

Principal's Message ~ Sept 5th – Sept 8th, 2023

This Week at Lord Tweedsmuir

Thursday September 8th, 2023

Good morning Panthers and welcome to the 2023-2024 school year at Lord Tweedsmuir Secondary. It is an honour to introduce myself as Principal of Lord Tweedsmuir and bring you this first edition of "This Week at Lord Tweedsmuir".



We are delighted to welcome our Panthers back to school and we look forward to an exciting year of learning and celebration. At Lord Tweedsmuir, we are very fortunate to belong to a caring community of excellence. Values of lifelong learning, friendliness, involvement and school spirit will be observed every day. We encourage our students to develop creativity, personal and social responsibility, a positive attitude, a strong sense of self-esteem and self-confidence. As a staff, we are committed to excellence in all forms of learning, preparing our student for their future challenges and opportunities, and fostering cooperation between students, staff, parents and the community. Together, we are stronger and together we will

develop and foster powerful learning for our students. We wish all of our students and staff great success, joy and health as you go through your school year.

This year, as expected, Lord Tweedsmuir Secondary's enrollment has continued to grow. We have approximately 1830 students and 145 staff. Our school is a big, busy and dynamic community. Our students will thrive within our Panther family, and our school will continue to provide an amazing array of curricular and extracurricular programs.



This summer our District Maintenance Department completed several projects at the school. We have received another Portable classroom that will help to alleviate some of our enrollment pressures. We are very grateful for this additional space. Our Computer Lab and adjoining classroom were unexpectedly renovated with new flooring, drywall and ceiling tiles at the beginning of September. We are very grateful for the hard work and dedication of our District's Facilities Department for completing this project in time for our start-up! Our school and grounds look excellent... and we are ready to start a new school year.

The first day back at school is always such a highlight... and this year was no different. We welcomed our students back and enjoyed the excitement and positive energy that they brought to the school. Students were happy to return to their school, see their friends and teachers and

begin this next chapter in their lives. It is a very special time of new beginnings and each year I am reminded of the importance of our public education system and the profound difference our schools make in the lives of our students, families and community.

We also welcomed many new teachers and support staff to the “Home of the Panthers” this year. Your time at Lord Tweedsmuir will be very rewarding and we know that you will enrich our community. Welcome to:

Teachers:

- Mr. Memmott (Art)
- Ms. Nagi (Math)
- Ms. Truss (Math)
- Mr. Sutton (BASES)
- Mr. Kumar (English)
- Mr. Salimian (Math)
- Mr. Donaldson (Social Studies/Humanities)
- Mr. Dauda (Careers/Computer Programming)
- Ms. Kaur (BASES)
- Mr. Birnbaum (LST/ELL)
- Ms. Karic (Science/Math)
- Mr. Auriel-Voigt (returning to Humanities/Social Studies/English)
- Mr. Sidhu (returning to Science)
- Ms. Morrison (returning to Art)
- Mr. Park (PHE, Careers)
- Ms. Puri (Math)
- Ms. Collins (Careers, Art, LST)
- Mr. Matthias (LST, BASES)
- Ms. Hayashi (Sc, Home Ec, Careers)
- Mr. Hignell (returning after a few years to Principal)

Support Staff :

- Ms. Marquis
- Ms. Mendiola
- Ms. Rundle
- Ms. Speirs
- Ms. Young
- Ms. Haque (returning)
- Ms. Eden (returning)
- Ms. Killaly

Last Thursday we brought our newest Panthers together for their first Grade 8 assembly. We had the chance to welcome them to the school, review opening day information, and remind them that they are coming to a very special place. Our graduating class of 2028 is very fortunate. Next week we will meet with all of our Grade 9-12 students for a similar welcome and orientation message.

Our LTS Student Council is up and running and making a difference. Our student leaders are recognizing and thanking our community Health, Safety and Emergency services personnel. Student leadership is a critical component of a healthy school... we are very fortunate to benefit from their good work.



Regarding Health protocols, our school is a safe place, and we will continue to monitor and implement all Public Health guidelines. All students and staff are reminded to please check your health daily and stay at home if you are unwell. Practice respiratory etiquette and wash your hands regularly throughout the day. Wearing a mask is optional for students and staff and everyone's personal choice will be treated with dignity and respect. Thank you for all you do to ensure that Lord Tweedsmuir Secondary continues to be a safe and caring community.

2023 – 2024 will be an excellent year for Lord Tweedsmuir Secondary students and staff. We will celebrate all forms of learning and we will continue to work together to build a community that makes us proud. I know that our students and staff will achieve amazing successes and our school will thrive with vitality, hard work and service.

Enjoy your Friday, have a great weekend, and we will see you all back at school on Monday morning.

Ken

Traffic Safety





As I have quickly noticed, traffic safety around Lord Tweedsmuir Secondary is a critical priority for our community. With increased enrollment, the number of vehicles navigating around and within our school grounds also increases. It is essential that all drivers are very cautious while driving near the school and are aware of the many student pedestrians who are nearby.

All students and parents/guardians are requested to consider the following:

- If possible, students - please walk and/or bike to school. Fewer vehicles attempting to drop off and/or pick up students will be very helpful.
- Consider dropping off/picking up 2-3 blocks away from the school and avoid the traffic congestion around the school.
- Consider drop-off/pick up earlier and/or later in the morning/afternoons to avoid peak traffic times.

Thank you for your help in protecting the safety of our students.