



Anchor

Hebrews 6:19



December 2022

Principal's Message - Jason Visser

I am wondering if you have ever heard of a person named Qin Shi Huang? Anyone? Hmm. To be fair, he is someone who lived many years ago on the other side of the planet (relative to us). Emperor Qin Shi Huang came to rule China in the year 246 BC ...that is 246 years before the time of Christ. He was 13 years old at this time. He was the first person to start building the Great Wall of China, a wall that stretches close to 9000 km's across northern China. Emperor Qin also decided to build himself a huge tomb. Inside this tomb are over 1500 lifelike clay soldiers (he originally wanted soldiers buried with him to create a proper sense of mourning, but was talked out of this by his advisors). There are also over 200 life size clay chariots. This is certainly impressive, yet Emperor Qin's efforts were dedicated towards achieving immortality and yet (unless you have an affinity for Chinese history) you likely have not heard of him before.

When thinking of building projects, we have one that we are quite excited about (and I think we have a right to be excited!). This project has involved the input, planning, and giving from many different people. Taber Christian High school is now a reality and it is something significant for our school community. This building allows the Taber Christian School community to offer Christian education from kindergarten to grade 12. The opportunity to help students see the fingerprints of God in their discovery of Creation is an immense blessing. The goal of offering a transformative Christian education in elementary, middle school **and** high school is an exciting venture!

While the building is beautiful, offering transformative Christian education is a venture that must continually be worked on. God's word is resolute, yet culture continues to change. Our modern culture is more invested in 'self' than others...we need to approach scripture and Christian education with a desire to pursue how God speaks to us and not just what we want Him to say.

This brings us back to the example of Emperor Qin Shi Huang. While his efforts are impressive, Ecclesiastes reminds us that he and those like him who work for personal fame will ultimately fall short. Similarly It can be easy to grow accustomed to what we have been given and to develop a sense of entitlement. Our efforts to promote Christian education must be first about serving God and others. The truth is that the school is a reminder of how God has blessed us and an encouragement to continue to serve him out of a sense of calling and a sense of gratitude.

Meet Our Staff!



**Mrs. Miriam
Bekkering**
LST/Biology



**Mrs. Sonia
Buhler**
Learning
Commons
Facilitator
(Librarian)



**Ms. Dina
Duggan**
Support Staff



Miss Karli Gatz
Social/English
Teacher



**Ms. Deb
Henry**
Support Staff



**Mrs. Tanya
Hoekstra**
Administrative
Assistant



**Mrs. Susana
Loewen**
Support Staff



**Mrs. Trudy
Neufeld**
Support Staff



**Mrs. Nikki
Ohlmann**
Math/Art/
Science
Teacher



**Mrs. Juliana
Richard**
Math/Chemistry
Band
Teacher



**Mrs. Kim
Scheurkogel**
TCS/TCHS
Business
Manager



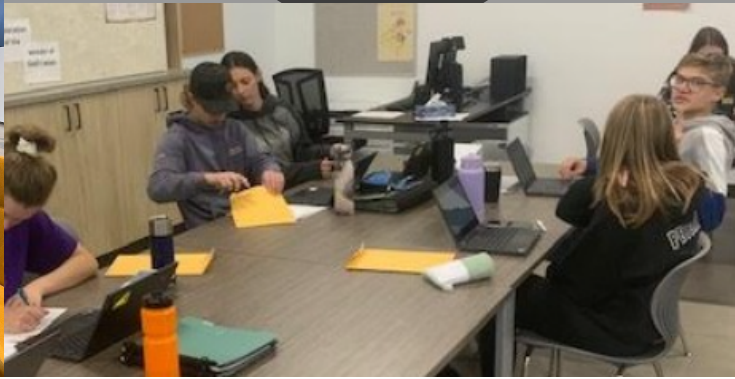
**Mr. Jason
Visser**
Principal



Mr. Phil Vriend
Athletic
Director
PE/Spanish



TCHS Learning



At TCHS, it is our goal for students to see learning as a way of following God. Discovering the details in nature, patterns and movements in history, the beauty in art and literature are all forms of praise and worship. We also want students to take ownership of and experience a level of authenticity in their learning.

