



December 2014/January 2015



# HILLTOP HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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VOLUME 6, ISSUE 4/5



*It is Christmas in the heart that puts Christmas in the air. ~ W.T. Ellis*

## Message from the Principal



### Welcome to Winter!

It's hard to believe it's already December and we are moving into the last part of the semester; there are only five weeks of classes until final exams begin. It's important for students to keep on top of their studies and assignments as there is plenty of opportunity to have a successful semester. Use your FLEX Blocks to ensure you are caught up on all your assignments and to prepare for your exams.

We're sure that you noticed the change in our report card format when they went out November 17<sup>th</sup>. This new format is a result of the change in our computer program from SIRs to PowerSchool. We are aware that there were some glitches that made some parts of the report card less user friendly. Currently, we are working on streamlining this so that the resulting statement of attendance, comments and marks is clear and easy to follow. If you have any comments or concerns about this document, please feel free to contact Ms. Cheryl Otto here at the school. One of the benefits of our programming switch is the opportunity for you to be able to access ParentPortal. Once this part of the program is up and running, parents and students will have live access to marks and attendance by logging on through the internet. Watch for information in this newsletter, on the new web page (address listed above), and through Remind and phone fan-outs

about an information meeting on how to use this portal. We appreciate both your patience and feedback as we work this through.

We've had a tremendously successful fall with our extra-curricular programs. Our Junior Girls' Volleyball Team won Zones and the GCAA Tournament. Congratulations! Our Senior Girls' and Boys' Volleyball Teams participated in a number of tournaments and did very well with the Boys coming in first in the League. Great job! We are also immensely proud of our CATS Football Team who travelled to Lethbridge for Provincials where they were Silver Medalists. Way to go! We are proud of all of our teams and players, and grateful to all our coaches. Participation in extra-curricular activities provides students with excellent opportunities for personal growth and development. They learn how to participate as members of teams and all the roles, responsibilities and social skills that entails. Thanks to our students for coming out and to our parents for supporting our students and our school! Merry Christmas; enjoy spending time with family and friends over the Holidays. We'll see you in the New Year.

Egbert Stang  
Principal

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### Special points of interest:

- Grad Photos Dec. 3/4/5
- Drama Production December 4 & 5
- Food Bank Drive December 2-18
- First day of classes ~ January 5
- FOH Meeting January 21  
7 PM - Conference Room



### Grad Photos

December 3rd, 4th and 5th, 2014

(\$20.00 Sitting Fee)

**NO School** for students on Friday, January 30th, PD Day & Semester Break.



To All Parents of Hilltop Students  
From Friends of Hilltop Parent Council

The FOH will be holding a STAFF APPRECIATION LUNCH, on Tuesday, December 9, during the lunch hour. **Donations and volunteers** are needed, and if you are able to help out please contact Marilyn at 706-2707.

Congratulation to the Whitecourt Cats on their Provincial qualification-Way to go guys as you certainly made us proud!!

Don't forget the IGA vouchers available at Hilltop office and Remax-these make great gifts and are available in small denominations for the Christmas season. The food bank also appreciates valuable donations at this time of year. Your parent account will continue to grow, while you share your generosity this season.

**Sharing is caring** Show someone less fortunate how much you care this Holiday Season!!

**MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE!**

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call any of the FOH committee members listed below.

Marilyn Roach 780.706.2707

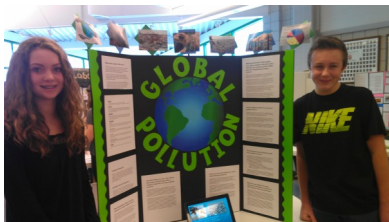
Kim Tschigerl 780.648.2291

Kim Nendsa

Trish Gilmore



**GRADE 9 GLOBAL CONCERNS PROJECT**



On November 12, three grade nine classes, 9-1, 9-4, and 9-5 – began a project that was inspired and created by three teachers —Ms. Mehl, Ms. Keay and Ms. Koudelka. This project was created to prototype the new LA and Social curriculums that are being developed in Alberta . With the help of Ms. Damery, from Northern Gateway’s School Division’s leadership team, the teachers were able to plan a cross curricular project that focused on the students collaborating, developing critical thinking skills, becoming familiar with cross-curricular competencies and working towards Alberta Education’s goal of becoming ethical, engaged and entrepreneurial students.

