



SPARTAN SPOTLIGHT

Dartmouth High's newsletter featuring the latest news, info and highlights.

From the Principal's Desk:

Mes Chers Amis

Eh bien, le mois d'avril est arrivé! Je profite de cette occasion de féliciter notre communauté scolaire qui continue à prendre des mesures nécessaires afin de s'assurer la sécurité et de la bonne santé de tout le monde. We will continue to adhere to Public Health protocols as they unfold. It is wonderful to see life in general slowly taking back some semblance of normalcy as we continue to navigate our way through what might be the tail end of the pandemic. We recently had a noon hour extracurricular activity, and it was so refreshing to see students and staff interacting in ways that brought back memories of what school life was like pre-Covid-19. Thanks to everyone working together, brighter days are ahead!

Working our way through the second semester, this is the time of year when we turn our attention to the planning of year-end activities; we are grateful that we have been able to do so in our usual fashion when we held a grade 12 assembly last week to discuss post-secondary options, as well as, end of the year activities for our graduating class. Student Services, Admin and Mrs. Nadine Grimm (Parent and Community Prom Organizer) addressed the potential grad class. This was our first assembly since the first part of the school year due to Covid-19 protocols. Our grade 12's have missed out on so much due to the pandemic!



This was acknowledged at the assembly and the graduates were encouraged to finish strong. We had a very encouraging session, the excitement and enthusiasm felt were very encouraging. Please email Mrs. Nadine Grimm directly ngrimm1221@gmail.com for questions or concerns relating to the Community Prom.

We are grateful for the trust and confidence you have placed in the DHS administration and staff. The show of support and partnership from families have served as a source of positive energy that impact on the many decisions that are being made to support our students during this time. We are asking for your continued support by encouraging and supporting your child to take advantage of learning opportunities that are available to them. Please do not hesitate to reach out to teachers on behalf of your child if they need assistance. Stay safe and stay healthy!

~E. Monard, Principal



upcoming DATES

April 15th & 18th
Easter Weekend
~No Classes~

April 26th
Mid-term Reports

April 28th
Parent Teacher Interviews
~No Classes~

May 16th
SAC Meeting

May 23rd
Victoria Day
~No Classes~

June 20th
Exams Begin

June 28th & 29th
Assessment & Evaluation
~No Classes~

June 29th
Grade 12 Graduation

June 30th
Last Day of School
~No Classes~

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Parent-Teacher Conference

Parent-Teacher Interviews for second semester will take place on **April 28, 2022**. This will be a hybrid model to ease comfort level for all concerned. There will be a choice of **in-person meetings or telephone conferencing from 1-3 p.m.** and from **4-6 p.m., there will be telephone conferencing**. Please note that masks are required for the in-person meeting. Hand sanitizer will be available upon entering the building. You will be able to sign up on the Google form a week ahead of schedule beginning on April 21. To maximize your appointment timeframe, we would ask that you give some thought to what you would like to address specifically with your child's teacher ahead of time. If you require a longer timeframe, please send an email to the specific teacher with your request. Thank you in advance for your collaboration and we look forward to discussing your child's progress with you.



Communication

It is imperative that we keep the lines of communication open during this critical time. We are strongly encouraging two-way communication between parents/guardians and individual teachers. Teachers are accessible via email and will have phone conversations as required. Note that we use multiple ways to communicate information, including Twitter, DHS App (Android or Apple devices), DHS Website and our Swift K12 system, mass emails or phone messages depending on the information we need to get out to the entire school, or grade levels. We will continue to post Newsletters on the school's website regularly.



SAC Meeting

A SAC meeting was held via Zoom on **April 4th, 2021 @ 5:30 p.m.** The meetings are open to parents and members of the Dartmouth High School community on a drop-in basis. However, if you are interested in becoming a member, please reach out to us. A membership allows you to provide input on policies, decision-making and keeps you informed with what is going on at the school. Please see our website for meeting Minutes. Our final meeting for the 2021-22 school year will be held on **Monday May 16th, 2022 @ 5:30 PM** via Zoom.

Student Supports

This period of uncertainty and changes to your child's daily routines and social interactions can increase stress levels, impacting on students' mental health and emotional well-being. Please do not hesitate to reach out to the school administration, social worker, guidance counsellors, or our Schools Plus staff. There are also community agencies who will work remotely to support students, via *teleconferencing*. There are many resources to support our students, and we will do our best to offer assistance and support in whatever way we can.

