



Thorsby Jr Sr High School
“Palma Non Sine Pulvere” “No Victory Without a Struggle”

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Thorsby Jr. Sr. High School Website:
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Welcome to Thorsby Jr. Sr. High School
Home of the Sabres

Planning your high school program can be daunting, but it is one of the most important tasks that you will undertake as a secondary student. Your high school plan can set you up for success, if done carefully and with considerable thought, and can cause enormous frustration if poorly done. Each post-secondary program and career path carries with it certain educational requirements, and in creating a solid and well-researched high school program plan, you can ensure that you are ready for whatever it is that you choose to do upon graduation. No one wants to realize in their grade 12 year that the post-secondary program or career path they have chosen is out of reach because they are missing a specific course. This planning guide has been designed to give you the necessary information regarding diploma requirements, course information, prerequisites, post-secondary possibilities, as well as other relevant information. It is in your interest to keep this guide as a resource as you continue through your high school years. I encourage you to use the websites www.myblueprint.ca and www.alis.alberta.ca as well as our Career Centre, Miss Ormberg, and me, Mr. Ganton, to help plan for your future. Also, be sure to discuss your choices with your parents or guardians. Please note that your registration for the 2015-2016 school year is only complete when your parent’s or guardian’s signature is on the form. If you have any questions or concerns regarding courses or programs, please contact Miss. Ormberg, or me immediately at the school.

Cheers

Jon Ganton,
Principal

Thorsby Jr. Sr. High School Philosophy

In creating a positive and productive learning environment, Thorsby Jr. Sr. High School, together with students, parents and community will strive to have each student reach his/her academic, physical and social potential.

School Program

Students from grade 7 to 12 receive instruction according to the curriculum guidelines as set by the Province of Alberta. All school activities are conducted under the School Act and Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPP). Parents are required to sign appropriate forms associated with school activities each September.

Thorsby Jr. Sr. High School Staff

Jon Ganton	Principal / Science Teacher
Linda Eliasson	Head Secretary
Lorelei McLeod	Accounts Secretary
Cheryl Raugust	Librarian
Samantha Brown	Social / English Teacher
Theo Dykstra	Math / Physics Teacher
Shelley Gramlich	Computer / Math / Science Teacher
Justin McFadyen	IA / Phys Ed / 1 year sabbatical for Mr. Klaassen
Jonah Feil	PhysEd / Jr high Social Teacher
Carly Loewen	English / Band / Choir Teacher
Vicki Ormberg	Counselor / English / French Teacher
Alan Skinner	Social / English Teacher
Ed Van Horn	Math / Biology / Chemistry Teacher
Kim van Steenis	Foods / English/ Social Teacher/ Off-Campus Ed.
Tracy Leeder	Educational Assistant
Kathy Verhun	Educational Assistant
Sandra Dutton	Custodian
Debbie Pilon	Custodian
TBA	Educational Assistant
Dan Blackburn	Video Conference – Sem 2 / Math / Physics Teacher
Kenton Hemsing	Video Conference – Sem 1 / Science / Physics Teacher

Accessing Academic/Career Information:

Library Program and Services:

Our library contains a varied selection of fictional and nonfictional titles, periodicals and Internet access for students.

Student Services: GuidanceCounselling/Career Center

Student Services offers a variety of services for the students of Thorsby Jr. Sr. High School. Both career and guidance counseling are available through Ms. Ormberg. A Career Centre is available to all students and contains a library of information on universities and colleges, technical schools and trade programs, as well as general career information.

Course Information:

Alternate Delivery Courses and Video-Conferencing

Video-Conferencing classes (VC) will be offered in 2015-2016. We have two teachers delivering the courses of Physics 20/30, Science 30 and Math 31 through videoconferencing this year. Mr Hemsing will offer Physics 20 & Science 30 in first Semester. Mr. Blackburn will offer Pysics 30 & Math 31 in the second semester. The purpose Video-Conferencing classes is to supplement student schedules and maximize course availability where necessary.

Online (Moodle)

High School students have the oportuntiy to take courses through an online environment should courses not work with their timetable or not be offered as an in class room setting.

