



Western Canada High School

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<http://schools.cbe.ab.ca/b816>

SUMMER 2016 NEWSLETTER



Principal's Message

Welcome to the 2016 – 2017 School Year

I am honored to be your principal at Western Canada High School, a school with a long and proud tradition of excellence. Intellegentia, Vires, Virtus – Knowledge, Strength, Courage. These values are what built one of the best schools in the world. It is my intent to continue to carry these values and traditions.

As new grade 10 students, I am asking you to espouse those values. Your predecessors did. They took advantage of both the curricular and extracurricular offerings of this fine institution. By doing so, they continued the proud tradition of the school to excel in academics, fine arts, and athletics.

Grade 11 students, I am asking you to embrace each day that this school has to offer. Non est ad astra mollis e terris via, There is no easy way from the earth to the stars. As you well know, you have the opportunity, the privilege to be in a unique school, time will fly so make every day count! You need to leave at the end of each day with a sense of accomplishment and satisfaction.

Grade 12 students, let's get ready for the next chapter in your life. Exiit us acta probat. The result validates the deeds. Pay close attention to your teachers. During my career I had the chance to visit private and public schools around the world. From these travels, I can tell you that your teachers are leaders in their respective fields. They will help you get ready to face the challenges that await you as you set forth as an adult into the world.

Every student that walks through the doors of Western Canada High School will feel safe, challenged and successful. Our role as educators is to provide the security, opportunities and celebration of learning. Together we will nurture a great educational environment for all, through our commitment to the shared vision that learning is our central purpose.

I look forward with great anticipation to the 2016- 2017 school year. I invite you to help me in contributing to the great learning environment of Western Canada High School.

Martin Poirier
Principal

Intellegentia, Vires, Virtus





WESTERN CANADA HIGH SCHOOL

Confirmation of Registration and School Opening Information Fall 2016

August 31st, September 1st and 2nd, 2016 will be the Registration dates to collect fee payments or make alternate arrangements

Take photos for ID card and yearbook

Hand in:

Acceptable Use Policy form (for computer network access)

Student Demographic form (verify and make any necessary changes)

Consent to Post or Publish Student Information and Work form

Receive locker assignments

Obtain parking passes (for Grade 11 and 12 students only)

Students must have their official timetable and transcript to get into classes. These are obtained during homeroom on the first day of classes.

Priority for timetable changes in August and September will be:

- Students who attended and passed summer school courses
- Students who failed courses in June
- Students with partial / incomplete timetables
- Student with unbalanced core subjects between semesters

Students having any of the above scheduling conflicts should submit a **change request online** using the **Course Change Request Form**. The form can be accessed using your **CBE student email account**.

Student CBE mails are found on **D2L** in the upper right hand corner of the home page when you click on your name – see the detailed insert in this package regarding the Course Change Request process.

Please note all requests for timetable changes will be considered based upon course availability and space in classes. **HomeLogic will be updated as changes are made.**





IMPORTANT START UP INFORMATION

Wednesday, August 31 st	Grade 12 Student Registration	<u>SURNAME</u> A - G 9:00 to 10:45 H - O 11:00 to 12:30 P - Z 12:45 to 2:15
Thursday, September 1st	Grade 11 Student Registration	<u>SURNAME</u> A - G 10:00 to 11:45 H - O 12:00 to 1:30 P - Z 1:45 to 3:15
Friday, September 2nd	Grade 10 Student Registration	<u>SURNAME</u> A - G 9:00 to 10:45 H - O 11:00 to 12:30 P - Z 12:45 to 2:15
Tuesday, September 6th GRADE 10s ONLY	Grade 10 Assembly Main Gym	9:00 to 9:30 am
	Three 45 min sessions Main Gym, Home Room & School Tour	9:30 to 11:55 am
	Welcome BBQ	12:00 to 1:00 pm
	Period 1	1:10 to 1:30 pm
	Period 2 Period 3 Period 4	1:35 to 1:55 pm 2:00 to 2:20 pm 2:25 to 2:45 pm
Wednesday, September 7th "ALL GRADES"	Homeroom – All Grades Modified Wednesday Timetable Period 1 Period 2 Lunch Period 3 Period 4	9:05 to 9:50 9:55 to 10:55 11:00 to 12:00 12:00 to 12:40 12:45 to 2:05 2:10 to 3:30
Thursday, September 8th "ALL GRADES"	Homeroom – All Grades Grade 11 Assembly (Gym) Grade 12 Assembly (Gym) Regular Thursday Timetable Periods 2, 1, 4, 3	9:05 to 9:10 9:15 to 10:00 10:40 to 11:25 Note: Period 2 will start at 9:15
Friday, September 9th "ALL GRADES"	Homeroom – All Grades Regular Friday Timetable Periods 1, 2, 3, 4	9:05 to 9:10 Note: Period 1 will start @ 9:15
Thursday, Sept. 15 th	<u>MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT</u>	<u>7:00 pm</u> (6:30 to 7:00 pm for AM/PM Classes)



