



Thorhild Central School

# TCS HANDBOOK



## MISSION

We envision TCS as a connected diverse community that fosters learning, wellness, joy and celebration. TCS is a positive place where everyone has a voice and realizes their potential.

## VISION

At Thorhild Central School, we value learning for all and are dedicated to creating a community built on mutual respect and open communication. We foster collaboration and teamwork, are guided by empathy and compassion, and encourage each other to live our core values, which include integrity, honesty, trust, creativity and innovation.

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Thorhild Central School  
21410 Highway 18  
Postal Bag 30  
Thorhild, AB T0A 3J0

Phone: 780-398-3610

Fax: 780-398-3838

Email: [tcs@asperview.org](mailto:tcs@asperview.org)

Website: [www.asperview.org/tcs](http://www.asperview.org/tcs)

Office Hours:

8:00 am—4:00 pm



## GENERAL INFORMATION

### School Staff

#### **Administrators:**

Mr. David Amiot	Principal
Mrs. Rhonda Pawlik	Assistant Principal
Mrs. Tanysha Anderson	Kindergarten, Great Beginnings, Elementary Music
Mrs. Megan Hennessey	Grade 1
Mrs. Christina Gabbey	Grade 2
Mrs. Darlene Kuzik	Grade 3
Ms. Erin Halonen	Grade 4, Education for Reconciliation Coordinator
Mrs. Charlotte Williams	Grade 5
Mrs. Emily MacLellan	Grade 6
Mrs. Alysha Dyck	ELA & SS 7/8 , Senior High Options
Mrs. Blaine Biddiscombe	Science & Math 7/8, Senior High Options, Biology
Mr. Haden Klein-Fraser	Social Studies 9-12, Foods, Outdoor Education
Ms. Taylor Vaughan	Science 9/10, Physics, Math 20/30, Senior High Options
Ms. Lindsay Gross	ELA 9-12, CALM, Senior High Options
Mr. Shaun Kiselyk	Phys-Ed 8-12, Junior High Options, Math 10C/30-2
Mr. Matt Kolotyluk	Junior/Senior Shop & Music, Math 10-3, 20-3, 30-3, Science 14/24
Mrs. Kelly Feledichuk	Junior/Senior Cosmetology, Phys-Ed 5-7, Junior/Senior Support, Careers
Mrs. Casey Maguire-Neaves	Elementary/Junior High Classes, Cosmetology

#### **Support Staff:**

Mrs. Donna Melnyk	Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Tracey Polak	Business Manager

Mrs. Tracy Alexander	Educational Assistant
Mrs. Christine Desautels	Educational Assistant
Mrs. Andrea Funk	Educational Assistant
Mrs. Cheryl Gargus	Educational Assistant/ Librarian
Mrs. Connie Kassian	Educational Assistant
Mrs. Joyce Binetruy	Educational Assistant
Mrs. Sharon Lakusta	Educational Assistant
Mrs. Susan Marshall	Educational Assistant
Mrs. Tracy Gulinsky	Educational Assistant
Mrs. Melodie Auger	Educational Assistant
Mrs. Mandy Stanton	Educational Assistant
Mrs. Dana DesRoches	Educational Assistant
Mrs. Olena Quaghebeur	Educational Assistant

**Bell Schedule:**

Period	Elementary	Period	JH/SH	SH Block
1	8:45-9:17	1	8:45-9:18	1
2	9:17-9:49	2	9:18-9:51	1
3	9:49-10:21			
4	10:21-10:53	3	9:54-10:27	2
5	10:53-11:25	4	10:27-11:00	2
Lunch	11:25-12:11			
6	12:11-12:43	5	11:03-11:36	3
7	12:43-1:15	6	11:36-12:09	3
8	1:15-1:47	Lunch	12:09-12:56	
Recess	1:47-2:07	7	12:56-1:29	4
9	2:07-2:39	8	1:29-2:02	4
10	2:39-3:11			
		9	2:05-2:38	5
		10	2:38-3:11	5

## **Parents**

Parents and guardians are an integral part of their child's education. Parents and guardians are welcome to contact the school during regular school hours to arrange appointments, or to leave a message for a teacher to contact them. Open communication is essential for student success.

