

# Principal's Message

## TJSHS Newsletter

MARCH 2022



### From the desk of Mr. Dykstra

As I write the message for this month, I am at home recovering from symptoms of COVID. I am doing well, but the biggest challenge for me is not being in the building and trusting that others have everything under control. We at TJSHS have a great staff and I know that the school is in great hands when any one of the staff is gone, myself included. I think perhaps the biggest challenge of the last couple of years is that the pandemic makes *everyone feel like they have less control*.

For our students, there have been times when they had to make sudden changes in their learning, either moving online, their classes being put on hold, or personal illness keeping them at home. For two years now, for their mental health, students have had to adjust their priorities. Grades and marks became less important as factors outside of their control impacted their ability to participate in classes. Sports and extracurricular activities took a backseat while managing family and societal pressures took priority.

As we emerge from the pandemic I believe students are dealing with the same challenge of establishing what is important in their lives. What priority will they put on academics and school in general? What role will extracurricular activities play in their lives? Where does prioritizing their friend and family relationships fall? In all of this, society still faces significant challenges; there are still pandemic concerns and increased global conflict.

From a parent and educational perspective, it is super important to be reflective of these dynamics which impact the children and students in our lives. We also need to be equally aware of the impact these past two years have had on ourselves and our capacity for supporting and guiding young people.

From a school perspective, as students return to regular routines, with restrictions being lifted, many of our students are out of practice with what "regular" school looks like. There is some training required to remind them of what is appropriate and when. There is a time to focus on our studies, and there is required decorum required for classes to function. There are also healthy and appropriate times to prioritize our friendships and socialize.

As staff (and perhaps as parents too), we need to focus on our patience levels and ensure we are in a healthy place before addressing these challenges. Also, if we start with the assumption that there is a reason for the behaviour, rather than an assumption of disobedience, it helps to focus the conversation on learning and understanding. This doesn't necessarily excuse students from necessary consequences, but it shifts the goal to being growth rather than punishment.

Along these lines, if at any point you receive a phone call from me or another staff member about a behaviour concern, please know that we are not expecting you to take responsibility for it, but rather to join us as a team in the teaching process. Thank you for taking the time to read my thoughts and reflections, and always please connect with the school if you have any questions.



## Contact Information

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Email:

[tjshs@blackgold.ca](mailto:tjshs@blackgold.ca)



**Check out the  
newly designed  
website!!**



Look for **Thorsby Junior Senior High School** on Facebook!

Thorsby Student Union is also on Instagram and Snapchat.



Instagram: **tjshs\_insta** *BRAND NEW!*



Snapchat: **thorsbyschool**



Watch for details on upcoming events happening at the high school!

## 2020-2021 Yearbook

The 20/21 yearbooks are here!! If you ordered one, come pick it up in the office. Still want one, there are copies available for **\$45**

2021/2022 preorders are also up on powerschool for **\$40**



# Counselor's Message

## Counselor's Message

After what seemed like a very long January, February has flown by! Possibly because the weather has been 6 degrees, followed by rain, followed by -46 degrees, followed by more rain and sunshine! I think we have had 6 season rotations in the last few weeks.

The students are now well into the second semester and spring is in the air! Depending on the weather the day you read this, that may be more figurative than literal. Our junior and senior high students have had a little more pep in their step. There is starting to be a bit more stress around how many credits our senior high students currently have and possibly which classes they are missing. If you are a high school student wondering how you are sitting on the road to graduation, remember that you can check your My Pass account or come down to visit us in the office or check with Mrs van Steenis (when she is not teaching a class). If you are a parent who is concerned about your child's graduation track then you can always call me in the office. A copy of their current Detailed Academic Record (DAR) and Graduation Checklist will also be mailed home in the next few weeks. If there is a course that you are missing, or you are a grade 9 student who wants to get a jump on their high school career, BGSD Summer School information will be finalized and posted on March 23rd. Check back at <https://bgss.blackgold.ca> for more information as that date approaches.

I hope that you have a lovely March and a fantastic Spring Break!

Until Next time!

