

NOTES FROM THE OFFICE - January 9th, 2026

A Message We Are Reinforcing with Students - We continue to remind students that the words we use matter. Comments about someone's body, height, weight, clothing, hair, abilities, or mental health, etc. —even when framed as a “joke”—can cause real harm. At NSCHS, we are committed to creating a learning environment where every student feels safe, respected, and valued. This expectation aligns with **Alberta curriculum outcomes** across subject areas that emphasize **citizenship, personal responsibility, empathy, and respectful relationships**, as well as the development of social-emotional learning skills such as self-awareness and responsible decision-making. Students are being reminded that they may not always know what someone else is going through, and that if there is any doubt about whether a comment could be hurtful, it is best not to say it at all. We are also reinforcing that putting others down does not demonstrate strength or confidence. True character is shown in how we treat others. This work directly reflects **Black Gold School Division values**, including fostering safe and caring learning environments, promoting respect and belonging, and supporting student well-being. If the office becomes aware of students intentionally making harmful or demeaning comments toward others, we will follow up and appropriate consequences will apply, in keeping with our school expectations and division policies. Thank you for partnering with us in reinforcing these expectations at home and for supporting a positive, respectful school community for all students.

Community Citizenship in Action - Two of our Grade 12 students demonstrated outstanding citizenship by stepping up to support a community member in need this week. After the school received a call from a local senior whose car was stuck following the recent snowfall, **Dustin S. and Jacob K.** volunteered on their lunch hour to walk over and shovel out her driveway. Their kindness, initiative, and willingness to help reflect the values we strive to instill in our students. Thank you, Dustin and Jacob, for showing what positive citizenship looks like in action.

We are **so proud** to recognize our **NSCHS Dual Credit students** for successfully completing their **Semester 1 post-secondary coursework through Olds College and SAIT**. These students took on the challenge of college-level learning while still in high school, demonstrating commitment, perseverance, and strong time-management skills.

NSCHS Semester 1 Dual Credit Course Completions:

- Harlee C. – Applied Ecology (Olds College)
- Noah P. – Introduction to Sports Management (Olds College)
- Hannah S. – Introduction to Sports Management (Olds College)
- Joshua T. – Introduction to Sports Management (Olds College)
- Maggie H. – Introduction to the Veterinary Profession (Olds College)
- Kaylee J. – Introduction to the Veterinary Profession (Olds College)
- Grace K. – Introduction to the Veterinary Profession (Olds College)
- Kadyn S. – Introduction to the Veterinary Profession (Olds College)

- Makenna N. – Marketing Principles (Olds College)
- Megan W. – Medical Terminology (SAIT)

Please join us in congratulating these students on their hard work and for taking an important step toward their future education and career pathways. We are incredibly proud of their accomplishments!

Hockey Nights with NSCHS – Join Us!

We're excited to invite NSCHS families, students, and community members to join us for Hockey Nights at Rogers Place this winter! These special school nights are a great way to come together, enjoy high-energy hockey, and support our school at the same time.

New Sarepta Community High School Nights with the Edmonton Oilers.

- **Oilers vs. Ducks – January 26**
- **Oilers vs. Sharks – March 17**

Tickets are available starting as low as \$67, with a portion of every ticket purchased through our school link donated directly back to NSCHS.

NSCHS Night with the Edmonton Oil Kings

Saturday, February 28 | 7:00 p.m.

Edmonton Oil Kings vs. Lethbridge

\$23 per ticket (plus fees)

Join us for another exciting night of hockey as the Oil Kings take on Lethbridge. \$2 from every ticket sold is donated back to our school.

Ticket links and QR codes can be found on the flyers that went home with students today.

Community Citizenship Spotlight - We would like to extend a sincere thank you **Mrs. Joleen Kosinski** for her continued volunteerism and generosity towards our school community. Joleen has once again secured a **\$500 donation** to support our students. These funds will be directed toward the purchase of some new much-needed **goalie equipment**, with any remaining funds supporting additional **Sports and Outdoor Education equipment**.

Indigenous Teachings & Curriculum Connections: Citizenship, Community & Land-Based Learning - In nêhiyaw (Cree) teachings, January is known as **Kisêpisim** — the *Great Moon* or *Frost-Exploding Moon*. This time of year invites reflection, rest, and renewal as the land lies quiet beneath winter's blanket. Kisêpisim encourages us to slow down, observe, and learn from the land — building a strong **sense of place** and understanding our relationship to the natural world. These teachings align closely with Alberta curriculum outcomes that emphasize **active and responsible citizenship**. Through land-based learning, students develop awareness of how their actions impact their environment and the people around them, strengthening their role as contributing members of their school and broader community.

Follow us on our social media accounts!

- Facebook: New Sarepta Community High School
- Instagram: NSCHS_SAINTS

Important Upcoming Dates:

- January 14th School Council Meeting 6:30 pm
- January 27th Last Day of Semester 1 Regular Classes for Senior Years' students
- January 28th-29th Regular Classes for all Junior High students
- January 28th-29th Sr. High Course Completion Days (*Invitation Only)
- January 30th PD Day - No Classes
- February 2nd First Day of Semester 2 / Quarter 3
- February 3rd Band Parent Association Meeting 6:30 pm
- February 5 & 6 Teachers' Convention PD Days - No Classes
- February 6th Class of 2026 - Grad Photos at NSCHS
- February 11th School Council Meeting 6:30 pm
- February 20-21 Jr. Girls' Basketball Tournament at Father Leduc School, Leduc
- **February 25th Pink Shirt Day**
- February 27-28 Jr. Boys' Basketball Tournament at École Champs Vallée, Beaumont
- March 3rd Band Parent Association Meeting 6:30 pm
- March 11th School Council Meeting 6:30 pm
- March 19th An Evening of Sweet Melody
- March 26th BGSD Career Fair at Leduc Composite High School
- April 7th Band Parent Association Meeting 6:30 pm
- April 15th School Council Meeting 6:30 pm (*tentative date)
- April 16th Parent Teacher Conferences 4:00 pm -7:00 pm
- April 17th Last Day of Quarter 3
- April 20th First Day of Quarter 4
- April 24th Report Card Marks published 4:00 pm
- May 5th Band Parent Association Meeting 6:30 pm
- May 13th School Council Meeting 6:30 pm
- May 21st Gr. 9 PAT ELA Exam Part A - 9:00 am - 11:00 am
- June 2nd Band Parent Association Meeting 6:30 pm
- June 10th **English 30-1/30-2 Diploma Exam Part A 9am -12pm**
- June 10th School Council Meeting 6:30 pm (*tentative date)
- June 12th Grad 2026 Commencement 7:00 pm
- June 15th **English 30-1/30-2 Diploma Exam Part B 9am -12pm**
- June 16th Last Day of Senior High classes before exams
- June 18th Last Day of Junior High classes before exams
- June 18th **Biology 30 Diploma Exam 9am -12pm**
- June 18th Gr. 9 PAT ELA Exam Part B - 9:00 am - 11:00 am
- June 19th **Chemistry 30 Diploma Exam 9am -12pm**
- June 19th Gr. 9 PAT Math Exam Part A - 9:00 am - 11:00 am
- **June 19-24 NSCHS Exam Week**
- June 22nd Gr. 9 PAT Math Exam Part B - 9:00 am - 11:00 am
- June 23rd **Science 30 Diploma Exam 9am -12pm**

- June 23rd Gr. 9 PAT Social Exam - 9:00 am - 11:00 am
- June 24th Gr. 9 PAT Science Exam - 9:00 am - 11:00 am
- June 25th & 26th Teacher/Office Work Days