This is promoted in a variety of ways:

- In their English 20 class, TCHS grade 11 students have been engaging in a pen pal program with senior citizens in the area. The Warner adult literacy initiative has paired students with seniors for the purposes of getting to know and learn from each other, develop an appreciation with someone in a different age cohort and just to engage in relationship building.
- Art students are working on creating beauty that this is displayed around the school
- Food Studies students spend time and energy helping prepare food for others (Grand Opening, TCHS Winter Formal, Movie night etc).

We also want our students to develop a servant heart. One example of this was having our volleyball teams help out with the Taber Food Bank Drive. Part of meaningful learning also requires an experiential component. Thanks to the expertise of one of the TCS Society Board Members, we are able to offer welding courses to high school students.

The goal in educating TCHS students is to help them develop their gifts for service of God and others. We want to encourage and continue to facilitate this in a variety of ways.



TCHS CREW



Since the start of the school year, the student body has had many different opportunities to participate in the different 'CREW' activities. We have had Chapels, Assemblies, Small Group Devotion Time, Challenges, and Fundraising campaigns. Our main focus this year has been on Jesus, 'The Truth', building off Jesus, 'The Way' through our assemblies.



Some of the highlights of CREW this year have been, sharing coffee and hot chocolate together, studying the Beattitudes from Matthew 5:3-10, small group games, the Cardboard Boat Race, and the bake sales that different CREW groups have held to help fundraise for the bike project for La Semilla Ministeries in Nicaragua. We are looking forward to seeing how God will work in our student body through CREW in the next semester!



Student Voice



Some of the things I like about TCHS is that everyone is kind. That is why people have good friendships. When I came to TCHS I was a little worried about whether or not I can make friends and how I would be seen. I didn't need to worry about it because everyone was really friendly. This was a relief for me to come to TCHS.

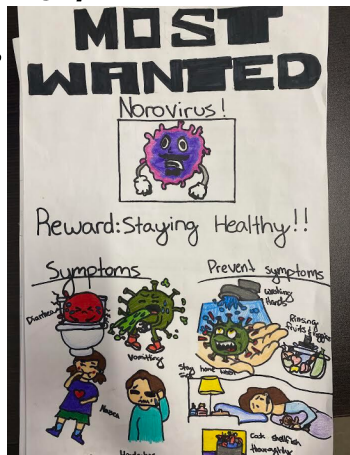
In Japan, not many people say their opinions in class, but here students often ask questions and share what they think. I think this is great for me.

Yosei Mori (home stay student from Japan)

Hi, I'm Anju. I'm from Japan. I have been at TCHS from October 2nd to December 22nd. I played the tenor saxophone in the band and we had a Christmas concert. We practiced hard and the music sounded nice. I went to the dance, that was fun. I liked being with the Grade 10 girls. It was my first dance and every thing was exciting. At school, I liked math because it is the same in Japan. I was surprised to warm up my lunch because in Japan, there are no microwaves. I've learned a lot about cultural differences and the fun of communication in the last three months! It was fun to be at TCHS and thank you for having me!

Anju Tao (home stay student from Japan)

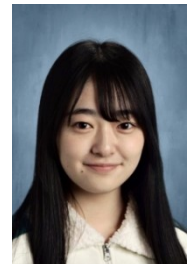
***"A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones."
Proverbs 17:22***



Art 9 and Foods 9 have been experiencing this to the fullest extent. While they have been working hard to complete their projects, there has been lots of laughter. It has been good for all of us. We are thankful for these moments of laughter and fun as we build community.



Yosei Mori
Gr. 12



Anju Tao
Gr. 10

Chapel & Community



Our chapels continue to be an important time to gather, praise, reflect and remember. Group worship is also an excellent time to build community. We have adopted the practice of holding chapel in our big, beautiful spacious lobby!

So far this year, we have had Pastor Jim Crawford, Lethbridge Correctional Centre Chaplain Anna Braun and a Canadian armed forces veteran (Remembrance Day) come and speak to our students.

Another highlight of chapel is the student leadership. At our last chapel our praise team was composed only of students!

Our theme for the year is "Jesus as Truth" (John 14:6). We have been studying the Beatitudes as a way to reflect on this Biblical theme.

Overall, chapels are a great time to be reminded of how blessed we are and our calling to share our hope and our resources with others!