NOTE: STUDENTS MUST HAVE AN OFFICIAL TIMETABLE AND TRANSCRIPT TO BE ADMITTED TO CLASS. THESE ARE OBTAINED FROM HOMEROOMS ON TUESDAY, SEPT. 6th (GRADE 10) AND WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 7th (GRADES 11 AND 12).

Students' Pictures

Pictures of each student are taken on Registration Day according to the schedule. Photos are required for two items: ID cards, and for the yearbook.

Each student must have their photo taken for the school ID card which will be issued at this time. This ID card is needed to access various services in the school (Library access, to write a test in the Test Centre, identification for Final Exams, dances, etc.)

Students also get their photos taken for the yearbook free of charge. The cost of the optional personal colour packages are set by the contracted photographer, Lifetouch. Please make cheques payable to Lifetouch if you wish to purchase, and bring the payment and form with you to the Confirmation of Registration. (See the enclosed package for costs and related information.)

Locker Selection

After paying fees and taking pictures, Grade 11 and 12 students that have made locker requests can pick up their locker assignments in the Cafeteria. Grade 11's and 12's that have not requested locker partners, and ALL GRADE 10 students will be assigned a locker during the Confirmation of Registration process.

Student Parking

The student parking lot is located at the southeast corner of the school, directly behind the main gymnasium. All other parking lots are reserved for staff. Students' cars parked in staff spots or fire lanes will be ticketed and towed away without warning. This will have been communicated to both students and their parents or guardians through a contract signed by all parties at the beginning of the school year in order to receive a parking tag. Students must ensure that their current year parking tags are visible at all times when using the student parking lot to prevent towing. If they forget their parking tag, students will not be permitted to park in the lot and the main office will not issue a day pass or note. If a student loses their parking tag they will be charged \$20 for a new one. Students who drive in a reckless manner will have their parking privileges revoked. Students are requested not to congregate in vehicles or in the parking lot during class times.

** Please be aware that a student parking tag does not guarantee a parking spot. Student parking spots are a first come first served basis.

Insurance

CBE carries accident insurance on all registered students for school activities. Additional insurance may be purchased by parents. The necessary forms will be available in Homeroom (Wednesday and Thursday) or the main office throughout September. The PE Department encourages all students participating in any school sports to purchase this insurance.



Medical Problems

Students/parents are requested to advise the school of any known medical conditions which may affect the student at school. If any student has a serious medical condition such as a severe allergy, parents should contact the Main Office to complete appropriate paperwork.

Injuries, Illness & Parent Contact at School

Serious injuries require professional help and EMS will be called in the event of any serious concern. Parents will also be contacted immediately if their student is injured or ill. **It is important that parents provide the school with current information to assist in home and business contacts.** Please confirm that the demographic information is correct on the form included in this package. If there are any changes please record them on the form and have your son or daughter return this along with their fee sheet to their Confirmation of Registration.

Payment of School Fees

Included with this mail out package is your student's individualized invoice. Please return it together with the appropriate payment at the confirmation of registration time on the schedule.

Online Fee for payment is available after July 15, 2016 – My CBE Account

Using My CBE Account is the simplest and most convenient way to register for services, apply for a waiver of school fees and pay school fees online. It also offers flexible fee payment options, including setting up monthly instalments. We encourage all parents/guardians to set-up a [My CBE Account](http://www.cbe.ab.ca/parents/fees.asp). You can access your account from our website www.cbe.ab.ca/parents/fees.asp and register using the same email address the school has on file for your family.

