



“Finding our place in God’s story”

Phone: 403 359 3835. Website: <https://tchs.horizon.ab.ca>

Taber Christian High School News and Notes:

August 13, 2025

Welcome Back to School!

As we begin a new school year, our theme, “Finding Our Place in God’s Story,” reminds us that we are not here by accident. Scripture tells us in Ephesians 2:10 that *“we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”* Every student, staff member, and family in our school community is part of God’s intentional design. This year, we will encourage one another to discover the unique ways God has gifted and placed us to serve Him—both in our classrooms and in the world beyond. Whether you are new to our school or have been here for years, you have a role in the unfolding story God is writing.

Jeremiah 29:11 reminds us of God’s promise: *“For I know the plans I have for you... plans to give you hope and a future.”* As we learn, grow, and walk through this year together, we can be confident that God is at work, guiding our steps and weaving our stories into His greater plan. My prayer is that this year, we will not only gain knowledge but also grow in faith, joy, and a deeper sense of calling. Together, let’s lean into the truth that our lives are part of God’s grand narrative, and that every day is an opportunity to live out the purpose He has prepared for us.

This year will be an adventure for all of us. For myself, I look forward to leading both TCS and TCHS. For those of you who know me from TCS, I always appreciate conversations with parents and ask that if you have thoughts or ideas that you stop by or contact me to chat!

Join us for our back to school assembly on Aug 27th at 2pm!

Klaas Hoekstra
Principal - Taber Christian High School

Opening Assembly

**Our opening assembly will be on
Wednesday, August 27/25 at 2pm.**

All are invited to attend!

TCHS Open House

For Parents and Students (Grade 9-12)

Thursday, August 21/25 1-4pm

Meet the staff

Walk through the school

Confirm your course selection

Select your locker

We hope to see you there!

****Please note this is not mandatory. If you can’t make it,
we will see you on August 27!***

Important Dates

August 21/25 - TCHS Open House 1pm-4pm

August 27/25 - First Day of School, Opening Assembly @ 2pm

September 01/25 - Labour Day - No School

September 04/25 - Back to School BBQ - more details to follow!

September 29/25 - Planning for Student Support - No School for students

September 30/25 - School Based PD Day - No School

October 06/25 - LifeTouch Individual Pictures

October 10/25 - No School for Students & Staff

October 13/25 - Thanksgiving Day - No School

October 14/25 - School based PD - No Students

October 23 & 24/25 - Christian Schools Teacher Convention - No School

November 10/25 - PD Day - No Students

November 11/25 - Remembrance Day - Holiday - No School

November 12/25 - First day of Quarter 2, Report cards to home

November 13/25 - Lifetouch Class Pictures & Individual retakes

November 18 & 20/25 - Parent/Teacher Conferences - after school/evening

December 19/25 - Jan 02/26 - Christmas Holidays - No School

***For our full calendar - please visit <http://tchs.horizon.ab.ca>**

Fall Athletics Update!

Welcome back to another amazing year of TCHS Athletics! We are so excited to welcome our student-athletes back into the gym, kicking off another season of growth, teamwork, and competition. Whether you're returning to your sport or trying something new, we're excited to see the energy, commitment, and heart you bring to our teams. This fall, we're looking forward to an awesome lineup of sports: golf, cross country, and volleyball! Go Lions!



Note: We Need Coaches!

We are currently looking for coaches for our Tier 1 and JV volleyball teams. *This is a great opportunity for alumni or other community members to get involved and make a meaningful impact.* Please keep in mind—without coaches, we can't run teams. If you or someone you know is interested in joining our fantastic coaching staff, please reach out to the TCHS Athletic Director, Kelsi Gilbert (kelsi.gilbert@horizon.ab.ca).

Volleyball Open Gyms and Tryouts!!!



TCHS will be having volleyball open gym nights on **Tuesday, August 19th from 6:30-8pm and Thursday, August 21st from 5:30-7pm**. We encourage all students interested in volleyball to come out to these open gym nights!

Tryouts for volleyball teams will be on **Thursday, August 28th and Friday, August 29th - exact times will be posted next week**. Look for specific practice schedules and team details in the coming weeks!