Computer Program and Services:

Every grade has compulsory ICT components within their core subjects. Computer courses will be available for junior high and senior high students. The internet can be accessed from the computer lab, the library and each classroom. Upon completion of proper documentation, a student may use their own computer in the school.

Computers are intended for instructional purposes and are on a carefully controlled network. Thorsby Jr/Sr High School has developed a Computer/Internet Acceptable Use Policy that allows students to maximize the use of technology in their education. A copy of the policy is distributed to each student/parent in September for their information and signatures. We do not allow any outside software or computer games to be used on the machines without the approval of a staff member.

Learning Assistance

The Learning Assistance Program is a less restrictive alternative for students with diverse learning abilities. Ms.Ormberg will assist the student to develop a positive self-concept, self-reliance and social competence. Recognition of academic skills is provided for in the program with the goal of challenging students to an appropriate level. The ultimate goal of the program is to integrate Learning Assistance students into the mainstream program.

Fees – School Costs (as per Black Gold Regional School Guidelines):

Your child will receive a computer generated fee assessment sheet. Fees assessed by Thorsby Junior Senior High School are as follows:

Instructional Resource Fees:

Grades 7, 8, 9	\$70.00
Grades 10, 11, 12	\$110.00

In addition, the school assesses fees to offset costs in special programs as follows:

Complementary Courses/Option:

Gr. 7 – 9	\$55
Gr. 10	\$70
Gr. 11	\$80
Gr. 12	\$9 per credit
Student Union Fees	\$5.00
Yearbook (Optional)	\$40.00
Yearbook Fundraiser Option)	\$20.00 (if you choose to sell chocolates)
Transportaion Scan Card Fee	\$25

Kindly remit all fees by **September 30, 2015**

All Black Gold Regional Schools are now on the ACORN payment system and are pleased to offer the ability to pay fees on-line. We do still accept cash and cheques at the school if you so require.

Information - General

Academic Awards

Students who achieve an average of 80% or higher in their courses for the term will have:

- their names placed on the Honor Wall Board
- have their names included in the newsletter
- will be acknowledged in the respective school assembly.

An academic awards evening which acknowledges the previous school year's academic excellence is held in the fall.

Co-Curricular, Extra-Curricular Activities and Intramurals

The goals of co-curricular and extra-curricular programs are to provide students with a well-rounded and enriched school experience.

Students involved in the co-curricular and extra-curricular programs, whether as a participant or as an observer, are representing Thorsby Jr. Sr. High School and therefore must obey all school rules (teachers in charge have the same authority as they do in the school). All students must exhibit good behavior, sportmanship and show respect for all individuals.

Co-curricular and extra-curricular activities are coordinated and supervised by the teaching staff. Parental and community support is encouraged and appreciated.

Co-Curricular Guidelines

Students may lose the privilege of participating in co-curricular activities for the following reasons:

- failing to abide by school rules,
- poor attendance
- failing to keep up with their work.

Specific guidelines regarding length of trips, supervision and other responsibilities are found in the Field Trip Policy of the Black Gold School Division.

Extra-curricular Guidelines:

1. In order to participate, a student must be working to his/her capacity in all their courses. Any student who is achieving below their academic capacity may have their extra-curricular participation suspended. If a student shows a marked improvement in their academics, then pending the school's and coach's approval, the student may be allowed to rejoin the team.
2. Students must be in attendance the day of the activity/game in order to participate. If absent a medical note is required.
3. Any student who is suspended is not allowed to take part in any extra-curricular activities during the time of the suspension.
4. All students who participate in extra-curricular activities are expected to make a commitment to their team. This includes attending all practices, league games and tournaments. Please remember it is a privilege to participate in extra-curricular programs.

Intramural programs are provided for all grades within the school when demand warrants. Intramurals are part of an effort to develop positive student attitudes toward their school and their peers. There **must** be a teacher supervisor in the gymnasium for extra curricular use by students during school hours. Approved adult supervision is required for after-school activities.

Emergency Procedures

In 2015 the Black Gold School Division adopted the Hour Zero Emergency Response Plan and are following the Functional protocols included in this program. Practice drills are held on a regular basis for the following emergency functional protocols: Fire Drills(or Emergency Evacuation), Lockdown, Hold and Secure, Shelter-in-Place, Drop-Cover-Hold, or On-Alert.