Please show your receipt at time of registration. (This online payment will save you time at the time of registration & digital receipt will be acceptable)

Payment may be made by: Visa, MasterCard or Debit
Cheque & Money Order payable for WCHS or cash

Fees must be paid PRIOR to the first day of school according to the above schedule. If alternate payment arrangements are required, please notify our staff at registration, August 31 – September 02, 2016.

Waivers

The Calgary Board of Education waives the ISM Fee (Instructional Supplies & Materials Fee) & RSD (Refundable Security Deposit) for qualified students. Waiver requests were due June 24, 2016 for the following year. However, if you have not received a waiver request form and require one, [Forms](#) are available on CBE Website or WCHS Business Office or by calling the CBE Student Fees helpline at 403-817-7888. Only the ISM Fee of \$152 & RSD \$50.00 can be waived. All other fees must be paid.



Student Services

As of AUGUST 1, 2016, an Online Course Change Request Form will be accessible through the **school website** should you need to request a change to your timetable due to:

- You are missing a prerequisite
- Your timetable is incomplete- students must have 6 classes for gr 12, 7 classes for gr 11, and 8 classes for gr 10.
- Your timetable is unbalanced.
- Please be aware that universities do not require students to have specific courses in semester 1
- **WE WILL NOT BE MAKING TIMETABLE CHANGES TO ACCOMMODATE TEACHER PREFERENCES**

Please see the detailed instructions about the Online Course Change Request Form (salmon coloured form) included in this package.

In order to facilitate the volume of changes, counsellors will not be taking any appointments until Sept 12, 2016. NB: only students with "See Counsellor" on their HomeLogic Timetable will be seen in the first week of school.

If timetable changes are possible, they will be processed and reflected in the timetable which you will be able to access on HOMELOGIC. If class sizes or conflicts do not permit a change, then it will NOT be made. We will NOT be contacting you. You must continue to check HomeLogic.

Study Space: help for students in a relaxed environment.

Western Canada High School is pleased to announce the [continuation](#) of [our exciting](#) initiative, Study Space, to aid students in their academic endeavours. We are [running this support program in all core subject areas](#) for the upcoming school year as a tool to help students succeed scholastically. [Of course the demand for support comes mainly from math and science and that will be there will be excellent support in those academic areas.](#)

Study Space is a program that allows students to take advantage of one of their most valuable resources: their peers. Students will be able to attend anonymously after school to study in groups in a non-judgmental and non-remedial environment. Trained student leaders who have excelled in their courses will be present to answer any questions and clarifications needed in a supportive manner. The key to this program is its relaxed and inclusive environment. We encourage your student to attend with a friend or friends! There is no attendance taken and the students there to answer questions or provide valuable tips will only offer their knowledge if asked. Easy and relaxed. We have seen students attend the sessions and study in small groups and lean on each other for academic support. This is a very effective and enjoyable approach to a "tutoring" session.

[We need parental support in encouraging your student to take advantage of this opportunity. We feel that for some students this could actually be an unofficial part of their academic timetable. Our hope is to have many more students take advantage of this exciting \(and free!\) opportunity. We hope that you will encourage your child to attend these sessions if they would like assistance with building confidence, study skills, and strategies for performing well in their courses. The program will run every Wednesday \(beginning in the third week of September\) after tutorials at 3:40 in Room 102A in the math wing.](#)



French Immersion & International Languages

French immersion, International and Classic Languages

French Immersion Certificate:

We held our annual presentation of the Certificate of Competency in French Immersion on Wednesday, June 8th. We are pleased to provide this celebration for our students who have obtained 45 of their high school credits in French Immersion. We also recognized the efforts of students who acquired at least 30 credits in French Immersion. In all, the celebration included 122 students. What an accomplishment!

International Languages Certificate:

Thirty (30) students were awarded the International Languages Certificate for having completed the 30, 31 or 35 level of Spanish and a 30 or 31 level in French as a Second Language or the 30 level of French Language Arts. We began recognizing this accomplishment in 2008 when the United Nations proclaimed that year as the Year of International Languages.

The DELF and DELE Certificates:

Students will be given the opportunity to take the international accreditation exams, the DELE for Spanish and the DELF for French, in November, April and May. More information will be provided later in the year. Thirty-two (32) students obtained their DELF certificates this year.

Students wishing to write the DELE exams in Spanish receive the information and can register to take the exams that generally take place in November and in May.