To ensure the safety and best learning environment for our students and staff, we are asking for your support as we try to be consistent with having all visitors follow the following procedures:

- In order to volunteer within our school, a Criminal Record Check is required from the RCMP. Contact [TCS@asperview.org](mailto:TCS@asperview.org) for the package.
- All visitors are required to sign in and out at the General Office.
- If you are dropping your children off, please make every attempt to have them at the school by 8:35 so they are on time for class and morning announcements.
- We understand that situations arise when families are late. If this happens, please drop them off at the main doors.
- If you require your children before the scheduled dismissal time, please contact the office and the staff will be happy to call the classroom to have your child meet you in the office. This allows the office staff to update their attendance.

## **Allergy Aware School**

We are an “Allergy Aware” school, which means that we work to have effective practices in our school to reduce risks for students with allergies. Although we cannot guarantee an allergen-free environment, we will take reasonable steps to ensure a safe environment for those with life-threatening allergies.



## **Student Resource/School Fees**

Any school resource fees will appear on the PowerSchool Parent Portal. If there is difficulty in paying the fees assessed, parents/ guardians are asked to contact school administration to make alternative arrangements. Monthly installments are welcome. Students are responsible for their textbooks and will be charged for any damage or loss incurred to these books during the school year.

## **Great Beginnings-A Learning Centre for Young Children**

Thorhild Central School offers a wide variety of programs and activities for students in kindergarten through twelve.

Great Beginnings is an early learning opportunity for children ages 3-5 and is a play-based program based on individual needs. The program is overseen by an Early Education teacher.

## **Report Cards**

Formalized report cards and comments will be available on PowerSchool in January and June.

All parents have real-time access to students' programs by logging onto the PowerSchool Parent Portal. You may also access your child's information by using a mobile app for PowerSchool. Any parents or students requiring a login, please contact the school office.

## **Senior High School Diploma Requirements**

To earn an Alberta High School Diploma, a student must satisfy the following conditions:

- Earn a minimum of 100 credits.
- Complete and meet the standards of the following courses:
  - ◆ English Language Arts 30-1 or 30-2
  - ◆ Social Studies 30-1 or 30-2
  - ◆ Mathematics 20-1, 20-2 or 20-3
  - ◆ Science 20, Science 24, Biology 20, Chemistry 20, or Physics 20
  - ◆ Physical Education 10 (3 credits)
  - ◆ Career and Life Management (3 credits)
  - ◆ 10 credits in any combination from:
    - ⇒ Career and Technology Studies (CTS)
    - ⇒ Fine Arts
    - ⇒ Second Languages
    - ⇒ Physical



- Education 20 and/or 30
  - ⇒ Knowledge and Employability Courses
  - ⇒ Locally developed/acquired and authorized courses in CTS, fine arts, second languages or Knowledge and Employability occupational courses
- ◆ 10 credits in and 30-level courses (in addition to a 30-level English Language Arts and a 30-level Social Studies as specified above). These courses may include:
  - ⇒ 30-level locally developed/acquired and authorized courses
  - ⇒ Advanced level (3000 series) in Career and Technology Studies course
  - ⇒ 30-level Work Experience courses
  - ⇒ 30-level Knowledge and Employability courses
  - ⇒ 30-level Registered Apprenticeship Program courses
  - ⇒ 30-level Green Certificate Specialization courses
  - ⇒ Special Projects 30

## **STUDENT EVALUATION**

### **Course Expectations and Evaluation**

Each teacher will provide students with a course outline which will include evaluation procedures. Be sure to inform yourself of classroom expectations and evaluation.

### **Diploma Exams**

Students enrolled in specific Grade 12 academic courses will be required to write a Diploma Examination. 30% of this mark will be used towards the final mark in the course. Also, a combined mark of 50% must be achieved in order to receive credits in the course.

### **Provincial Achievement Tests (PAT)**

Grade 6 and 9 students are required to write Provincial Achievement Tests (PAT). PAT will be used for the student's final exam mark. If a request is made for a PAT writing exemption, the student will be required to write a teacher prepared final exam.

## **SCHOOL POLICIES & GUIDELINES**

### **Dress Code**

It is appropriate for students to wear items that will enable them to feel comfortable throughout the course of the day; however, it is equally important for them to dress in a respectful and dignified manner. We are asking families to monitor the clothing selection to ensure that it is appropriate for school wear. Students deemed to be wearing inappropriate apparel will be asked to change, add layers of clothing, or arrange for replacement clothing. No undergarments showing please. Clothing and accessories with wording or graphics, which are vulgar or clothing with the symbol or name of a substance deemed hazardous to one's health, are unwelcome. Breaches of any component of the dress code will result in the student being asked to change their clothes. Parents may be contacted to bring in appropriate clothing.



