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ACADEMY  
Any Time. Any Place.



[www.northstaracademycanada.org](http://www.northstaracademycanada.org)

FEBRUARY 2016

I Believe...

*"Now faith is being sure  
of what we hope for and  
certain of what we  
do not see."*

*Hebrews 11:1*

## Principal's Message



With all the attention Bill 10 and gender identity issues have been receiving of late I hope that you are not feeling anxious about what your children will be experiencing with NorthStar Academy. At the heart of this legislation is a desire for all students to be accepted, cared for and supported at school. This is a goal that we at NSA are completely in agreement with. In fact, our school safety data from the Accountability Pillar Survey and our conversations with parents indicate that NSA is doing exceptionally well in this area. Our students feel cared for and accepted. However, there is work yet to do as our students, as well as many of us adults, are anxious about things that are unfamiliar, particularly if we don't understand them. This is certainly true of gender dysphoria for many of us have little knowledge of this condition.

The Golden Hills School Board is responding to the request of the province in relation to Bill 10 to submit a code of conduct policy that addresses potential bullying issues. Since NSA operates under the Golden Hills school board, this policy will form the framework for how we deal with gender identity issues. This wise and practically minded group of leaders, including our superintendent, have set a policy that will care for the needs of marginalized students and continue to support the safety and wellbeing of all of our kids. As soon as the document, Administrative Procedure 350, is finalized I will share it with you. Under this framework NorthStar Academy will continue to support all of our students from a Biblical worldview perspective as they work through any challenges they face, in partnership with parents, whether those challenges be large or small.

While students in our school do not have to be concerned about who they are sharing a wash-room with, this may not be the case in other locations in the province. We need to be in prayer that provincial leaders will hear the voices of the large numbers of people who are asking them to return to a common sense approach to supporting students with gender identity issues. There are schools and organizations that are preparing for a possible legal battle on the basis of religious freedom and the right of parents to educate their children in ways that fit their worldview, but let's pray for changed hearts over legal victories.

*Randy Wood, Principal*





## **KERRY WOOD NATURE CENTER OUTING**

We kicked the New Year off with some awesome fitness activities for the month of January. We were blessed with a beautiful warm day as we ventured to the Kerry Wood Nature Center to snowshoe, and participate in nature and planetarium lessons. Students and adults alike learned and had fun together in the Lord's natural world.

## **NAKISKA SKI OUTING**

On January 27th, we had a group of 40 people head up to Nakiska ski resort for a day of skiing, snowboarding and fellowship. There was a lot of learning and laughter happening, especially on the bunny hill. I imagine there were a few sore muscles the next day, but much fun was had by all. Thanks to those of you who joined us. I look forward to doing this again next year.

## **LEDUC RECREATION OUTING**

We also gathered at the Leduc Rec Center for soccer, basketball, skating, and swimming. We made new friends and had fun learning the fastest way to go down the water slide. Thank you to all who came out and participated in these days, we loved being in community with you!



# Activity Days for Southern AB

**\*\* REGISTER BY EMAILING \*\***

**activityday@nsaschool.ca or call the NSA office at 1 877 335 1171**

**Spaces fill up quickly!!!**

**February 10 Workshop Wednesday, Evidence and Investigation Science lesson (Gr 6 science) -NSA office in Didsbury**

**February 12 Calgary Philharmonic-Calgary, AB**

**February 24 Workshop Wednesday, Math tutoring day-NSA office in Didsbury**

**March 3 Virtual Amazing Race-online**

**March 11-13 Weekend Retreat-Pioneer Camp, Sundre AB (full)**



## Activity Days for Northern AB

**\*\* REGISTER BY EMAILING \*\***

**activityday@nsaschool.ca or call the NSA office at 1 877 335 1171**

**Spaces fill up quickly!!!**

**February 19 Edmonton Symphony Orchestra and Launch Pad Trampoline  
Park-Edmonton, AB**

**March 2 History Day-Bethel Pentecostal Church, Edson AB**

**March 3 Virtual Amazing Race-online**

**March 24 Reynolds Alberta Museum-Wetaskiwin, AB**



If you are a NSA student in grades 10-12 and are interested in joining, please email Roberta for more information at [roberta.onyschtschuk@myghsd.ca](mailto:roberta.onyschtschuk@myghsd.ca)

**Saturday, February 20th - snow tubing at Canyon ski hill in Red Deer**

what: 2 hours of tubing followed by food in the lodge

time: 1:30 to 5

cost: we pay for 2 hours of tubing, you bring money for food

**Friday, April 8th - Escape City Edmonton**

what: escape rooms with 6 people in each room solving a puzzle, followed by pizza at Boston Pizza down the street

time :6-9ish

cost:\$10

**Friday April 29th - Deer Valley Meadows one day retreat**

what: a one day retreat with team building, zipline or rock climbing, lunch, games or hike

time: 10-3

cost: none

**Friday May 20th - Glow bowling in Airdrie**

what: bowling for 2 hours, go out for snacks after

time: 4:30-8ish

cost: we pay for bowling, you pay for food after

**Saturday June 11th - Graduation**

Come out and support your graduates.

These are all going to be fun events that are great for making friends and building relationships. We highly recommend that you attend any (or all) that you can.

Email me at [roberta.onyschtschuk@myghsd.ca](mailto:roberta.onyschtschuk@myghsd.ca) to sign up for activities now. Deadline for tubing sign up is Friday, February 5th.



**We are going to be exhibiting at some Alberta Events!  
Come and see us!**

**Edmonton Mission Fest– February 19-21, Booth E1**

At West Edmonton Christian Assembly

**Calgary Home and Garden– February 25-28, Booth C27**

At the BMO Center, Stampede Park

**Medicine Hat Sunshine Home and Garden Show**

**March 4-6, Booth 253**

Cypress Center Medicine Hat