Illness at School

In case of student illness at school, the parents, guardians or emergency contacts will be contacted and appropriate arrangements will be made. Sick students are not allowed to leave the school without parental permission (and notification at the office). Students should inform their teacher and go directly to the office when feeling ill.

Lockers

Each student is assigned a hallway locker. Depending on course load and availability, a Phys Ed locker may also be assigned. Lockers should be kept neat and orderly.

Remember to spin the dial on the lock after closing it – this will insure that the lock will not open unless the proper combination is entered. KEEP YOUR LOCKER LOCKED! KEEP YOUR LOCK COMBINATION PRIVATE!

Lost and Found

All items that a student brings to school should be labeled in order that lost items may be returned to their owners. A lost and found bin is maintained in the bench in the front foyer. Unclaimed items are donated to the 2nd hand clothing outlets.

Parent Calls to the School

We encourage open communication in order to foster cooperation and understanding between school staff and parents. Parents should feel free to call the school regarding any matter that affects the attitude or performance of their children. We ask that parents limit the nature of their calls to the school to those that directly affect the education of their children. Students will be paged or called out of class on an **emergent basis only**.

School Clubs

School clubs that provide enrichment and enjoyment may be formed where sufficient student interest warrants. Examples of previous successful THS school clubs are: Computer Club, Army Cadets, Yearbook Club, Crash 'n Burn Ski Club, Cheerleading After School Project (rock club), Board games club, BAKA Productions club, and Dance Club.

Student Parking

The school parking lot is divided into the following: handicapped, visitor, staff and student parking stalls. Student parking stalls are used on a "first come basis". **PLEASE DO NOT BACK INTO STALLS** as many of the plugs-in get damaged.

Please do not in staff parking stalls (even if they appear to be unoccupied at the time).

Student Union

There is one Student Union at Thorsby Junior Senior High School. The purpose of the Student Union is to develop citizenship and coordinate activities that will promote school spirit. The Student Union for the 2015-2016 school year will be established in the fall. Typical Student Union positions include:

President	Social Convenor
Treasurer	Jr. Vice President
Secretary	Sr. Vice President

Student Transportation to Special Events

Our preferred method of transporting students on field trips, interschool athletics, band presentations and other special events is by contract bus as we do not own a bus at this time. Parents and other individuals that volunteer to transport students are required to sign an acknowledgement form, provide proof of a minimum of **\$1,000,000 liability** but is **encouraged to have \$2,000,000 Liability** insurance and driver's license abstract. Students may drive themselves, **ONLY** if the student has appropriate forms signed/handed in to the office **BEFORE** the event and may **ONLY** transport themselves, no other students.

Transportation Regulations

The contracted bus is considered an extension of the classroom; therefore, classroom conduct is to be observed at all times. The driver is responsible for the safety of all students on the bus and must receive full cooperation from all students. Students who fail to observe these expectations will be dealt with by the driver and if required referred to school administration for a further consequence. For more information see Black Gold Policy.

Visitors to the School

Visitors to our school are welcome and when such a visit is associated with the educational well-being of a student, the visit is encouraged. If a meeting with a staff member is required, please call the school in advance to set an appropriate time.

To ensure the well-being of our school population, all visitors **must** report to the general office, and sign in/out.

If a Thorsby Junior Senior High School (THS) student wishes to bring a visiting student to attend THS classes, a “**Visiting Student for the Day**” form must be filled out and signed off by teachers and administration **at least 1 day in advance** of the actual visiting day.

Policies: Conduct and Expectations (A – G)

Students at Thorsby Junior Senior High School are responsible for their conduct and will be held accountable for their actions. Our expectations for student conduct are in accordance with Section 12 of the School Act which states:

“A student shall conduct himself or herself so as to reasonably comply with the following code of conduct:

- a. be diligent in pursuing the student’s studies;
- b. attend school regularly and punctually;
- c. cooperate fully with everyone authorized by the Board to provide education programs and other services;
- d. comply with the rules of the school;
- e. account to the student’s for the student’s conduct;
- f. respect the rights of others.”

It is our policy to notify parents when a problem is encountered and work with the student and parents toward an effective solution.

