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### 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

### Bible Memory

February: "I Believe.."

1 John 5:1-6

1 Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves the father loves his child as well.

2 This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands.

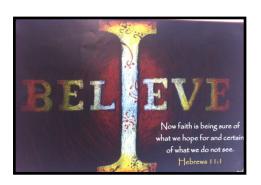
3 This is love for God: to obey his commands. And his commands are not burdensome,

4 for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith.

5 Who is it that overcomes the world? Only he who believes that Jesus is the Son of

God.

6 This is the one who came by water and blood--Jesus Christ. He did not come by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth.



This is open to all IL, online, and traditional program students. It is **optional**, and students and parents/supervisors can decide the extent of your involvement together. I know there are some students that want to do Bible Memory, but don't have a Bible Memory program in their curriculum, or love it so much that they want to do extra, so here is one you can use!

### ~Ideas for Valentines!!~

http://www.activityvillage.co.uk/valentines-day-crafts

http://www.parenting.com/gallery/valentines-day-ideas-kids

http://www.wikihow.com/Make-%22I-Love-You%22-in-Sign-Language (how to say I love you in sign language)

#### **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)

## NorthStar Picture Gallary









## **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

### 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 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!

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**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** 

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