Extra-Curricular Activities:

As we welcome the return of students in grades 11 and 12 and new 10 students to Western in the fall we would encourage your child to get involved in co-curricular / extended program activities where they might use international languages skills in a real setting: Franco-Western, Speech and Debate in French, writing articles in French and/or Spanish for the Western World, joining a student-run Spanish club one lunch hour per week.

Spanish Language and Culture Field Experience:

Forty-one (41) students, three teachers and one parent volunteer travelled to Spain for the Spanish Language and Culture Field Experience from October 22nd to November 1st of 2015. **We are looking forward to offering this field experience in October of 2017.** It will be available for students from grades 11 and 12 for the 2017-2018 school year. Information will be distributed at the beginning of the upcoming school year. Start planning and saving!

Latin:

Latin 10 will be offered in two after-school courses the first semester (2 courses) and within the timetable during the second semester of the 2016-2017 school year. We welcome Ms. Elena Voskovskaia to the department.



International Baccalaureate

The IB bulletin board is located near the elevator on the 2nd floor. Opportunities and items of interest will be updated throughout the year but important messages will always be relayed to students in class.

Grade 10

Timetable - courses that you requested to be WCpre-IB should state that designation on the timetable you receive. Some courses have names that are too long and so the WCpre-IB designation may not fit. If your course verification form was correct in the spring, you can assume that you are in the correct pre-IB classes, regardless of what it says. If you have concerns, please don't hesitate to contact Mrs. Cormier lcormier@cbe.ab.ca or Ms. Rivers serivers@cbe.ab.ca

IB cookie assembly – Thursday October 6th – 3:45 – 4:45 p.m. where both partial and full candidates get to spend an hour learning more about the IB programme (cookies are provided).

Recommendations - the WCpre-IB courses are designed to be challenging, but also to prepare students for the rigours of the IB programme. Recommendations are required to move from the WCpre-IB courses at the 10 level to the IB courses at the 20 level. Teachers expect students to contribute positively to the class environment by coming prepared for class with homework complete, participating in class, and asking for help when required. The most important things to remember are to try your best and maintain unquestionable academic integrity.

Building relationships - study groups, both online and in person are one of the best ways to forge quality friendships and to excel in your IB classes. Make use of tutorial times and Study Space on a regular basis and you will form lasting relationships with your teachers as well.

C.A.S. – activities completed in junior high and in grade 10 will not count toward the Creativity – Activity – Service component of the IB diploma programme. You are still encouraged to pursue these activities which you may continue during the diploma programme.

Fees – there are NO fees for WCpre-IB or IB classes in Grade 10 as only in-school exams will be written.

Grade 11

Fees - each IB student in IB classes that do not continue in Grade 12 will have registration and exam fees (maximum two exams in Grade 11). Individual exam registration occurred in June for most students and fees will be assessed based on the IB exams that are associated with specific courses.

Any questions about fees should be directed to serivers@cbe.ab.ca **before** they are paid.

*Full I.B. students who have not had a personal meeting with Ms. Rivers (regarding C.A.S.) should email to book a time.

Grade 12

Predicted grades - many institutions require teacher-awarded predicted grades as early as November but most are required in the spring. Some institutions will send out acceptances based solely on predicted grades, whereas others will require an Alberta transcript as well. Predicted grades can be requested by visiting Mrs. Cormier in the main office at least one week before you need to mail them.

IB Transcript requests - IB sends official transcripts to up to three universities (maximum one from the US). These requests occur in class or with Mrs. Cormier in the spring once students have narrowed down their choices.

*Full I.B. students who have not yet handed in an Extended Essay literature review to their supervisor and to D2L should contact Ms. Rivers.



Important Dates:

September 14th – last day to request a remark of an IB exam written in Grade 11 (\$136US per subject).

September / October – IB Exam registration and confirmation – even for courses not taken until Semester 2.

November 12th – last day to pay and register for a May 2017 IB exam & last day to withdraw from an exam to receive a full refund.

January 12th – last day to withdraw from a May 2017 IB exam for a partial refund.

Japanese Exchange Program 2017

Every three years, Western Canada High School participates in an exchange program with Yamate Gakuin High School in Yokohama, Japan. 2017 is our year! This is a unique and exciting opportunity to experience a rich cultural exchange, to make new friends and to have an authentic travel experience. We are looking for good families to host a pair of Japanese students from April 14th to April 28th, 2017. Students who host are guaranteed a travel spot to Yokohama from July 21st to August 5th, 2017. In the summer our Calgary students will stay in a Japanese home and have the experience of a lifetime! Japan is a superb travel destination. Please attend our information meeting in the fall, or contact Ms. Gordon at jmgordon@cbe.ab.ca.