Behavior Expectation Matrix

	Be Respectful	Be Responsible	Be Safe
Hallways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain flow • Maintain everyone's personal space • Keep interactions positive • keep hallway noise to a minimum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help keep hallways clean • minimize trips to your locker • Take ownership of your own Behavior and actions • Allow everyone access to move 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk at an appropriate pace • Avoid collisions • Avoid throwing objects • Keep your hands & feet to yourself
Classroom Classroom (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Everyone has the right to learn • Raise your hand/Wait your turn to speak • Treat everyone with kindness • Treat materials and equipment with care • Contribute positively • Be ready to learn • Ask permission to use others property and equipment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bring your books, pens, pencils, and other materials • Ask appropriate questions • Be on time • Use technology appropriately 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep your hands & feet to yourself • hand materials to others • keep your area clean • move at an appropriate pace
Lunch/Crash	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep the areas clean • Show appreciation for the concession and workers • show patience while waiting for service and microwave use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make healthy food choices • Practice good table manners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sit while you eat • Use microwaves responsibly
Gym	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practice good sportsmanship • Use encouraging language • allow everyone to participate • Use equipment with care • Treat gym floors with care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make your best effort • Return equipment to appropriate places • Be ready to participate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow instructions • Play by the rules • Use equipment properly
Bathrooms/ Change Rooms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respect the privacy of others • Keep bathrooms clean and graffiti free • Keep the change room neat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do your business quickly • Flush the toilet • Wash your hands • Return to class quickly • Be accountable for your own items and respect the items of others in the change room 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report problems or vandalism right away
Computer Lab/Netbooks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treat the equipment better than if it were yours and damage free • Only use the equipment that is assigned to you • Ensure the equipment is ready for the next student when you are finished 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay on task and at your own station • Use only appropriate websites and programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report problems or vandalism right away
Library	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use a quiet indoor voice • Let others focus on their work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Return materials to appropriate places • Use computers properly • Handle/treat materials with care • ensure food and beverages are not in the library 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep your hands & feet to yourself

A) Attendance Policy/Attendance Procedures (A-1 to A-5)

Regular and punctual attendance is key to a student's success. As well, regular and punctual attendance is required under Section 12 of the School Act. Parents/legal guardians are asked to notify the school (phone, email, write or drop by) when an absence occurs. Should a student be absent and the school does not receive parental notification, a student may be given a 0% for any missed exam or assignments. An attempt will be made by school administration to make contact with parents should a student's lack of attendance become a concern. A high school student is allowed to miss 13 classes in a 5 credit course and 9 classes in a 3 credit course. This number of classes missed represents 15% of the course work. Once this total is reached, the student's enrollment in the respective course will be reevaluated and an alternative solution may result. In exceptional circumstances the school may waive this policy or the parents and student may appeal and have the student reinstated to class.

A-1) Lates

Being on time for class is extremely important. A student who is late for class not only hinders his/her own progress, but also disrupts the educational activities of his/her peers. Students who are late for class will be required to obtain a late slip from the office. A record of all lates will be kept. Once a student has accumulated 6 unexcused lates during the school year, an attendance letter will be sent home. If the student continues to come late to class (multiples of 3 lates with the first consequence resulting at 9 unexcused lates) then consequences (detentions, and clean-up details or suspensions) will be given. Due to the rigours/circumstances related to certain courses, teachers may have stricter standards.

A-2) Truancy

Truancy or skipping is a willful act that will not be tolerated. Should a student decide to be truant a warning and/or a negative consequence will be issued to the student and the parents will be informed. Any subsequent violations could involve suspension or expulsion from the affected course or school.

A-3) Attendance Procedure – Intervention Steps and Information

Step 1: Classroom level intervention – where possible the school will contact the home.

Step 2: Attendance note including an attendance profile and Power School code list will be sent home.

Step 3: Administration meets with student – Detention(s) to be given (either noon and/or after school).

Home will be contacted.

Step 4: Administration meets with student – Depending on the circumstances the following suspension will be given:

- In-school - either am and/or pm.
- Out-of-school.

Attendance letter including an attendance profile and Power School code list will be sent home.

