Tuesday, March 14 12:00 – 1:00 pm

Test Anxiety - Strategies for Success

Wednesday, March 15 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Keeping Scattered Kids on Track- Supporting children and youth with ADHD

Wednesday, March 22 6:00 – 7:30 pm

More Than Just a Bad Day - Understanding Depression

(for adults supporting their own wellness or supporting the wellness of children and youth)

Wednesday, March 15 12:00 – 1:00 pm

Understanding Anxiety

(for adults supporting their own wellness or supporting the wellness of children and youth)

Part 1 - An Introduction- Tuesday, March 21 12:00 – 1:00 pm

Part 2 - Calming our Bodies - Tuesday, March 28 12:00 – 1:00 pm

New! [Child and Adolescent Addiction & Mental Health Resource Links](#)

On our website, you will find additional [resource links](#) to a variety of community websites, webinars, handouts, and modules on addiction and mental health topics pertaining to children and youth and sorted by audience (parents and families, youth, health professionals).

COVID

Woodhaven and Parkland School Division are excited that the World is Opening Back Up. 2022-2023 should finally start to feel like what a school year is supposed to feel like. While the pandemic is officially over, our new reality is that COVID-19 is here to stay.

With that being said, there are many measures that were previously implemented that just make sense to continue. Above all, we encourage anyone who is feeling ill to stay home from school. If you are exhibiting any of the key symptoms known for [COVID-19](#), we encourage you to access one of the many test kits that are also available at the school. Meanwhile, PSD will continue the following:

- Hand sanitizer will still be readily available at all schools,
- Students will continue to be reminded of the importance of thorough hand-washing hygiene,
- School staff will ensure that appropriate cleaning of high touch areas will continue,
- The frequency at which air filters are changed in PSD has also been increased and air handling/ventilation equipment in all schools has been adjusted to maximize the number of air exchanges within the schools. All schools will operate filtration systems that meet or exceed the Minimum Efficiency Reporting Values (MERV) 13 air filtration rate, and
- Where practical, entrances and exits can be used to efficiently reduce crowding during high traffic times of the day.