Redhawks Athletics

The Redhawks enjoyed a spectacular season this past school year, winning multiple championships and exemplifying infectious team spirit and sportsmanship, even in times of defeat. In Volleyball, the Jr. Girls' and Jr. Boys' teams both won their respective Division 1 City Championships, while the Sr. Boys' team advanced to the Provincial Championships, a tremendous achievement. The Sr. Girls Basketball team finished fourth at 4A Provincials, and the Sr. Boys' team won the Division 2 City Championship game. All of the Rugby teams also had very successful 2016 seasons, including the Sr. Boys' squad coming out on top in their Division 1 City Championship game. Rounding out the success in our team sports, the Sr. Boys' Soccer team finished the year City Finalists, as did the Sr. Girls' Field Hockey team, both losing in heart-breaking division 1 finals. In individual sports, many athletes found great success: Madeleine Sumner won the 1500m sprint event at 4A provincials, while other athletes such as Evan Wildman, Sydney Hoffman, Alexis Johnson, Kiah Kane and many others sprinted, jumped, and threw their way to Provincials in Track and Field. The Swim and Dive team employed many incredibly talented students and the Cross-Country team included many astonishingly fast runners, many of whom represented the school at Cities or Provincials, including Madeleine Sumner, Regev Stilman, Julianne Kemper, and Michael Gould.

Redhawk athletes continued a long tradition of sporting pride at Western Canada High School. Our teams have won hundreds of championships in our long, prestigious history, and this half-decade alone, Western teams have already won over 40 championships. We are on a great track to surpass our 70 championships in the 2000s. Over the course of our 113-year history, we have truly become one of the premier public high schools in the world, in no small part because of our athletic programs. We've had many great alumni go on to do great things in athletics, such as CFL Grey Cup Champions Norman Kwong and Larry Robinson, to name but a few.

Western plans to offer many choices in terms of athletic programs in 2016-17, including fall sports such as Boys' Football, Girls' Soccer, Cross-Country, and Volleyball. In the winter we offer Basketball, Swim and Dive, Wrestling, Badminton, and Cheerleading. The spring season showcases Rugby, Girls' Field Hockey, Boys' Soccer, and Track and Field. With all of these options, we hope to see lots of students -- including incoming Grade 10s -- in action next year for our sports teams. Go Redhawks!



Redhawks Volleyball

Any grade 10 students interested in trying out for the Junior Boys or Junior Girls Volleyball teams in September should come to the aux gym after school on Tuesday September 6, 2016 for a short information meeting. Try outs will begin on Wednesday September 7, 2016.

All grade 11 and 12 students should try out for the senior team. The first tryout will be after school on Tuesday, September 6, 2016. All athletes will need to have proper gym strip and the completed '**Athletic Permission Form**' to be eligible to participate. This form can found on the Western Canada Athletic Website under the Volleyball link.

Senior Boys - B. LaBerge
Senior Girls - D. Faulconer
Junior Boys - B.Yee, J. Ma
Junior Girls - K. Peciulis, R. Supino

Girls Soccer Fall 2016

Girls soccer tryouts for Fall 2016 will be held on the following dates on the back field at Western:

- September 1st : 12:30 PM – 2:30 PM
- September 2nd : 12:30 PM – 2:30 PM
- September 6th : 7:15 AM – 8:30 AM

All new and returning players must attend all of the above tryout dates and times. If you cannot make one or more of the above tryouts, but are interested in being on the team, please email Ms. Leong at jkleong@cbe.ab.ca.

Prior to trying out, every player must fill out and return the Annual Authorization Form, which can be printed from the girls soccer page on the WCHS athletics website or picked up outside of room 106 (the math office).

We encourage players in any grade and of all skill levels to try out for the team!

Redhawks Football

First day of football practice will be Aug 31 @ 9:30am

There are 3 3-a-days on Aug 31 to Sept. 2 Each of these days will follow the same schedule:

9:30 to 10:30 Aux gym stretching/yoga (shorts and a shirt)

11 to noon back field strength and conditioning (shorts and shoes/dress for weather)

4 to 6pm back field skills practice (full football equipment)

Amy further questions please contact coach S. Sokolan for Senior football at 403-519-5182 or sdsokolan@cbe.ab.ca and G. Phillips for Junior football at gcphillips@cbe.ab.ca

Go Redhawks!