1. When absences have been excused by parents or guardians, students are still responsible for the assignments and readings missed. As well, missed tests are to be written immediately upon the student's return to class unless alternate arrangements have been approved by the teacher.
2. Students will be marked as incomplete if final examinations have not been written, unless an exemption is obtained from the principal.

3. In order to be successful, students should not have work commitments interfere with their classes.

A-4) Leaving the school during the day: All students **must** sign out at the main office before leaving.

A-5) Leaving School Campus during the day

An open campus system is in operation during noon hour. During class time, a student may not leave the school campus unless the parent or legal guardian grants permission.

Permission should be in the form of a written and signed note or by a telephone call to the school's main office (780 789 3983) before the student wishes to leave. Notes must be shown to the teacher prior to leaving class, and then at the office where the student will be signed out. Students with spares are allowed to leave school campus without signing out (grade 11's and 12's).

B) Cell Phone Usage

The misuse of cell phones in the school can be cause for concern. Following are some of the issues that can occur:

- Students sending and receiving text messages or calls during class time.
- Students having inappropriate material in electronic format on their cell phones.
- Students recording video and photo images of other students without permission..
- Students jeopardizing exam security by text messaging answers.
- Student phones ringing during class time.

Cell Phone Policy

At Thorsby Junior Senior High School, students are not to use cell phones during their classes unless the teacher gives permission to use it for instructional purposes. Students may use their phone before classes, at breaks, at lunch time and afterschool.

- If cell phones are brought to school, we recommend they be turned off and kept in the student's locker during class time.
- The school will **not** be responsible for the loss of cell phones.

Note: Parents we ask you do not call/text your child/ren during class time.

Action taken if a student violates this policy:

Students using their cell phones during class time will be asked to put them away. If they continue to use their cell phones, the teacher will treat this as defiance and it will become a discipline issue. Parents will be notified of the their child's cell phone infractions.

Continuation of Cell Phone Offenses: Student may be suspended from attending school classes for defiance.

Inappropriate use of cell phones may lead to detentions, suspensions, expulsions and/or RCMP involvement.

C) Damaged Property

As a practice, if a student damages school property he/she is required to repair or pay for the damage. If a student loses or destroys a textbook or library book, or computer/micrae/keyboard he/she is required to pay its replacement cost.

Schools are sometimes the target for senseless vandals. Whenever vandalism occurs, the money spent on repairs or replacement is often money that could otherwise be used for supplies and equipment. Fortunately, Thorsby High School has a limited amount of vandalism and it is the responsibility of all of us to keep it this way

D) Dress Code (D-1, D-2)

D-1) School A student's appearance is a reflection of the student's attitude toward themselves and their surroundings. We expect our students to display a mature attitude to dress and grooming so that both students and the school can be proud of their appearance. Students are expected to comply with the following rules:

- a) Clothing which displays a message offensive to common decency is inappropriate and will not be allowed.
- b) Gym clothing is not considered appropriate for classroom wear.
- c) Hats/Headgear are not to be worn in the school.
- d) Walking shorts/skirts should be arm's length.
- e) Tops should cover the midriffs and should not be low cut.

If rules are broken and suitable clothing can not be found, students may be sent home. Please remember we are preparing students to enter the workplace, so work appropriate dress should be worn at all times.

D-2) Phys. Ed. Sensible hygiene demands that students change into suitable gym clothing during Phys. Ed. Classes. This is not only healthier but allows for more freedom of movement during vigorous exercising and is eventually more economical as it saves wear and tear on normal attire.

Required Phys. Ed. clothing for boys and girls:

- a) Athletic shorts or sweatpants, T-Shirt or sweatshirt, Athletic socks
- b) One pair of runners to be used exclusively in the gymnasium. The color of the gym shoe soles is not as important as is providing a pair of shoes that do not streak or mark the gym floor. Students will be asked to do a simple practical test to have their shoes approved.

All gym equipment should be clearly labelled.

E) iPod/iPad, Electronic Devices Policy

The misuse of electronic devices in the classroom can be a cause for concern. Following are some of the issues that can arise:

- Students having inappropriate material on their device.
- Students devote their energy to finding and listening to music instead of classroom materials and instruction.
- Based on the increasing capacity of devices students watch movies/videos instead of attending to their assigned work/studies.