The students learned what a perspective was and how perspectives differ depending on a person’s physical and human geography and access to technology. The students then explored a variety of global issues that were presented to them with the intent of narrowing the topics down to one they connected with. Once they had established a global issue that they wanted to further understand, the continued their research in depth to completely explore and understand that issue. Once they explored the topic’s background information and they were able to develop and articulate two differing perspectives on this global concern, they were ready to create a way to communicate their findings to the public.

On Tuesday, November 25, the projects culminated with a gallery walk where all projects, covering a variety of global concerns, were presented to the school and to the public. In order to establish which global issues were seen as most important, visitors were given “Hilltop Currency” to vote for which global concerns warranted more of their dollars.

Once students returned to their regular classes, they were taught business letter writing skills and had to write a business letter to the Prime Minister about why their global issue is in fact an issue and what our federal government could do to help with this global concern.

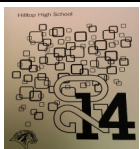
We were very proud of the students! They worked hard and were able to think in a creative and innovative manner. Furthermore, they were able to see how people and governments have different perspectives on the same topic. The students were engaged and were able to learn in a manner that was quite different from their everyday classes. We look forward to hearing how the students responded to this innovative teaching method and cross curricular project. We are sure that they will have many suggestions about how to improve this method and how Alberta Education can move forward with curriculum design in the future.



**YEARBOOK REMINDER**

If you are a **2014 Graduate**, your yearbook is now available at the Front office. Please have a parent/sibling/friend pick up your yearbook if you are unable to do so.

*Thank you!*





# take our kids to work™

Hilltop High School would like to thank the following businesses, organizations and agencies for hosting our grade nine students on **"Take Our Kids to Work"** Day, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Hilltop High School strives to ensure that all students obtain the classes and experiences for academic success and career readiness ~ a mission we achieve with support from our community.

780 Energy Services	Northwell
Acklands Grainger	Orion Environmental
AJ Eats & Treats	Pat Hardy School
Alberta Health Services	Pengrowth Energy Corp.
Alberta Newsprint Company	Percy Baxter School
Allan Greenwood's Farm	Poplar Ridge Ranch
Allrite Refrigeration & A/C	Prairie Oilfield Contracting
Amerispec Home Inspection Services	Pro Foxx Energy Services, Fox Creek
Aquarius Beauty Boutique	Santosa Yoga Studio
Baker Hughes	Schlumberger
Bev & Ernest Underwood's Farm	Soban Restaurant
Blue Ridge Lumber	Sparkle Me Up Nail Salon
Brendale Shop	Spruceland Ford
Canada Bread Franchise	St. Mary's School
Castro Oilfield Services	Standard General Inc.
Central School	Tangl's Hair Salon
City Slickers Hair	Town of Whitecourt
Conoco Philips	Trican Well Service
Crescent Point Energy	Veteran Oilfield
Cultured Stone Studio	Walmart
Eagle River Chrysler	Wescat
Greencourt Honey Shop	West Point Energy Services
Hilltop Vet Clinic	Western Budget Motel
Jodan Electrical	Whitecourt Boys and Girls Club
Klash Auto Body	Whitecourt Hospital
Life Medical Clinic	Whitecourt Power
Long Run Exploration	Whitecourt Public Library
Max Fuel Distributors	Whitecourt Teen Centre
Mayerthorpe Vet Clinic	Whitecourt Transport
Merle Norman	Whitecourt Veterinarian Clinic
Millar Western Forest Products	Whitecourt Wolverines
Mountain Gear	Woodlands County

## STOREFRONT SCHOOL



Time sure is flying by!! We are gearing up for another busy month at Storefront.

We will be celebrating Christmas in a number of ways at Storefront. Staff and students will be hosting a Traditional Christmas Luncheon with turkey and all the trimmings on Tuesday, December 2, 2014 at 12:30pm. We will be celebrating the 12 days of Christmas where students can win gifts by finding the clue and answering a curriculum related skill testing question. The students will be picking up their baking skills a notch by baking Christmas treats to share at the Christmas Luncheon.

Students who want to earn Foods credits are reminded to sign up for a Tuesday of their choice. Students will be required to provide a recipe and ingredient list prior to their scheduled cooking day.