Fine Arts Department

Fine and Performing Arts at Western

Western Canada High School is proud to offer the Calgary Board of Education "Fine Arts Certificate". This certificate and course represents student involvement in the Fine Arts at Western throughout their 3 years. In this certificate course students will explore a vision of life as an artist. For the student it may be career-oriented or simply a self-exploration. The class is still open for enrolment and we strongly encourage all grade 12 students who have participated actively in the Fine Arts at Western to enroll. This certificate is a fine representation of the time, diligence and commitment to the Fine Arts that the student has **already** put in throughout their high school experience. *The course runs on Tuesday's over the lunch period.*

Requirements: 35 Fine Arts to be completed by the end of the Grade 12 year in Fine Arts, in addition to the 5 credits that come with Professional Development In The Arts 35. Please see your guidance counselor if you are interested in registering and have not already done so. Should you have any questions, please contact Ms. Price (Teacher of the Fine Arts Certificate Course) at mjprice@cbe.ab.ca or Mr. Hagan (Learning Leader-Fine and Performing Arts) at behagan@cbe.ab.ca



DANCE

Ms. Michelle Price

We are already excited about what is to come in the Dance Program of 2016/2017. If you love to dance or would love to learn, make sure you check out the opportunities provided at WCHS. We offer Dance 15, 25, and 35. Whether or not you have Dance experience Dance 15 is perfect for you. Visit the web site for more details, and photos. At the end of each semester the Dance Program will present Dance @ Noon, which gives all our dancers a chance to perform in a supportive and fun environment.

Our renowned **Centre Stage** Dance Show will be held in early May with auditions happening in March. Even if you are not part of the official Dance Program, you may audition a solo, duet, or group piece. Start thinking about it now and visit Ms. Price in the dance studio for more details. It is an amazing and rewarding performance opportunity. ***If you have an interest in Dance and have always wanted to learn more about it, be sure to see your guidance counsellor about how to get involved this upcoming year.***



VISUAL ART

Ms. Gwen Ridout and Mr. Graham Harker

We are proud to have a vibrant Visual Art Department at Western. Examples of the incredible student work can be seen throughout the school campus whether it is in the cafeteria, the hallways of the art wing, the new murals in the arts wing courtyard and of course our brilliant Art studios in the east wing of the school. Check out the Fine Arts Website through the link on the WCHS website and click on the Visual Art gallery to see what students created in the 2015-2016 school year. We offer Visual Art Courses at the 10, 20 and 30 level along with the opportunity to take Advanced Art 25 and 35.

If you love Art and have always wanted to learn more about it, be sure to see your guidance counsellor about the opportunities available at Western in the Visual Arts.





Drama

Ms. Caitlin Gallichan-Lowe

We have had a phenomenal end to a really incredible year in the drama program at Western Canada High School. Our excellent drama 30 class ended their year with two weeks of brave directing projects, culminating in the Drama 30 Show Case Night on May 31st. The Drama 30 Saint Award was presented to Emma Jones, as chosen by her peers, in recognition of her support of the work of others. The Drama 30 Mahon Award was presented to Simon Flint, chosen by his peers as well, in recognition of his volunteer technical theatre work. Several members of the Drama 30 class will be going on in theatre in the best programs in the country and we were proud to see Robbie Herrington be appointed the Michael Dobbin Apprenticeship at Alberta Theatre Projects. This is a great honour and the third time in 5 years that it has been awarded to a student from the WCHS Drama Program. The Drama 20 class finished with the presentation of their Verbatim play *Impending Doom*, which was made in collaboration with Artist-In-Residence Col Cseke. The play examined stress and anxiety in the lives of our students. The Drama 10 class ended with the performances of their Devised Theatre pieces, which were brave and beautiful pieces of theatre.

Auditions for our fall musical, *Cabaret* took place recently. The cast and crew will be prepping over the summer with rehearsals to begin Monday, August 29th at 9am. We are thrilled to be working with Choreographer Sarisa Figueroa De Toledo (of Decidedly Jazz Danceworks) and musical Director Angela Cavar, as well as acting coaches Brett Dahl (One Yellow Rabbit) and Bobbi Goddard (Theatre Calgary) and band leader Jay Michalak (Foothills Brass Quintet). We will be holding auditions in fall for grade 10 students, so stay tuned. The show goes up November 22nd-26th, 2016.

