



PATERSON PRESS “All the news that’s fit to print!” *Dec. Jan 23-Feb 3 – PARENTS*

Dear Paterson Families,

On Wednesday, I announced to my staff and the Paterson community that I will be retiring at the end of June. I have been privileged to be part of the Paterson community as a teacher earlier in my career and for the past 7 years as Principal. I have been fortunate to work with caring and talented colleagues and awesome students that have made my days memorable and rewarding. I have also been fortunate to have had a supportive and engaged parent community as partners in their children’s education. It is the people that make it a special place to be and a hard place to leave.

After 35 years in teaching and administration, I am excited to pursue other opportunities in education and other personal interests as well. The Gilbert Paterson community will always be important to me. There are five more months of work to be done for this school year and to help the Administration team prepare for 2023-24. I look forward to the challenge and to enjoying all of it! I thank everyone for their kind comments and emails over the past couple days and look forward to seeing you around the school.

Sincerely,

Darryl Christiansen – Principal

<u>Monday Jan 23</u>	<u>Tuesday Jan 24</u> Grade 6 Intramurals Lunch Grade 7/8 Basketball Club 2:50-4PM (Final day) Interview Requests close at midnight today online. https://gp.lethsd.ab.ca/bookings/2975	<u>Wednesday Jan 25</u> Grade 7 Intramurals Lunch Grade 6 Basketball Club 2-3:15PM (Final Day) School Council 6:30 – Book Club 7PM – Meeting Learning Commons/Teams	<u>Thursday Jan 26</u> Grade 8 Intramurals Lunch *Full School Day for students P/T Interviews 3:30-8PM Both gyms	<u>Friday Jan 27</u> P/T Interviews 8AM-11:40 Both gyms
<u>Monday Jan 30</u>	<u>Tuesday Jan 31</u> LSAA Rep basketball playoffs	<u>Wednesday Feb 1</u> Grade 8 students – attending LCI Dance Show at the Yates in the PM	<u>Thursday Feb 2</u> LSAA Rep basketball playoffs	<u>Friday Feb 3</u>

We send home the “Paterson Press” every second Friday. If you have feedback, please let us know! Call (403-329-0125) or email darryl.christiansen@lethsd.ab.ca

Have you registered for:

PowerSchool? <https://ps.lethsd.ab.ca/public/>

School Cash Online? <https://lethbridge.schoolcashonline.com/>

Safe Arrival? <https://go.schoolmessenger.com>

If you have any questions or need assistance with these services, call Leanna or Jennifer in the office at 403-329-0125.

Paterson Clubs / Activities – Times and Places – We will update club information here in the Paterson Press.

GSA Club	Mondays – lunch hour – art room – starts Oct. 26th
Jazz Band	Mondays / Wednesday – lunch hour – band room
Treasure Island Production	Mondays / Wednesdays – 3-4:30PM – drama room (2 casts)
Handbells Club	Mondays / Wednesdays – lunch hour – choir room
Basketball Clubs	Gr. 6 – Wed 2-3:15, Gr. 7/8 – Thurs 2:50-4PM
E-Sports Team	Tuesdays – 3-4:30PM– learning commons (other days TBD)
Select Choir	Tuesdays / Thursdays – lunch hour – choir room
Rock Band Club	Tuesdays /Thursdays 3-4:30PM – room 210
Podcast Club	Wednesday – 2-3PM – learning commons
Maker Space Club	Wednesdays – lunch hour – learning commons (New day!)