The students and staff would like to send a BIG THANK YOU to Tara Baker and the Community Lunch Box Program for providing the students with snacks, juice boxes and hot meals.

The Swamp the Teacher winners for October were Rebecca Carriere, Katherine Newton and Holden Commandeur. Each student won a Walmart Gift Card.

The staff at Storefront would like to remind students to make sure they keep within course timelines so they can earn credits in their respective courses. Remember to pass in your course work in a timely manner. The deadline for submission of work for diploma courses or for students who are required to take the next level of a particular course in semester two will be Jan 6, 2015, where the finals should be completed by January 8, 2015.



Storefront Hours:  
Monday ~ Thursday 8:30 am - 3:30  
Phone 780.778.5865

### Lost & Found

We have several items of clothing (that is washed), footwear, eye glasses, keys & misc. objects that can be claimed in Student Services.

If you have lost anything, please check with the staff, as it may have been turned into the school.

In the past, we took items to the Repeat Boutique. However, we feel the need within our school community, to have these items available to our students

here at Hilltop. Please encourage your child to check the lost & found for any of their items.



### GCAA league championships

Congratulation to the Sr. Boys Volleyball team from Hilltop.

The boys team remained undefeated this season in League play. The Chargers Boys team played the finals against Onoway Mustangs and closed out the league schedule with a 25-17, 25-17 win over the Mustangs last night.





On behalf of Theatre Alberta, Arts Touring Alliance of Alberta, and Fringe Theatre Adventures, I would like to thank the Whitecourt & Woodlands Arts Society, the Pumpjack Players, and Hilltop High School for hosting the inaugural production of the Picks of the Edmonton Fringe theatre touring

project: *McCrackin 2: The Whackining* by Amos Altman, produced by the Accidental Humour Co.

We were so pleased to come to Whitecourt and have the Accidental Humour Co. perform there; yours is exactly the kind of community for which this stimulus project was designed and it seemed fitting that a Theatre Alberta member organization was also involved in presenting this work. The performance went off without a hitch and was well-received by the audience! The next production will be *(The Bomb-itty of Errors* in April).

Thanks again,

Aaron Talbot  
Communications and Marketing Coordinator



**Grade 10's Teach Grade 2s!**

Miss Deacon's grade ten Physical Education class invited a grade two class from Pat Hardy to Hilltop to teach them a game! The class taught the grade two's Belly Baseball and had a great time hanging out and being physically active with a buddy! All ages had a great time!

**DQ CLASSIC**

Basketball season has started and the Senior Girls and Boys will be hosting a tournament on December 12 and 13<sup>th</sup>. Come cheer on the Chargers!

**Artist of the Month**

Jessie Aginas has proven herself to be a very talented artist. Her "Wolf" ink drawing highlighted the intricacy of her design work, while her "Coy Fish" showcased her painting technique. With each piece of work she shows a new aspect of her abilities and pushes herself outside of her comfort zone.

Congratulations and keep up the great work Jessie!



Ms. Johnson  
Art Teacher

**Hilltop Drama Presents:**

**HAPHAZARDLY Ever After** By: Jeff Fluharty

Theatrical Performances December 4th and 5th @ 7:00 p.m.

Hilltop High School Auditorium

Ticket Prices: \$10.00

Desserts by Hilltop High School Foods Class

Tickets available at Hilltop High School - Exact Cash or Cheque only Please

Produced by special arrangement with Pioneer Drama Service, Inc.,

**HTH Breakfast Program**



The Breakfast Program continues to serve a variety of muffins & bagels with a wide selection of spreads and juice. We are pleased to see many of the students enjoying a healthy morning snack. The Breakfast Program is still looking for new volunteers to help out between 8:00 ~ 9:00 a.m. each mornings. Come on out and show your support for this rewarding program which serves over a 400 students twice a week!



If you can volunteer please call Trish Gilmore at 780.779.7706.

We would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays!

**Helpful Hint from the Family Community Liaison Program (FCLP)**

Does your teen seem to have trouble controlling their impulses and does not seem to know how to stop? Have they expressed that they want to talk to someone about their temper? Having a counselor or psychologist to discuss their feelings can help your teen develop coping strategies to deal with concerns that they are facing. Strategies such as relaxing, breathing, counting, and even exercising can help with these emotional impulses.