We have some incredible partnerships with the professional theatre community that will be in place for next year and onwards. The High Performance Rodeo will continue the *Beautiful young students* program with WCHS Drama 30's. Each student will get free pass to the High Performance Rodeo and we will be hosting artist talks with theatre artists from around the world for our students and the community. Theatre Calgary will also be partnering with the drama program to develop some exciting opportunities in conjunction with TC's 50th Anniversary. And, we continue our work with Alberta Theatre Projects, Ghost River Theatre, and Theatre Junction, as well as a myriad of amazing actors, designers, and technicians who come in for workshops and artist talks. We are truly fortunate to have such strong support from the Canadian Theatre community.





Music

Ms. Sheryl Reinhardt, Mr. Richard Harding and Mr. Brendan Hagan

The Music Program at Western is among the finest of its kind in Canada. Yearly the music program participates in local festivals, workshops, partners with outstanding music organizations like the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra and most importantly builds a music community at Western that is rich in student development and culture. Yearly the bands participate in Band Camps and the full senior levels of the Band Program participate in annual music tours. The Choirs participate annually in Choralfest and Choralfest Jazz along with many other community performances and workshops.

We have just come off an outstanding year with all of our ensembles which was capped off with our annual Year End Concert on June 1st to a record audience in attendance.

The Music Program at Western offers the opportunity for students to get involved in a part of their education that is complimentary to their academics and co-curricular involvements. Come on out and get involved in our exciting and vibrant Music Program!



BAND:

Western has long been known for its outstanding Concert Band and Jazz Band programs. If you are new to Western or old and currently don't have band in your schedule, but would like to get involved it is important for you to know that it is not too late!

We are still currently taking registrations for the Concert bands and Jazz bands for the 2016-2017 year for all grades. It is still possible to take band if you have a full schedule! Western has a grade 10 Concert Band, a Grade 11 Symphonic Band, a Grade 12 Wind Ensemble, a Junior Jazz Band, a Senior Jazz Band and two Jazz Combo's. Students who wish to enroll in the jazz band program must also enroll in the concert band program.



At Western all performing ensembles are 5 credit courses. *All performing groups rehearse outside of the regular timetable.* Please come see Mr. Hagan or Mr. Harding in the Band room and we can help you get registered.

Band 10AM and Band 15AM students: The first class will be held on Friday September 9th at 7:15am in the Band Room.

Students interested in the Jr. Jazz Band: The first meeting will be held on Monday September 12th after school in the Band Room.

All grade 10, 11 and 12 Concert Bands along with the Junior and Senior Jazz Bands will be starting up in September. Please see the start-up dates on our website: www.westerncanadafinearts.com

There will be a very important Music Program Kick-Off Meeting for Students on **Friday September 9th at 1:30pm in the Theatre. This meeting is for all students that are enrolled or interested in enrolling in the music program.** We would like to invite you to come out and be a part of our vibrant Band Program. If you have any questions about the Band Program or how to get enrolled, please contact Mr. Hagan at behagan@cbe.ab.ca

CHORAL:

Western has long been known for its outstanding Choral programs. If you have never had the opportunity to sing in a group before, and are interested in developing some vocal and ensemble skills, come and find out more about these programs. The Festival Chorus is Western's amazing female choral ensemble. We want to encourage all Grade 10 female students to register regardless of previous experience – no singing experience is necessary. This is an excellent opportunity to get introduced to the choral program at Western. The Mixed Choir would like to encourage MALE singers in grade 10, 11, and 12 to become a part of this group. If you are a guy who has an interest in singing now is the time to join - no singing experience necessary. Both groups are five credit courses and both run for the full year. Female students in the Festival chorus are eligible for the Mixed Choir after their first year at Western. For more information about the Festival Chorus or Mixed Choir, please contact Ms. Reinhardt at sjreinhardt@cbe.ab.ca

The Vocal Jazz Ensemble has had auditions and is set for the 2016-2017 season. Rehearsals for this group will start on Monday September 12th. The Mixed Choir will be beginning sessions on Friday September 9th. The Festival Chorus will be starting up in September commencing with the kick off music meeting on Friday September 9th right after school in the theatre.

