



February 2025

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Feb 7 – Power Awards
Assembly 2:15**

Feb 12 – Hot Lunch

**Feb 14 – Valentine’s
Day**

**Feb 17–Feb 22 – Winter
Break (No School)**

Feb 25 – Hot Lunch

**Feb 26 – Pink Shirt
Day**

**Feb 28 – March Hot
Lunch Orders Due by
10AM**

Coming Up....

**March 7– No School
(Collab day)**

March 12 – Hot Lunch

**March 19&20 –
Parent/Teacher
Interviews**

**March 21 – No School
(Collab day)**

March 25 – Hot Lunch

PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

As we reach the halfway point of our school year, we are reminded of the incredible efforts of our staff, students, and community. Thank you all for your continued dedication and contributions. A special note of appreciation goes to our amazing parents who volunteer their time with our school council. Their involvement provides invaluable feedback on new initiatives, events, and school communication. This perspective helps us make meaningful improvements and better serve our students.

Our school council also plays a pivotal role in creating enriched learning opportunities by organizing and supporting fundraising efforts. Thanks to their hard work and the generosity of our community, we have been able to achieve many great things this year, including:

- Covering the costs of bussing for field trips.
- Welcoming Mackenzie Brown to enhance our Indigenous education by creating beautiful art for our school and presenting it to our students.
- Purchasing new equipment for our physical education program.
- Acquiring a shed for loose parts play.
- Supporting our rebranding process, which includes our new logo and mascots, Jessie and Duncan. Every student at Jessie Duncan Elementary received a shirt as part of this initiative!
- Hosting Pound It Studios, who worked with students in January. Due to its overwhelming success, we are excited to welcome them back for a full week in March.
- Adding Gaga Ball pits to our school grounds, which have quickly become a favorite among our students.

Farm Safety Program

Ray Hoppins, our former associate superintendent, was at JDES on January 24th and 27th and delivered the Farm Safety Program. This initiative introduces age-appropriate farm safety topics, including:

- Safe play areas
- Water and ice safety
- Quad and dirt bike safety
- Machinery and livestock safety
- Hearing safety
- Personal responsibility

We are excited to host educational presentations in the coming weeks:

No Secrets Presentation In February, we welcome the Central Alberta Sexual Assault Support Centre back for their "No Secrets" presentation. This program is tailored for children in Pre-K through Grade 3 and focuses on personal safety as a preventive skill against child sexual abuse. Topics include:

- Public vs. private: treating public and private things with kindness.
- Body awareness: understanding private parts (including correct names).
- Personal autonomy: learning that bodies are private, and children have the right to decide if they want to give a hug or a high-five.
- Safe and unsafe touching.
- Safe and unsafe secrets.
- Personal safety rules: "Say no, go, and tell a trusted adult."
- Boundaries: reinforcing that no one should look at, touch, or take pictures of our bodies without permission.
- Safety network: identifying trusted adults children can turn to for help.

Please note that this presentation does not involve discussions about child sexual abuse, sexual violence, or sexual health education. It is also not connected to lessons or concepts in the SOGI curriculum. Parents with questions or concerns about the "No Secrets" presentation can reach out to their child's teacher, school administration, or the CASASC Education Team at education@casasc.ca.

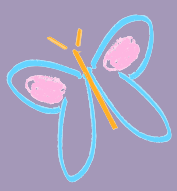
Thank you for your continued support and commitment to making Jessie Duncan Elementary a wonderful place for learning and growth. Together, we make a difference!

Mrs. Dillabough (AKA the Fun One)

As retirement draws near, let us raise our voices in celebration of an exceptionally remarkable vice principal! Her radiant joy and golden heart have illuminated our community like a cascade of shimmering fireworks! Both staff and students will undoubtedly feel the void she leaves in her wake—her presence (and smile) will be profoundly missed! Thank you for all that you have done for JDES ♡



welcome to kindergarten



2025-2026



Kindergarten registration for the 2025-2026 School year is now open
Please check www.cesd73.ca for more information

<https://www.cesd73.ca/programs/early-childhood-services>



Pre-Kindergarten builds children's strengths and skills in a playful, language-rich environment.

- Learn to express themselves, share, and problem-solve
- Improve communication and motor skills through specific intervention, exploration, and guided activities
- Build social skills and confidence in a playful and welcoming environment
- Discover new experiences, friends, and a love of learning

To learn more about our program please visit:
<https://www.jessieduncan.ca/about/pre-kindergarten-report>

**Please call the school if you wish to apply for our Pre-K program
403-886-2233**



**Thank you Mr. Hoppins,
Farm Safety was a huge hit**



*Jessie Duncan
Parent Society*

*Happy
Valentine's
Day*

NEXT PARENT COUNCIL
MEETING FEBRUARY 12TH
@ 6PM
All Parents Welcome!

**COUNCIL
CORNER**

Jessie Duncan Parent Society

**Meat Draw
Volunteers
Needed!**

February 7th, 2025

**MEAT DRAW PROCEEDS
GO TOWARDS JDES
IMPROVEMENTS &
STUDENT ENRICHMENT
ACTIVITIES**

**MEAT DRAWS ARE ON FRIDAYS
@ THE PENHOLDER TAVERN
4 VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR EACH DRAW
HOURS 6:45 PM- 8:45PM**

Please contact jdschoolcouncil@gmail.com
FOR MORE INFO OR TO SIGN UP

CURRENT FUNDRAISERS



DISCOUNT CARD FUNDRAISER



Penhold Elementary Schools
(PES & JDES) fundraiser
supporting the new Waskasoo
Middle School Playground!

**\$20/CARD TONS
OF SAVINGS!**

Reusable offers
+ 19 break off coupons
offering extreme discounts!

GET YOUR CARD BEFORE THEY SELL OUT!

For more info, or to order: jdschoolcouncil@gmail.com

ORDER FORMS HAVE BEEN SENT HOME

Reminder:

- Order forms must be submitted with your payment!
- Please send **ONE** payment per order form

THANK YOU!

Jessie Duncan
Parent Society



GET YOUR TICKETS FOR THE 3RD ANNUAL LOVE BUG BOOGIE!

JESSIE DUNCAN PARENT SOCIETY PRESENTS

LOVE BUG BOOGIE

FEBRUARY 15
PENHOLD MULTIPLEX
FAMILY DANCE

2:00PM - 5:00PM



\$5 PER PERSON
ONLINE PURCHASE ONLY LINK BELOW
(UNDER 1 FREE)



EAT



DANCE



50/50



ONLINE PURCHASE ONLY

JESSE-DUNCAN-PARENT-SOCIETY.TICKETLEAP.COM/LBB25

JDES SCHOOL COUNCIL & PARENT SOCIETY



THE 2024-2025 JDES PARENT COUNCIL (SCHOOL COUNCIL & PARENT SOCIETY)

**FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: LAURIN LEVICK (PS DIRECTOR),
BRANDI FILIPCHUK (PS PRESIDENT), LAURA GILLAM (SC CHAIR/ PS
DIRECTOR), AMBER REGNIER (SC VICE CHAIR/ PS DIRECTOR),
MYRANDA RADOMSKE (SC/ PS SECRETARY),
ASHLEY WINGIE (PS DIRECTOR).**

**JOINING US VIRTUALLY: WILL LANGLOIS (PS VICE-PRESIDENT)
MISSING: ELLEN FREAKE (PS TREASURER).**