The FCLP provides individual counseling and family support. For more information about the program

**CHRISTMAS HAMPER DRIVE** happens December 2nd through to the 18th. Please bring a donation. Thank you!

**Pancake Breakfast** Student Council will be hosting a Pancake Breakfast for the whole student body on the last day of school; Friday, December 19th Enjoy the holidays!



**G**rade 12 students should drop in or make an appointment to see Mr. Mireau for their grade 12 interview to make sure graduation is in order, correct any deficiencies that may exist, and to assist in post secondary planning.

**WORK EXPERIENCE:** Please see Mr. Mireau if you are interested in the Work Exp. Program. Hours cannot be counted or credits awarded until all paper work is completed. Remember you can get up to 15 credits in Work Experience towards your high school diploma. Sign up today.

**RAP** Registered Apprenticeship Program  
 Hilltop is on its way to have an outstanding year in our Off Campus Education program. Our partnership with NAIT and Careers-Next Generation have students exploring the field of Power Engineering; trying to balance school and extra-curricular activities can be challenging. Millar Western, ANC and Canadian Tire are our partners to date with more businesses and industries always inquiring and requesting our great students. A huge thank you to Careers-the Next Generation for the constant support in our RAP program.

**Job opportunity:** Evergreen Plumbing & Heating is seeking a RAP student in the field of Plumber and a student for Sheet Metal. What will they learn? Part of a job description includes: Resume and cover letter.

Please see Ms. Hleck if you have any questions in regard to this program.



**U OF A SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINES**

**University of Alberta Entrance Scholastic Distinction Scholarships** recognizes the top academic students from across Canada and around the world, and are for students who have maintained averages of approximately 95%+ in grades 10, 11 and 12. Approximately 60 scholarships are available, with a value up to \$50,000.00. For more information contact the U of A at [780-492-3221](tel:780-492-3221), e-mail at [awards@ualberta.ca](mailto:awards@ualberta.ca) or visit the website at <http://www.registraroffice.ualberta.ca/Scholarships-and-Awards/Entrance-Awards/Scholastic-Distinction.aspx> Application deadline is December 15.

**University of Alberta Entrance Leadership Scholarship Competition** recognizes students who demonstrate exceptional leadership through school and community involvement while maintaining superior academic standing. Candidates must:

- apply to undergraduate degree program from high school at the University of Alberta in September 2015
- possess exceptional leadership qualities as demonstrated by community service and involvement
- present an Early Admission average of 80% or higher

For more information contact the U of A at [780-492-3221](tel:780-492-3221), e-mail at [awards@ualberta.ca](mailto:awards@ualberta.ca) or visit the website at <http://www.registraroffice.ualberta.ca/Scholarships-and-Awards/Entrance-Awards/Entrance-Leadership.aspx> Application deadline is December 15.

**BURGER KING SCHOLARSHIP**

**Burger King Scholars Program** - Scholarship grants range from \$1,000 to \$50,000, and are intended to help students offset the cost of attending college or post-secondary vocational/technical school. Recipients are selected based on their grade point average, work experience, extracurricular activities and/or community service. Details on how to apply can be found at <http://www.bkmciamorefoundation.org/WhatWeDo/ScholarsProgram> The application period for the 2015 school year begins on Nov. 15, 2014 and ends on Jan. 10, 2015.



**First Nations, Métis and Inuit (FNMI)**

**Tansi!** Comfort food is always on the menu, now that the cold weather is here. The staff in Student Services want to ensure that all of our students have warm clothing and a lunch every day. Please come and seek us out if you or a friend are in need, as we would love to help out. I have included this recipe in my article, because it is part of my culture, and it is quick, easy and delicious.

**Indian Fry Bread**

- |                       |            |                       |                      |
|-----------------------|------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 4 cups flour          | ½ tsp salt | 1 tbsp sugar          | 1 tbsp baking powder |
| 4 cups oil for frying |            | 1-1/2 cups warm water |                      |



Combine dry ingredients, mix in water, knead dough lightly, cut dough into 12 pieces, roll out dough until it is ¼ inch thick, poke a few times with a fork, otherwise dough will puff up. Place in 1 inch of hot oil and fry until golden brown, turning once to brown both sides. Drain on paper towel.