FEES: COLLECTED WITH ALL OTHER SCHOOL FEES:

Band Music Enhancement \$250.00 per student (clinics, festivals, workshops and local transportation). All Music Students in Band are required to pay this usage fee.

Choral Music Enhancement \$ 100.00 per student (clinics, festivals, workshops and local transportation). All Music Students in Choral are required to pay this usage fee.

FEES THAT ARE COLLECTED BY THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT SEPARATELY:

- **Instrument Rental** (If needed): **\$100.00**

IMPORTANT: If you are new to western (or old) and currently don't have **band** or **choir** in your schedule, but would like to get involved, **there is still time to register.** One of the very unique things about the music program at Western is that students have the ability to enroll in AM/PM course blocks for Music when they have a full timetable. Please come and see Mr. Hagan in the band room if you have any questions or e-mail: Mr. Hagan behagan@cbe.ab.ca

STUDENT MUSIC MEETING (all interested and currently enrolled students)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9th, 2016

IMMEDIATELY AFTER SCHOOL – THEATRE





There will also be two very important music meetings in September. Please note the two dates below for the separate Choir Parent and Band Parent meetings. We will be discussing activities for the year and answering any questions you might have. Please join us.

CHOIR PARENT MEETING
Thursday September 22nd, 2016
7:30PM – THEATRE

BAND PARENT MEETING
Wednesday September 28th, 2016
7:30PM – MAIN GYM

*****FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ANY OF OUR FINE AND PERFORMING ARTS PROGRAMS PLEASE VISIT OUR FINE ARTS WEBSITE AT:**

www.westerncanadafinearts.com

Or go to the Western Canada High School Home Page and click on “Fine Arts”.

WCHS School Council Chair’s Report

First we would like to thank our remarkable Principal, Mr. Martin Poirier, and his team of leaders, including the administrators and office staff, teachers and coaches for the outstanding job they do to help and inspire our students’ day in and day out. They are ever giving of themselves to create an enriched environment for each and every Western Canada High School student.

We would also like to thank all the members and volunteers of our School Council for their efforts and team work over this past year. Together we enhanced student life, kept parents connected to our school and were a bridge between our parent community and administration. We offered updates to parents and opportunities for them to share their thoughts and ideas throughout the school year facilitating insight into student life at Western and providing a platform for parental input. Our goal is to stay connected, to keep our parent community current with school news and activities and to add value to our parent community with regular open school council meetings for our parents. We also included important information in the automated weekly administrative updates and posted updates and CBE information on our School Council page and blog on the WCHS website.

Some of the highlights of the 2015 – 2016 year for the School Council were:

- Purchase of additional cafeteria chairs
- Purchase of benches for students located in hallways
- Approval to financially support another water bottle filling station
- Support of Staff Appreciation Days which were additionally enhanced by countless parents who decorated the staff room and provided an abundance of snacks and treats each day
- School Council resources facilitated the purchase of all the student agendas
- School Council resources supported CALM classroom activities and guest speakers
- School Council provided seed money for initial startup of the newly formed and student lead WCHS Student Cultural Club which celebrates, educates and highlights the amazing cultural diversity of our student body
- School Council facilitated calming meditation practices with certified instructors before stressful June exams



School council special presentations included:

- In September we hosted Career Night with Ms. Heidi Lund
- November was our AGM and we had a presentation about post-secondary planning and scholarships
- In January we had a presentation on Teen Sleep by Mary MacLeod
- In March we hosted Dr. Tom Keenan, author and professor at the University of Calgary on internet perils
- In May, the topic was 'All things Grad' with a presentation by our AP Cheryl McKelvie with details about WCHS graduation day ceremonies and a presentation by defence lawyer, Don MacLeod on managing the risk of grad parties.

We look forward to seeing you again in the fall at our first School Council meeting **Tuesday, September 27th, 7:00 to 9:00 pm in the WCHS Library**. You won't want to miss this opportunity to hear about **Scholarships and University Applications**. We are hosting this prior to the **Post-Secondary Fair** scheduled for October so both parents and students are informed and able to ask questions in October of the University representatives.

Have a safe and wonderful summer!

Arzmond Teja and Mary MacLeod
Co-Chairs WCHS School Council

Working together, the School and School Council foster an effective, supportive and progressive learning environment in which all students can aspire to achieve their potential.