Mrs. Engler



# Senior High Advisor

## From the Off-Campus Office of Mrs. Van Steenis

The High School work experience and RAP work programs are up and going already this year. There are still a few spots available for students who are still hoping to sign up for these programs and earn high school credits. If you have questions about either program please email Mrs. van Steenis ([kim.vansteenis@blackgold.ca](mailto:kim.vansteenis@blackgold.ca))

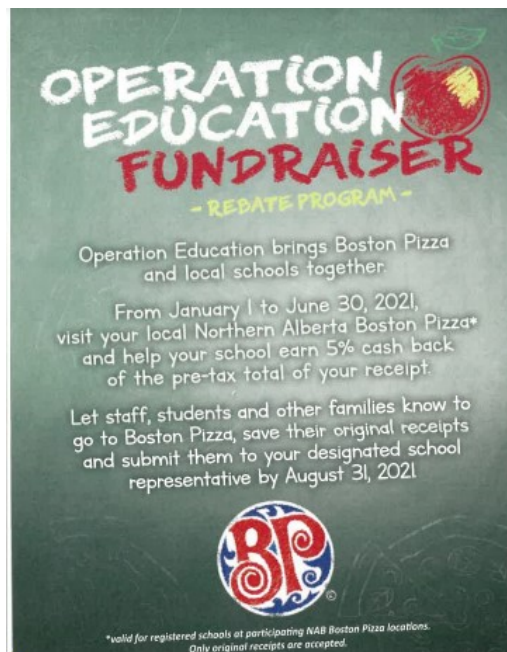
## Post Secondary Information for High School Students

Any students who are interested in discussing their high school programming in preparation for post-secondary, using MyBlueprint to explore post-secondary options, looking to apply for post-secondary schooling, or are interested in applying for scholarships please see schedule a meeting to see Mrs. van Steenis. ([kim.vansteenis@blackgold.ca](mailto:kim.vansteenis@blackgold.ca))

## Grad 2022 News

If you have any questions, please contact one of the Staff Grad Advisors. They are:

Kim van Steenis ([kim.vansteenis@blackgold.ca](mailto:kim.vansteenis@blackgold.ca)), Brilene Wohlgemuth ([brilene.wohlgemuth@blackgold.ca](mailto:brilene.wohlgemuth@blackgold.ca)) and Shelley Gramlich ([shelley.gramlich@blackgold.ca](mailto:shelley.gramlich@blackgold.ca))



Bring in your original  
Boston Pizza receipts!



# Minute to Win it

MHCB Group with



# Around the School Updates



Make sure you go online to order tickets for our Meat Raffle. Cut off for tickets is March 21.

Go to [www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/thorsbypta](http://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/thorsbypta) to buy tickets!

## Breakfast Program

The Breakfast Program is offered daily to our students. Students are able to get fruit, yogurt, granola bars and water. **We can now offer toast!!** We are lucky to have families that are able to give donations. Thank you once again to **Cedar Williams** for her family's donation to the program. Our students appreciate it immensely.





Thorsby Jr, Sr High

February 28 to March 25, 2022

# ELECTRONICS ROUNDUP

HELP DIVERT E-WASTE FROM  
LANDFILLS AND RAISE \$\$\$

Black Gold School Division



SCREENS LARGER THAN 30"	SCREENS SMALLER THAN 30"	FAXES, PRINTERS COPIERS	
LARGE TVS + COMPUTERS	SMALL TVS + COMPUTERS	SMALL OFFICE EQUIPMENT	LAPTOPS + TABLET COMPUTERS
\$10/ITEM	\$4/ITEM	\$4/ITEM	\$1/ITEM



PLUS GENERATE **\$300** PER TON ON  
ELIGIBLE E-PILOT MATERIAL COLLECTED

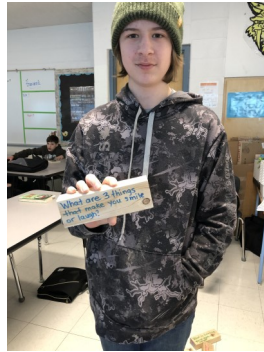
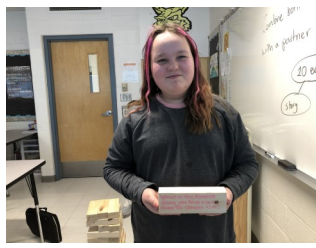