Fry bread is great by itself, with jam, or used as a base for Tacos, or stew, or whatever you can imagine. I hope you enjoy it!

With the festive season quickly approaching, many of us find that we are not quite prepared. If there is any way our staff in Student Services can help, please do not hesitate to stop in for a visit, or give us a call. I wish you health and happiness throughout the season.



Mrs. Smith-Tomke  
 FNMI Liaison Worker

**GRADE TWELVE INTERVIEWS**

In early December, the parents of Grade 12 students will receive a summary of their child's academic interview in the mail. Those students who are at risk of not graduating will receive an accompanying letter outlining the steps to success. Mr. Mireau is happy to answer any questions you may have about your child or how Student Services can help: [vincent.mireau@ngps.ca](mailto:vincent.mireau@ngps.ca)



**CALCULATORS:**

**Math & Science** - calculator use is recommended but not required; use of a **graphing calculator is prohibited**; calculators are to be **cleared** and **set in silent mode**.





Congratulations to all the Volleyball teams at Hilltop who represented the Charger name with pride this past season. The highlights would have to include for the Jr. Girls having a perfect record in the GCAA, winning the League Championships. The Jr. Girls also captured the Zone title beating the best in our zone and winning the banner. This will set up our Sr. Girls team very nicely for next year as the Jr. Girls move up to the Sr. ranks.

The Sr. Girls had a good season and were competitive with all the teams they faced. It was inspiring to see the Sr. Girls compete at such a high level considering how young the team was. I am sure the team will be a force within the zone next season as the girls take the experience they gained this year.

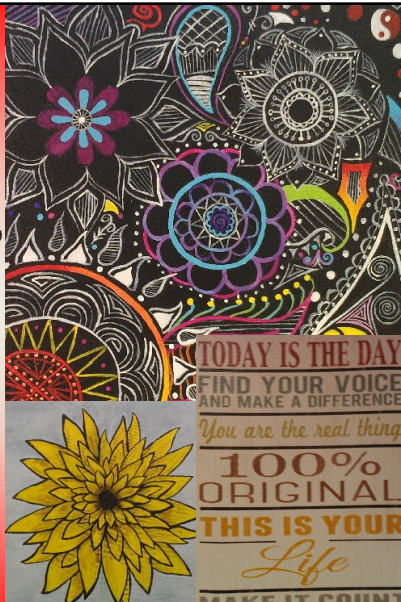
The Sr. Boys also had a very good season with the team going undefeated in league play and winning the Championship tournament. The boys were competitive in all their tournaments finishing on the A side every time and even winning the Mayerthorpe tournament.

To all the athletes, your coaches are extremely proud of the

commitment you have shown and they will be able to look back on the season with a smile, the time they spent teaching you the sport they love. Great job and **GO CHARGERS GO!**

Next up is the basketball Season which has already started for the Sr. Teams. The boys team will be led by Mr. Schlosser and Mr. Moody this year as they look to continue their success from last season. The Sr. Girls will have a new coach this year, headed by Miss Deacon who is excited to see what the girls can do on the court. The Jr. Girls will have a couple of new faces on the bench this year as former students and basketball charger players take the reins. Miss McSorley and Miss Mindus have a number of years of experience coaching at Percy Baxter and are ready to take on the challenge of coaching the Jr. Girls this season. The Jr. Boys are looking for a coach to help them learn the game in a way that always makes our school proud. If you are interested or know of someone willing to coach the Boys team, please contact me here at the school 780.778.2446 Ext. 1503

Chris Keay, Athletic Director



**Tips for All Students**

**General Tips**

- Before you begin, find out: How much time you will have. What materials you will need to complete the test.
- Skim through the whole test before beginning.
- Read all instructions carefully.
- Ask questions if you are unsure of something.
- Answer the easy questions first and then go back to the harder ones.
- Double-check to make sure you have answered everything before handing in the test.



**Multiple Choice Tests**

- Skim through the entire test. Find out how many questions there are and plan your time accordingly.
- Do not spend too much time on any one question. Make a note beside a difficult question and go back to it if you have time.
- Read each question carefully, underline key words, and try to think of an answer before looking at the choices.
- Read all the choices and see which one best fits the answer that you thought of.
- When you are not sure which answer is correct, cross out/erase any choices that you know are wrong.
- If time permits, recheck your answers.