Taber Christian High School
School Supply List 2025-2026

General Supplies for all students	Binders (one for each subject/course), loose leaf lined paper, dividers, pencil box/case, graph paper, box of pens, box of pencils, pencil crayons, markers/sharpies, erasers, scissors, glue sticks, USB drive (not required), duo-tangs, a Bible.
Lock for school lockers	Combinations will have to be given to the school office. If students do not have a lock, they will be asked to rent one provided by the school for \$5. *Locks requiring keys are not allowed.
Laptop (preferred) or iPad	*Not mandatory* We strongly encourage students to have something available at home to do homework. School chromebooks are intended to stay at school.
Math 9	Scientific Calculator (no graphing calculators!)
Math 10-3, 20-3 and 30-3	Scientific calculator
Math 10C, 20-1, 20-2, 30-1, 30-2	Texas Instrument Graphing Calculator - one of the following models: TI 83 or TI 83+, TI 84 or TI 84+ *Available on Amazon or local stores - this is an absolute must for upper level math courses!
Chemistry, Physics/Science 10/20	Graphing paper Scientific or Graphing calculator
PE	Gym clothes and clean, non-marking shoes

Please note that it is up to the student to come prepared with supplies to each class. All students will have access to a locker where they can keep their supplies. We encourage all students to keep their lockers "locked". We have found that the dial, numbered locks work the best. Questions? Please call the office at 403-359-3835.

Parents/Guardians - stay connected! A lot of our school information is sent out electronically using School Messenger - please follow the instructions below if you are not signed up for school messenger. If you are not receiving emails/texts, call the office at 403-359-3835!



The Trusted Platform
for School Community Engagement

Parents and Guardians

You can take advantage of our Text Messaging Service

Our school utilizes the SchoolMessenger system to deliver text messages, straight to your mobile phone with important information about events, school closings, safety alerts and more.

You can participate in this free service* just by sending a text message of "Y" or "Yes" to our school's short code number.

For **CANADA-BASED** numbers: **978338**

You can also opt out of these messages at any time by simply replying to one of our messages with "Stop".



*if your number is Canada-based.

SchoolMessenger is compliant with the Student Privacy Pledge™, so you can rest assured that your information is safe and will never be given or sold to anyone.

**Opt-In from
your mobile
now!**



**Just send "Y" or
"Yes" to
978338.**

(For Canada-based numbers).

*Terms and Conditions – Message frequency varies. Standard message and data rates may apply. Reply HELP for help. Text STOP to cancel. Mobile carriers are not liable for delayed or undelivered messages. See schoolmessenger.com/txt for more info.

Date: August, 2025

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Horizon School Division is committed to providing safe learning environments for all students, staff, school visitors and community members. To enhance safety and security, division protocol requires Violence Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA) training of School Administrators, Family School Liaison Counsellors and district staff in order to ensure a multi-disciplinary approach.

When students' behaviours pose a potential threat to safety or serious harm, the Southwest Alberta Regional Violence Risk Threat Assessment (VTRA) Protocol helps Administrators take steps to protect students' well-being. The protocol helps schools respond quickly to worrisome behaviours and/or threatening incidents such as: possession of a weapon or a replica weapon, bomb threats or plans, verbal, written or electronic (internet, text) threats to kill or injure oneself or others or other threats of violence, fire setting.

The protocol requires trained school staff, division staff and community partners, as a team to complete an Assessment of Risk to Others (ARTO) in all cases where students makes threats to harm others. The purpose of the ARTO process is to use the knowledge, skill and experience available to assess level of concern so that appropriate interventions can be identified to protect individuals from harm and to ensure a climate of safety in schools and the community. As noted above, a multi-disciplinary approach is used. Please be assured that the school team will be taking measures to deal with all known threats/high risk behaviors in a positive and proactive manner. If the school team invites you to a meeting to discuss safety concerns about your child, please be assured that our protocol is being followed and that the goal is safety.

The Southwest Alberta Regional VTRA Protocol outlines how a school responds immediately to threatening behaviour. The purpose of the VTRA protocol is to support students and their families in addressing these worrisome behaviours. We believe that students demonstrating such behaviours require a team to support them. Administrators may first bring together a School Threat Assessment Team, which ideally includes the Principal/Vice-Principal, a school-based clinician/jurisdictional lead, and police. If the situation is serious, the Principal may also consult with the Superintendent of Schools, and call in members of the Community Threat Assessment Team. This community team may include representatives of community agencies who work with us to keep our schools safe such as local police, children's mental health organizations or Human Services. Parents and guardians will be notified as soon as possible in the Stage I-VTRA process. If parents/guardians cannot be reached, or if they choose not to provide consent, but a concern for safety still exists due to threatening behaviour, the threat assessment may still proceed. Personal information shared throughout this process will respect and balance each individual's right to privacy with the need to ensure the safety of all.

As always, student safety is our first priority. If you have any questions regarding Horizon School Division, Southwest Alberta Regional VTRA Protocol, please contact Angela Miller at 403-634-9767 or angela.miller@horizon.ab.ca

Sincerely,

Klaas Hoekstra
Principal
Taber Christian Schools