Exams

DHS Final Exams

Final exams (NSE or teacher-made) are scheduled **June 20-27th** inclusive. We are no longer in a position to offer exam exemptions as the exam exemption policy is defunct. Grade 10 English students will write the **Provincial English 10 exam on June 21** and **Math 10 Academic students will write on June 22.**

Moving forward, it is important that all students focus on completing all assignments, tests, etc. If students are absent for any reason, it is important that they maintain ongoing communication with their teachers. There is plenty of time left in the school year to improve or enhance final marks. Parents are encouraged to log into PowerSchool to monitor their child's progress and attendance.

Advanced Placement (AP) Exams

The College Board has scheduled AP in-person exams for May **2,4,6,12 & 13**. We are working on the logistics and look forward to supporting our AP students who are taking advantage of this unique exam opportunity. AP teachers have been busy offering students extra review and exam preparation sessions. Good luck to our AP students!

OPI exams

Though participation in the Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) assessment is optional for our FLA 12 students, it is highly recommended. The OPI assessment replaced the DELF assessment that was being offered to our FLA 12 students prior to the Covid-19 pandemic. The OPI is an international assessment which measures students' ability to communicate in French across a range of functional speaking proficiencies. As a proficiency-based assessment, it is designed to assess spontaneous and unrehearsed language abilities that students would have developed and practiced over the course of their immersion in the French language. As a French Immersion student, obtaining the OPI certification is advantageous when applying for admission to university, college or for certain career opportunities with the government or private sector. In short, it looks great on your resume!



Grade 12 Closing Activities

- The graduation ceremony will take place at the **Zatzman Sportsplex on June 29th at 9:00 a.m.**
- When we met with the grade 12s last week, we requested gown sizes via Google form by Tuesday, April 5. We will be ordering the gowns, caps, V-stole and the 2022 insignia.
- The graduating class has voted and expressed a strong desire for a Grad BBQ as opposed to the traditional Grad Breakfast. We are in the process of planning this with staff.
- Save the date grads! During the morning of June 17th we are organizing some special activities for our grade 12s. Over the lunch break students will have the opportunity to socialize at a Grad BBQ. The Goodbye Grad assembly is scheduled for the afternoon. Stay tuned, there's more information coming.
- For information on the Community Prom, please email Prom organizer and parent, Mrs. Nadine Grimm ngrimm1221@gmail.com

COURSE SELECTION

The course selection process is almost completed for our incoming grade 10s, and we are looking forward to welcoming grade 9s and 10s from our feeder schools. For the Grade 8s coming from DSA to Grade 9, the process is smooth as student information is transferred electronically and the grade 9 program is pre-structured. An in-person orientation to the school is scheduled on June 10th from 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Public Health protocols will be adhered to as stipulated at that time. We are looking forward to welcoming our grade 9s next year.

We are also well underway with the course selection process for our DHS grades 10s going to 11 and for our grade 11s going to grade 12. Please consult the DHS website or email your guidance counsellor if you require assistance or if you have further questions and concerns.

New courses next year:

- ✚ AP Art History 12
- ✚ AP Computer Science 12
- ✚ English 11 Adv. (AP Seminar)
- ✚ Service Trades 10 (Culinary Arts)
- ✚ Inquiry Math 10 (Replacement course for both Mathematics Essentials 10 and Mathematics at Work 10)

We continue to offer AP Micro-economics 12, AP English 12, AP Chemistry 12, AP Physics (1) 11 & Ap Physics (2) 12.

Yearbook

The yearbook staff is busy chipping away at the 2021-2022 **Yearbook**. Sales are up for this edition. Your DHS yearbook is a nice way of capturing memories from your high school experience. It provides students with an opportunity to reflect on special shared moments and thoughts of yesteryear. We have captured many special activities highlighting the Spartan Spirit here at DHS.



Academic Recognition Awards

DHS is always delighted to recognize hard-working deserving students. However, since the pandemic began, we have not issued award certificates for semesters with extended online learning periods as it was felt that this may not be advantageous for students who struggled with on-line learning. To recognize students for semester one of 2021-2022, award certificates were issued to homeroom teachers on Tuesday, April 2 for students who qualify for an award based on the following criteria: students with an average in the range of 70-79% received an Academic Merit certificate; 80-89% received an Academic Distinction certificate; and 90-100% received a Principal's List certificate. Hopefully, we have not missed anyone. If you feel your child fell within one of the aforementioned average ranges, and did not receive a certificate, please do not hesitate to contact me. The certificates were issued to students for their academic performance for the first semester of this school year (2021-2022).