**ACHIEVEMENT TEST RULES:**

1. Students may not enter or leave the test room without the consent of the supervising teacher.
2. No notes in any form, papers, information dictionaries, electronic dictionaries, or books relating to a test may be brought into the test room, or used by a student, unless expressed permitted to so by the test administration instructions.
3. No electronics or paper templates and/or graphic organizers are allowed for the writing of written response achievement tests.
4. Students may not bring into the test room or use any headsets, digital audio players, cell phones, or other electronic devices.
5. Students may not talk, whisper, or communicate in other ways with one another while a test is being written.
6. Students may not share or exchange any test writing tools or materials while in the test room.
7. Any student that violates Achievement Test Rules, falsify test responses or results, disrupts other students or commit any other act may have their test invalidated.



DECEMBER = DANCE, DANCE, DANCE...

It is that time of year again...DANCE! PE students will be participating in our social dance unit, which teaches students a wide variety of both partner and "icebreaker"-style dances, from December 9 - 19. Dance is an excellent activity for physical health and well-being. In addition to this, social dance teaches adolescents appropriate etiquette and behaviors that they may carry on into their adult lives.

The social dance unit covers many of the specific outcomes as outlined by the Government of Alberta, but it specifically meets the following learner outcomes MANDATED by the Alberta Government:

APPLICATION OF BASIC SKILLS IN DANCE

- \* Create, refine and present a variety of dance sequences alone and with others (grade 9)
- \* Apply the principles of dance to improve performance (PE 10)
- \* Develop and perform more complex dances (PE 20)
- \* Develop, refine and perform more complex dances (PE 30)
- \* Choreograph and perform dance sequences, using the elements of movement and basic dance steps and patterns (grade 9)
- \* Choreograph and perform dances for self and others (PE 10)
- \* Choreograph, perform and interpret dance for self and others (PE 20)
- \* Choreograph, perform and critique dance for self and others (PE 30)



All students enrolled in Physical Education this semester are required to participate in the social dance unit.

If you have any questions regarding this, or any other unit in the PE curriculum, please contact us at the school:

Ms. P. Deacon  
Mr. C. Keay



SCHOOL DANCE

*Friday, December 19th*  
*1:15 p.m.*  
*"Be there or be Square!"*  
*Everyone Welcome!*

Humanitarian Society

The Humanitarian Society is well underway with our monthly fundraising. Thank you to all of those who bought candy on Halloween and some baking at the bake sale to support the cause. It truly is food for the soul. The next couple of months will be filled with catering as the holiday party season gets underway. We all wish you a wonderful holiday from the Hilltop Humanitarian Society.

GRADUATION  
2015



Hello Fellow Grads:

Here is our monthly grad newsletter update.

The grads voted on our theme, song and logo. Our grad song is "Best Day of Our Lives" and our theme is "Today's Special Moments Are Tomorrow's Special Memories". The winning Logo is posted on the Grad Board.

Grad pictures are on Dec. 3, 4 & 5, 2014; you must preregister for a SITTING. Check the GRAD BOARD for information on how to do this. Also, THE WINTER FORMAL will take place on JAN 16, 2015 at Hilltop. More information will be coming up soon.

Please make sure that you are signed up to **REMIND** to get the latest updates. There are always updates on our Grad Board by the library and photo copy room. Be sure if you have any questions that you talk to your Grad Council Members. We will be happy to take any questions or suggestions you might have that we can bring up at our weekly Grad Meetings.

Thank you Grads and have a great week!!!!!! #grad2015 #YOLO

*Dustin Jendrick*  
Grad Secretary/Treasurer

GRADUATION PORTRAIT APPOINTMENT

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_

Location \_\_\_\_\_

Please visit  
[www.lifetouch.ca/northernalberta](http://www.lifetouch.ca/northernalberta)  
to prepare for your grad portrait sitting.



**Please Keep Your Appointment**  
Should you have questions regarding your Graduation Portrait Sitting, please contact your Lifetouch Representative at (780) 437-2431.

**Lifetouch Canada**  
18124-102 Ave, Edmonton, AB T5S 1S7

Sitting fee amounts and collection dates vary by school.  
**Sitting fees are non-refundable.**  
Payment options: Cash, cheque, credit and debit card payments are all accepted.





Happy Holidays!

Cats Football

Go CATS Go!