REDUCING OUR FOOTPRINT, BIT BY BIT. SHANKED COMPUTER RECYCLING IS AN AUDITED AND APPROVED RECYCLER WITH THE ALBERTA RECYCLING MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY. WE RECEIVE FINANCIAL INCENTIVES FROM THE ALBERTA GOVERNMENT-RUN PROGRAM THAT ASSIST US IN RECOVERING AND RECYCLING THESE ELECTRONICS.

Alberta  
recycling  
MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY



# Pink Shirt Day Activities





# Foods Class

We are so excited to have our Foods Option available again! Our students are having a great time learning new skills.



# Around the School



Sr Cos kids having fun making scars and wounds. Very realistic!



The silk screening press has been busy again!



# Around the School Updates

## Student Union News

Thank you for participating in Anything But A Backpack Day...look for pictures in this newsletter!

1st" Grade 7s

2nd: Staff

3rd: 9s

4th: 8s

5th: 10, 11 & 12

Most creative in each grade were:

7s: Jordan with his fishing net

8s: Emily with Stitch

9s: Tied Mal & Jessie with the hobo sticks

10s: Jesse D with his sour cream bucket

11s: Olivia with the Gatorade Dispenser

12s: Bryce with the baby stroller

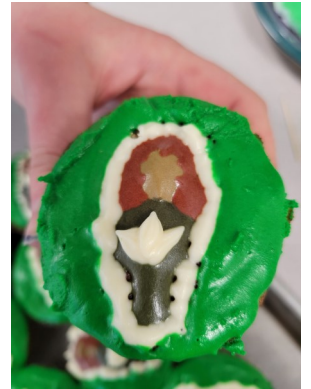
Stay tuned for upcoming events.

The SU kids will also be decorating the crash area once again for Spring/St. Patrick's Day



The Gr 9's were learning about economics in Social. There is no better way to learn than with a intense game of Monopoly!

# Hunger Games Dioramas



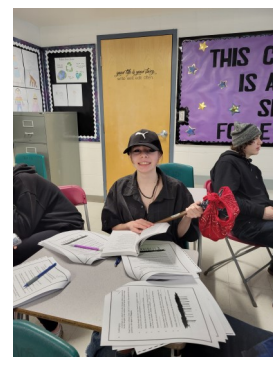
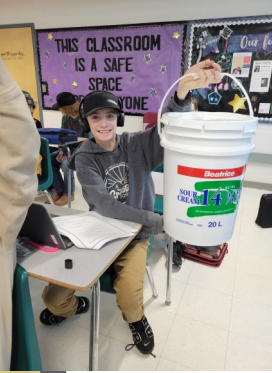
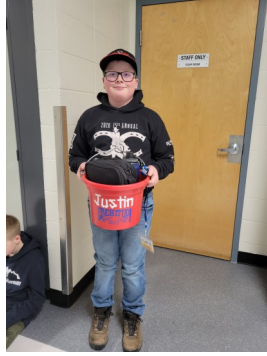


# Shop Projects





# Anything But a Backpack Day



# TJSHS

## Customize Your Spirit Wear

**Get it delivered to you house !**

**Free Shipping on orders over \$85**

**ORDER YOUR  
SPIRIT WEAR  
ONLINE!**

**SHOP NOW**



Go to: [thorsbyjuniorseniorhighschool.entripyshops.com](http://thorsbyjuniorseniorhighschool.entripyshops.com)

Click on "+Register"

Fill out your information and click "Register"

Click on the item you want to buy to be brought to the customizing screen

On the customizing screen, choose your shirt colour, your design, and your size

Click on the different views underneath the product picture to get a look at the arms and back of the product

To add personalizations:

- a. click a view of either the arm or back of the product
- b. check off one of the check boxes depending on whether you want your name or number on the product
- c. type your name or number into the text box

If you want to add multiple items to your order, click the red box that says *Add Multiple Sizes* and fill out the quantity boxes.