At Thorsby Junior Senior High School, students are allowed to use electronic devices in class if they have received permission from their respective teacher.

Action taken if a student violates this policy:

Level One - Classroom Intervention: The teacher will handle issues that arise from a student misusing their electronic device in the respective classroom.

Level Two – Office Intervention: After various classroom interventions, the student continuing to use an electronic device in class will be referred to administration. At this time, based on the nature of the referral, consequence(s) (warning, detention or suspension) will be assigned.

F) Substance Abuse (F-1, F-2)

F-1) Smoking Policy: Smoking is not allowed within sight of school property. Depending on the circumstances, following a parent-school meeting a consequence will be issued (usually a suspension is assigned).

F-2) Alcohol and Drugs: Students may not partake, be in possession of, nor be under the influence of drugs or alcohol while on school property or during school-based activities or field trips. Suspension and/or contacting of the RCMP will result.

G) Extra-Curricular/Co-curricular Uniform Policy

Students should have access to appropriate uniforms when representing our school. It is understood that ownership of the uniforms will remain with the party purchasing them.

Definition:

1. Uniform: Clothing containing distinctive logo and/or markings used for competitive play, practice or artistic performances.

Guidelines: In order to preserve the quality and ensure the maximum usage of school uniforms for our students the following guidelines will be followed.

1. Students will be allowed access to THS or group-purchased uniforms after the appropriate documentation has been completed.
2. Uniforms purchased by THS or other groups will **only** be used by students during the following times:
 - a. Games
 - b. Practices
 - i. The group leader/coach will use their discretion about the usage of uniforms during practices.
 - c. Artistic performances
3. Upon completion of the season-of-play, the uniforms **assigned** to students will be returned to the group leader/coach and inventoried at THS.
 - a. If the uniforms have been purchased by an outside party, the uniforms will be returned to the group leader/coach and inventoried at THS and held for the respective purchasing group.

Student Evaluation

Guiding Principles

Individual teachers are responsible for determining the basis for evaluating pupil progress in his/her subject area. Tests are administered as one means of determining student progress. Regular completion of assignments, projects, essays and other classroom activities are also important. Tests and assignments are administered at regular intervals and students should maintain a consistent and conscientious effort all year to be successful. It is most important that teachers effectively communicate their expectations and standards to students in order that each student is aware of "What he or she has to do to be successful in a given course". The school administration is responsible for ensuring that evaluation procedures are fair and consistent.

Calculation - High School Marks

As most high school courses are semestered, it is important that student's attend to all areas of instruction in a course. Final marks will be calculated according to the respective course outline.

Calculation - Junior High School Marks

The year's work in each 10 month junior high school course is cumulative throughout the year. The number and type of assessment will be at each teacher's discretion. Examples of these assessments include projects, tests, assignments, experiments, essays, and quizzes.

Course Assessments	65%
Midterm – Examination	15%
Final Examination	20%
Total	100%

Note:

Grade 9 students will write Alberta Education Achievement examinations in Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies in June. The final examination for grade 9's is worth 20%, which can be made up from all or part of the Provincial Achievement Test.

Examinations

All students are required to write midterms and final examinations. The only acceptable reasons for missing examinations are: medical (Doctor's note required), compassionate and special situations approved by the Principal in consultation with the teachers affected.

Reporting Procedures

School report cards will be issued on PowerSchool four times per year, in November, February, April and June. The junior high final report card is intended as a cumulative description of student progress for the entire school year and is the basic document considered when promotions are made. Students should not expect to see substantial changes in their final report if they do well only in the last term. The senior high report card (except for a year long course) is a cumulative description of a student's progress for the respective semester. Student grades will be expressed as percentages to the nearest 1% and grade averages will be presented on the report cards. Please note that for the 2015-2016 school year Thorsby Jr/Sr High will pilot online report cards. If you want a paper copy you will need to request it at the appropriate time.