- **School Council** – The next meeting was scheduled for Mon. Jan. 16th at 7PM in the Learning Commons or on Teams link. Due to a scheduling change to Division School Council to that date, we will hold our meeting **Wed. Jan 25**. We will send out a Teams link and agenda on Monday Jan 23rd.
- **January 26/27 Parent Teacher Interviews** – Information about signing up for an interview time will go out after the holidays and sign up begins Jan. 16th. Interviews are Thursday 3:30-8:00PM and Friday 8:00-11:40. Interviews will be held in person in both the large and small gyms. Registration closes Tuesday Jan 24th at midnight – please use the following link to book online and let the office know if you need assistance.
<https://gp.letbsd.ab.ca/bookings/2975>
- **School Division Town Hall – Tuesday Feb. 7th – 6:30PM at LCI** – We are still looking for both parents and students to attend from our school. The questions that will be asked this year are as follows:
In what ways are we successfully supporting students to help them grow as learners?
Where do you see room for improvement in supporting students as learners?
If you or your child (or both) wish to participate, please let me know by Friday January 27th by email.
darryl.christiansen@letbsd.ab.ca
- **Tiger Athletics** – Club basketball continues this month at the regular times until January 27th. We thank the parent group of Mr. Higginson, Mrs. Keraiff, and Mr. Billyard who are helping our staff coaches to provide some extra club basketball times for students. Our teams will be wrapping up their seasons at the end of January with Rep teams starting playoffs on January 31st with the LSAA Finals taking place on February 8th.
BADMINTON – Tryouts will start after Family Week on Monday Feb. 27th. Specific times and dates will be shared prior to that week to parents, on announcements and posted around the school. We have a team with boys and girls at each grade level. Badminton does not start until after the break as we have our Fine Arts production happening the week prior.



- **TREASURE ISLAND** – The cast and crew of our Paterson Production have been working very hard to prepare their show for this year - TREASURE ISLAND. We look forward to being able to present this to a variety of audiences including some of the Elementary Schools in our Division as well as our own student population with evening performances for community members and families. Our performers have been divided into two different casts providing some excellent contrasting performances for the same characters and story. When this rousing adventure story premiered Off-Broadway, it received unanimous critical acclaim. *Parents Magazine* considered it, 'First rate all the way, a delightful experience,' and the *New York Times* called it an 'inventive classic.' *Treasure Island* is certainly one of the most durable adventure stories of all time, with the villainous Long John Silver following young Jim across the ocean to search out a buried fortune on Treasure Island. Tickets are \$10 for our evening shows, and can be purchased on School Cash Online. <https://lethbridge.schoolcashionline.com/Fee/Index/?Search=Treasure+Island&showAllItems=False>
There will be limited tickets available at the door. The show schedule for the different cast performances will be as follows:

Date/time	Monday 13	Tuesday 14	Wednesday 15	Thursday 16
9:30 AM			Cast B (elementary School)	Cast A (grade 7 classes)
12:30 PM	Cast A (grade 6 classes)	Cast B (grade 8 classes)	Cast A (elementary school)	Cast B (elementary school)
7:00 PM	Cast B	Cast A	Cast B	Cast A

- **New Year presentations:** Shand Watson from our Education Making Connections Team will be sharing a DIVERSITY and RACISM conversation with our Grade 8s and the ORDINARY HERO program with our Gr.6s.

- January 25 is Bell Let's Talk Day** - This year's theme is creating positive CHANGE around conversations about mental health. We are encouraging students to reflect on how they can engage in conversations about mental health as a part of overall health. Choose a mental health organization to learn about or support. Help a friend struggling with mental health issues by learning ways to support them. Ask about how your school, workplace, or community is creating change for mental health. Nurture your own well-being by practicing and learning mental health strategies. Get involved in a mental health initiative or organize an event to support mental health. Engage in conversations about mental health to fight stigma.

#BellLetsTalk



- PODCAST CLUB - Episode 136 - Flickers by Arthur Slade — Book Club for Kids**
 It's a Hollywood story with a twist. Students from Gilbert Paterson Middle School in Lethbridge discuss Arthur Slade's creepy tale of the early days of silent films in his novel Flickers. Actor/comedian/game show host Gavin Crawford is our celebrity reader. Kitty Felde is host.
www.bookclubforkids.org



- Division Board of Trustees launches Values Survey** - The Lethbridge School Division Board of Trustees is exploring the values, vision and mission of the Division in an effort to ensure they reflect the community they serve. This process begins with developing shared values. Values are what individuals believe are important for guiding actions and decisions in the Division. They are the foundation for a vision and mission.
 The purpose of the Values Survey is to collect feedback from stakeholders about the values they believe are important for guiding decisions and the Division's identity. The survey closes on **Feb. 2**. To take the survey, please click on the link below:
<https://lethsdcommunityengagement.schoolsites.ca/home/news/post/division-board-of-trustees-launches-values-survey>

- SUPER SMASH BROTHERS ULTIMATE TOURNEY**
 The GPMS E-Sports Team is hosting a middle school Smash Brothers tournament that is open to ALL students on Saturday January 28th. Check out the information below or posters around the school for more information.