Once you have your order put together, click the blue BUY button and follow the instructions on the next screen.

Feel free to contact Cheryl Raugust or Lorelei McLeod at the school, 780-789-3983

## BLACK GOLD SCHOOL DIVISION 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

Monthly Calendar							Teacher Days	Student Days	Dates & Details	
<b>AUGUST 2021</b>	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	4	1	<div>August 26 &amp; 27 - Teacher Workdays (No Students)</div> <div>August 30 or 31 - Staggered Entry for Grades 1 - 12 Students</div>
<b>SEPTEMBER 2021</b>	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	21	20	<div>September 1 - School Commences for ALL Grades 1 - 12 Students</div> <div>September 6 - Labour Day (Schools Closed)</div> <div>September 17 - PD Day: School-Based (No Students): (Morning) Welcome Back &amp; LSA Ceremony (To follow) PD Day: School-Based</div>
<b>OCTOBER 2021</b>	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	20	19	<div>October 6 - Early Dismissal</div> <div>October 11 - Thanksgiving Day (Schools Closed)</div> <div>October 12 - PD Day: School-Based &amp; Support Staff (No Students)</div> <div>Diploma Exam</div>
<b>NOVEMBER 2021</b>	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	17	17	<div>November 3 - Early Dismissal</div> <div>November 8 - 12 - Midterm Break (Schools Closed)</div> <div>November 11 - Remembrance Day (Schools Closed)</div> <div>Diploma Exam</div>
<b>DECEMBER 2021</b>	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	13	12	<div>December 1 - Early Dismissal</div> <div>December 3 - PD Day: Combined (No Students)</div> <div>December 20 - 31 - Christmas Vacation (Schools Closed)</div>
<b>JANUARY 2022</b>	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	21	20	<div>January 3 - School Resumes</div> <div>January 5 - Early Dismissal</div> <div>January 31 - PD Day: ATA (No Students)</div> <div>Diploma Exam &amp; PAT Administrative Window</div> <div>Diploma Exam</div> <div>Provincial Achievement Tests (PAT)</div>
<b>FEBRUARY 2022</b>	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	19	17	<div>Semester 1: August 26, 2021 - January 31, 2022</div> <div>Semester 2 - Commences February 1, 2022</div> <div>February 1 - Semester 2 Commences</div> <div>February 2 - Early Dismissal</div> <div>February 10 &amp; 11 - ATA Teachers' Convention (No Students)</div> <div>February 21 - Family Day (Schools Closed)</div>
<b>MARCH 2022</b>	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	19	18	<div>March 2 - Early Dismissal</div> <div>March 11 - PD Day: Combined (No Students)</div> <div>March 28 - 31 - Spring Break (Schools Closed)</div> <div>Diploma Exam</div>
<b>APRIL 2022</b>	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	18	17	<div>April 1 - Spring Break (Schools Closed) &amp; Diploma Exam</div> <div>April 4 - School Resumes &amp; Diploma Exam</div> <div>April 6 - Early Dismissal</div> <div>April 15 - Good Friday (Schools Closed)</div> <div>April 18 - Easter Monday/Midterm Break (Schools Closed)</div> <div>April 29 - PD Day: Combined (No Students)</div> <div>Diploma Exam</div>
<b>MAY 2022</b>	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	21	19	<div>May 4 - Early Dismissal</div> <div>May 19 - PD Day: School-Based (No Students)</div> <div>May 20 - PD Day: ATA (No Students)</div> <div>May 23 - Victoria Day (Schools Closed)</div> <div>Provincial Achievement Tests (PAT)</div>
<b>JUNE 2022</b>	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	22	20	<div>June 1 - Early Dismissal</div> <div>June 21 - National Indigenous Peoples Day (Regular Classes Scheduled)</div> <div>June 28 - Last School Day with Diploma Exam</div> <div>June 29 &amp; 30 - Teacher Workdays (No Students)</div> <div>Diploma Exam &amp; PAT Administrative Window</div> <div>Diploma Exam</div>
Semester 2: February 1 - June 30, 2022							99	91		
TOTAL - Operational Days-Teachers / Instructional Days-Students							195	180	Aug-Dec/21: 75-T & 69-S; Jan-June/22: 120-T & 111-S	