### **Cellular Phones, Wireless & Electronic Devices**

Cell phones and similar wireless devices are not to be seen, heard or used in teaching and learning spaces, unless a student is specifically directed by a teacher to utilize a device. This includes use as multimedia players and cameras.

### **School Guests**

Students are permitted to bring guests to school with prior school administration approval. All guests must report and sign in at the office.

### **After School Hours**

All students are expected to leave the building as soon as possible at the end of the day unless a teacher directly supervises them.

### **Student Conduct**

Please access the link shown below:

[Student Code of Conduct and Discipline - AP 355](#)

### **Substance Abuse by Students**

Please access the link shown below:

[Substance Abuse by Students - AP 353](#)

### **Lockers and Locks**

Students will be provided with hallway lockers at the beginning of the year. The combination or extra key for the lock must be left in the office. Students should keep their lockers locked at all times. Fire safety code does not allow for obstruction in the hallways. All book bags are to be placed in lockers. Locks may be purchased at the office for \$5.00.

Students are responsible for all damages to their lockers and will be held accountable for any damages. Lockers are to be kept clean and tidy.

## **Video Surveillance**

All students, staff, and parents should be aware that Thorhild Central School is equipped with security surveillance cameras around the outside and inside of the building, and the parking lots. This security further enhances our ability to maintain a safe and caring environment.

## **Student Conduct and Discipline on School Buses**

Please access the link shown below:

[Student Conduct and Discipline on School Buses](#)

## **Attendance Policy**

Automated phone calls are available that notify parents and guardians when their child is late or has an unexcused absence.

## **Technology Code of Conduct Agreement**

Students must sign and return the agreement in order to use computers, have access to the Internet and cloud-based services for documents and other educational activities. The use of technology in the school, whether it is student or TCS owned is a privilege and students who abuse this right may lose permission to use this school.

## **Student and Visitor Parking**

Students are permitted to park their vehicles in the west parking lot. We ask that students drive responsibly at all times. Parking privileges may be revoked at any time and the RCMP may be contacted if a student demonstrates dangerous driving habits on school property.

Parents and visitors are to use the west parking lot as well. If parents are picking up their children at dismissal they may meet them at the west entrance to the school.

The lane directly in front of TCS is reserved for school buses only during arrival and departure times.

Specific entrances and exits are clearly displayed on signage.

## **Accidents**

In the event of a serious accident to a student, the school will contact the parent/guardian immediately. If the school is unable to reach the parent/guardian, and it is deemed necessary to obtain medical assistance, the student will be transported to the hospital by ambulance. It is extremely important that we have the following information for each student:

- Home, cell and work telephone numbers for parents/guardians.
- Telephone Number of an emergency contact person  
ex: babysitter who can be contacted in the event that parents cannot be reached.
- Specific and/or serious medical problems. (allergies etc

## **AWARDS**

Each year Thorhild Central School has an Awards Ceremony in the fall.

### **Elementary Awards**

Students in grade 1-6 will be recognized for the following awards at our annual Award Ceremony:



- Citizenship Award
- Pursuit of Learning Award
- Academic Excellence Award
- Bulldog Award

### **Junior & Senior High Awards**

All junior and senior high students who earn an academic average of 80% or better during a school year, using all their core school courses, will be acknowledged at our annual Awards Ceremony.

All high school students are encouraged to find out about the many school, division, and provincial bursaries and scholarships available when pursuing post-secondary opportunities past high school.

### **Selection of Valedictorian**

At the end of April the valedictorian will be selected. This decision is based on the average of the following courses: English 30-1, Social 30-1, Math 30-1, and one 30 level Science course (Biology, Chemistry, or Physics). For the courses that the student is enrolled in for the second semester, the mark on the April progress report in conjunction with the final marks from the first semester will be averaged. The student with the highest average will be selected as the valedictorian.

### **School Council & Together Enriching Academic Minds (TEAM) Fundraising Society**

Regular meetings are held on a monthly basis. Meeting dates and times will be determined at the first meeting of each school year. TCS School Council is established at the beginning of each school year.

### **Family School Liaison Program**

The County of Thorhild Family and Community Support Services provide a family school liaison program for its community. Mrs. Corinne Arsenault is available to all students and families.

### **Cafeteria**

The cafeteria at TCS is currently operated by a private contractor. It will be open in the morning and during all breaks. Kindergarten to Grade 3 students can access the cafeteria by pre-ordering items which are delivered to their classroom. Junior and senior high students wanting to make a purchase during break times are welcome to do so. However, food may not be permitted in classrooms, and will not be available for purchase during class times.