Lion's Athletics



It has been a fantastic start to our athletics program this school year. In the fall, we had athletes compete in X-Country and Volleyball. Our X-Country Athletes were coached by Mrs. Nikki Ohlmann and competed in the South Zone Championship at Nicholas Sheeran Park. TCHS had its first athlete ever, Kaydan Fehr (grade 11), represent our school at Provincials in the X-Country race in Edmonton. Alex Wind (grade 12) and Cody Fehr (grade 12) also represented TCHS at the High school Zone Golf Tournament held in Magrath.

Our Tier 1 Boys Volleyball Team were coached by Mr. Jason Visser and Mr. Rene Angermeier and won the Horizon School Division Championship, and then competed in the 3J Zone Championship in Pincher Creek. The Senior Varsity Girls team was coached by Mr. Phil Vriend and Ms. Karli Gatz and competed in a competitive tournament in Edmonton, and finished fourth in Erle Rivers High School Tournament. Our Senior Varsity Boys Volleyball team was coached by Pastor Brian Kuyper, Pastor Brett McCoy and Mrs. Hoekstra. The Senior Varsity Boys team won the Noble Central Tournament and played in the South Zone Championship Tournament at Lethbridge College.

In December, basketball began. We have four girls from our school who joined forces with the St. Mary Aurora's to form a Girls Senior Varsity Basketball team. The girls representing our school are Jayden DeBoer (grade 12), Haylie Peters (grade 10), Savannah Schmitt (grade 10), and Madison Wind (grade 9). Our Grade 9 Boys have formed a Tier 1 Team and are coached by Mr. Joey Giesbrecht and Mr. Willy Peters. The Senior Varsity Boys Basketball team is comprised of students in grades 10-12, with one grade 12 student, Jayden Wiebe. The Senior Varsity Boys Basketball team is coached by Mr. Phil Vriend, Mrs. Juliana Richard, and Mr. Colin Oosterhof. We are excited to host a Tier 1 Basketball tournament on January 13/14, and co-host the 'Black & Blue' Tournament with St. Marys on Jan 20/21. This year, we have focused on the Core Value of being Brave in the face of adversity. As a developing program, it takes effort and a bold mindset to compete against schools who are well-established and been around for a long time. Keep up the great work Lions! We are on the way!



TCHS Winter Formal!



TCHS had it's 2nd annual Formal. This year, the winter formal theme was "Snowball". We based the theme from **Psalm 148:8: " Fire and hail, snow and clouds; and the Stormy wind, (fulfill His word."** This is a grade 8-12 event and involved lots of delicious snacks, a photo booth and dancing. We are thankful to all the many volunteers that made this event happen! A special thanks to Jaydee DeBoer - TCHS grade 12 student for coordinating all of this!



New TCHS Building Complete!



Taber Society for Christian Education



From the Society Board Members:

TCHS families, what an amazing first half of the year it has been at the new building. As parents and board members, it is encouraging to walk through and see the facility being utilized in so many ways. God has richly blessed us with the families and community involved at the school. Thank-you for your continued support! We pray you have wonderful Christmas season!

Taber Society for Christian Education Board invites you to the Annual AGM dinner hosted on
February 6 2023 @ 5:30pm.

The meeting held in December did not have enough attendance to meet quorum. Meeting quorum is necessary by law. We look forward to a time of fellowship together as a Society.

RSVP to

tcsbusinessmanager@gmail.com

or by calling into the office and asking for Kim.

Stay Connected!



(left) Picture of TCHS students and staff on the first day of school. This is our first year as a Grade 9-12 high school and our first year in the new building! Our enrollment is at 97 students this year.



TCHS celebrated its Grand Opening on Wednesday, October 5 in the new school! We joined as a community with supper and enjoyed listening to various speakers: Mr. Hans Visser, Dr. Wilco Tymenson, Mrs. Monica Loewen, Mr. Jason Visser, Mr. Klaas Hoekstra, Pastor Rick Roeda, Mrs. Jane Bydevaate and Mayor Andrew Prokop. A few students helped out with the music and also a reader's theatre. Thank you to everyone who came out to help us celebrate this event!



Stay Connected!!

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Website: www.tchs.horizon.ab.ca



Instagram: [tabercristianhighschool](https://www.instagram.com/tabercristianhighschool)



Facebook: [Taber Christian High School](https://www.facebook.com/Taber Christian High School)



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jason.visser@horizon.ab.ca

Mailing Address: 7001 50th Street, Taber AB, T1G 0G4

Stay tuned for our 3rd annual Golf Tournament coming up in May, 2023!

Questions? Email: tchsgolftournament@gmail.com