APPROVED - January 20, 2021



# March 2022

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

		1	2 <i>Early Dismissal</i>	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11 <i>No School PD Day</i>	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		
No School Spring Break						

# April 2022

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

					1	2
3	4 Back to School	5	6 Early Dismissal	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15 Good Friday No School	16
17 	18 Easter Monday No School	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29 PD Day No School	30



## Accident insurance for the unexpected



Accidents happen, especially where children are involved. For just pennies a day, Student Accident Insurance helps you protect your family from costs not covered by your provincial health plan or employee benefits if your child is injured. Whether an accident happens on campus property, during school-sponsored activities, playing in a park or even your own backyard, we've got you covered.

## What does Student Accident Insurance cover?



AMBULANCE FEES  
& HOSPITAL EXTRAS



CASTS, CRUTCHES, AND  
HOME MEDICAL EQUIPMENT



EMERGENCY VISION CARE  
& REPLACEMENT GLASSES



EMERGENCY DENTAL  
& ORTHODONTIC CARE



COUNSELING, PHYSIOTHERAPY  
AND TUTORING



OUT-OF-PROVINCE MEDICAL  
CARE & TRAVEL BENEFITS

≡ ADDITIONAL: HOSPITAL CASH BENEFIT ≡

## Choose your protection level and rest easy

LITE	PLUS	PREMIUM
<b>\$13</b> /YEAR	<b>\$25</b> /YEAR	<b>\$33</b> /YEAR
Basic coverage at our most affordable rates	A happy compromise between comprehensive & basic coverage	Our most robust plan with out-of-province and travel benefits




Get the financial protection you need with student accident insurance today.

**BUY NOW**

Visit [studyinsuredaccidentinsurance.com](http://studyinsuredaccidentinsurance.com) or call us at 1-833-560-0527 for more information



## Compare Plans

Summary of Benefits	 LITE	 PLUS	 PREMIUM
	<b>\$13</b> <sub>/YEAR</sub>	<b>\$25</b> <sub>/YEAR</sub>	<b>\$33</b> <sub>/YEAR</sub>
24-hour, year-round coverage	✓	✓	✓
Unlimited accidental dental	10 years	10 years	10 years
Eyeglasses or contact lenses needed due to injury	Full cost	Full cost	Full cost
Paramedical	\$500	\$500	\$800
Emergency Transportation	Full cost of ambulance fees or \$350 taxi in lieu of ambulance	Full cost of ambulance fees or \$350 taxi in lieu of ambulance	Full cost of ambulance fees or \$350 taxi in lieu of ambulance
Total & permanent disability	\$75,000	\$150,000	\$350,000
Critical Illness	\$9,000 nursing expenses + \$3,000 accommodations	\$9,000 nursing expenses + \$3,000 accommodations	\$12,500 nursing expenses + \$3,000 accommodations
Loss of limb/loss of use	\$75,000	\$150,000	\$150,000
Accidental death benefit	\$15,000	\$20,000	\$30,000
Hospital room expenses	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Medical appliances and expenses	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500
Fracture/dislocation benefit	Up to \$750	Up to \$750	Up to \$1,000
Out-of-province/country emergency medical	n/a	n/a	\$200,000
Trip cancellation and emergency return flight	N/A	N/A	\$1,000 each
<b>ADDITIONAL:</b> Hospital cash benefit	\$100/day	\$100/day	\$100/day

### Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for this insurance, your child must reside in Canada and be more than 6 months old and less than 27 years old.

Children 14 years of age and older must be full-time students in the 12 months prior to a claim, at any time during coverage. A full-time student is defined as one who is enrolled in a minimum of three courses at the same time during any four-month period.

Please note that this is only a summary of benefits. The full policy wording is the legal binding agreement.