Promotion of Students

- i) All subjects taught are important and contribute to a student's progress; therefore all subjects are relevant to a student's placement for the following year.
- ii) All subjects do not receive the same amount of instructional time and this difference will be considered when determining a student's average.
- iii) A junior high student shall be promoted subject to fulfilling both of the following conditions: 50% average, and at least 50% in each of three core subjects (either language arts, social, science or math)
- iv) The progress of junior high students will be reviewed by a committee consisting of the school's administration, counsellor and subject area teachers. Appropriate consideration shall be given to attendance, ability, attitude and age. Students with a cumulative average of less than 50% will either: repeat the grade, or be recommended to a special education program, or be recommended to attempt the next grade.
- v) Decisions made for junior high progressions may be appealed by the parent to the Superintendent of Schools.
- vi) Students absent from final exams for reasons approved by the Principal shall have the final mark or standing computed on the basis of the year's work.
- vii) Individual teachers will determine policy regarding students who come part way through the year.
- viii) "Honours" is a special mention or credit given to a student for unusually excellent work, and an overall average of 80% or better qualifies that student for the honours roll and an honours certificate at the end of the year as well as their name on a plate on the Honour Wall!

PowerSchool Parent Portal

An online payment option is here and has already started!

Finally, no more fumbling for cash or your cheque book on the way out the door for school when your child(ren)'s fees are due! PowerSchool has opened a Parent Portal to pay fees! Our Jr./Sr. High Parents can set up accounts to access marks and attendance, but now will be able to access the Acorn Online Payment Website which is linked through PowerSchool. The convenience of this new system will be regardless of which Black Gold Division school your child is in you can pay their fees!! This will be for all fees including milk coupons (elementary), field trips, lost books, and school fees. If you do not have a parent account set up yet please contact our office for instructions on how to set this up. If you do have an account set up and forget your password contact the office for a reset or ask for how you can recover your password yourself.

Additional Information

Career Center

The Career Center is not just about schools. Our goal, as educators, is to help you achieve the highest possible academic success that you can and to help you find a career that will satisfy you.

In the center, you will find booklets, books, pamphlets, posters, etc dedicated to all sorts of possibilities once your high school career is over. There is information about careers, military opportunities, post-secondary schools, scholarships, student loans and more. The center is not open at specific times, but if you would like to take a look or if you have something specific you are looking for, you can make arrangements with Ms. Ormberg. If the information you want is not there, we will try to get it for you.

Post-Secondary Schools:

For those in grade 12, it is essential that you put some serious consideration into your future immediately. Most post-secondary institutions begin accepting applications as early as October and some programs fill up on a first-come, first-served basis.

Grant MacEwan begins accepting applications on October 1 and accepts applications until programs have met their quotas.

NAIT begins accepting applications on October 1, but most programs have a deadline of March 31.

University of Alberta (and Augustana) accepts applications all year and has a general deadline of May 1, but some programs close sooner.

There are also more than 30 other post-secondary institutions in Alberta alone.

Scholarships:

Some of you will want to assist your post-secondary funding through scholarships. Start doing your own research for scholarships, but also watch for information posted around the school or check with Ms. Ormberg.

The Alexander Rutherford is one of the most applied for scholarships. The deadline is May 1 for students starting post-secondary school in September.

Requirements for Rutherford eligibility:

There are now two categories of payment from this scholarship.

	<u>Grade 10</u>	<u>Grade 11</u>	<u>Grade 12</u>
75.0% - 79.9%	\$300	\$500	\$700
80% or higher	\$400	\$800	\$1300

Your average is calculated by using:

-your English mark

-two best marks from the sciences, maths, social or French at grade level

-two best marks from any other 3 or 5 credit courses at grade level in grade 10 and 11 or two best marks from any other 5 credit courses at the grade 12 level in grade 12.

Please visit alis.alberta.ca/scholarships for more information.

Graduation 2015 – 2016 – May 6, 2016 (Proposed Date)

Location to be determined by grad class at the first meeting **September 29, 2015 @ 7 p.m.**

Criteria for potential grads to participate:

- **As of April 15th 2016**, all of the following criteria must be met if a potential grad is to participate in the Thorsby Sr. High School graduation celebration.
- Student need to be **passing** their required courses.
- Student needs to be enrolled in courses so they will:
- Have sufficient credits as per their program of studies at the end of June, 2016.
- Have the credits in the required courses as per their program of studies at the end of June, 2016.
- Students working on alternate Delivery Courses must have:
- 75% completion of year long course(s).
- 60% completion of semester 2 course(s)