

FDS Newsletter February 2024

Happy Family Day Weekend!

We are now into the middle of February. Our High School students should all be enrolled in their Semester 2 class and all students Grade 1-12 are receiving their Learner Profiles (report cards) on Friday, February 16. Please note that we no longer email Learner Profiles to families. Instead, we ask families, or adult students, to login through the Edsembli Parent Portal to view their Learner Profiles. Learner Profiles do not include 30 Level High School Diploma results. You must login to MyPass to see those results when they are released mid-month.

Please take the time to read through this month's newsletter as there is important information on the following subjects:

- **Student Attendance at Foothills Digital School** – It is important to remember that students under the age of 16 are **legally required to be attending school**. Please read this important section regarding what constitutes student attendance at an online school and consequences of not attending.
- **Learner Profile Information** – this is information regarding the issuing of learner profiles.
- Our new **Student Council Corner**. This is where our council will write and share what they have been up to and any new initiatives they are planning for the holidays and the new year.
- **High School Course Withdrawal Choices**. We understand that some of our high school students may struggle with a class or the load of online courses. Please read this section regarding the procedure for withdrawing a class. **Please note: Foothills Digital School will not automatically withdraw students who will not complete the course. This is the responsibility or the parent(s) or student if they have already graduated.**
- **ILPs** – We will send out a third reminder that parents must sign ILPs. Also, teachers will have updated ILP strategies with a mid-year review by February 16.

This is a reminder that Foothills Digital School will be on February break from Friday, February 16 at 3:30PM until Monday, February 26 at 8:45 AM. Teachers will not be available to students during this time.

Sincerely,

Sarah Clark and Brad Skeet, Foothills Digital School Admin Team

Student Attendance at Foothills Digital School

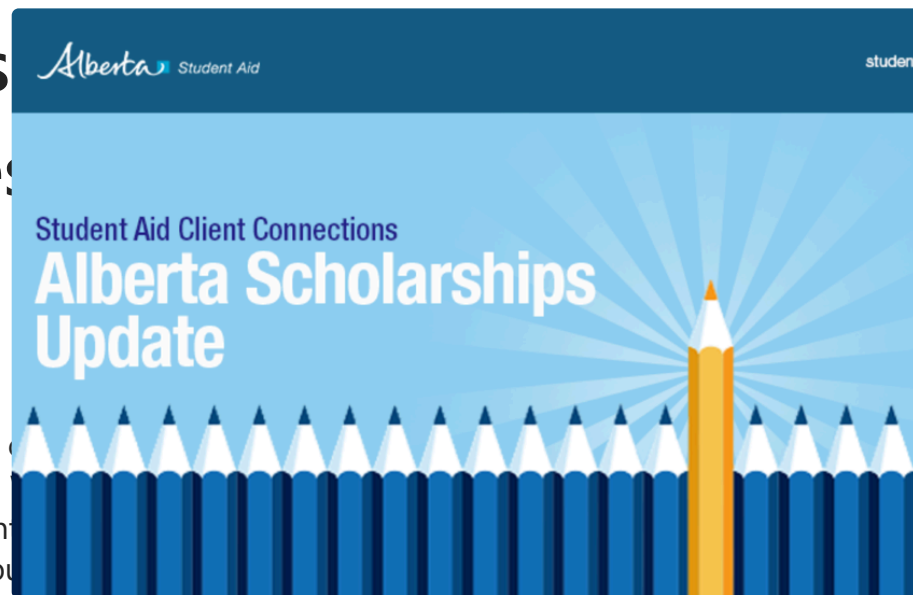
As a digital school, we do not measure students' attendance in the traditional manner that an in-person school does. Instead, we look for our students logging into their Moodle classes, what they are doing in those classes, and the submission of assignments. Interaction and correspondence with their teachers are also factored in. Students not logging in regularly to their classes and completing the assignments are considered truant from school.

We remind families that the School Act requires students up to the age of 16 to be enrolled and attending school. We will email families of students who are not attending their classes or submitting assignments as a courtesy to let them know that attendance needs to improve. We will then put forward an academic plan for the completion of learning. Should we not see an improvement, we are required to forward the student's name to our school division attendance officer for legal action. For students in Grades 1-9 who have not submitted enough learning for a teacher to assess, we will contact families regarding the next steps for the 2024-2025 school year. We thank you for your attention and support in this important manner.

Learner Profiles and ILP Updates Issued Friday, February 16

Our mid-year learner profiles (reports) will be issued on Friday, February 16. We no longer email learner profiles to parents. Instead, these are available through your Edsembli parent portal account. Should you have any questions regarding specific subjects on the learner profile, please email the teacher for clarification.

Also, for those students with ILPs, updates have been entered on the ILP where the strategies have been reviewed by the teacher. The second semester teacher(s) will continue to use these strategies, where appropriate,



From Alberta.ca

Scholarships

The Government of Alberta has released more information regarding scholarships. Follow this link to learn more: [email : Webview : Alberta Scholarships Update - February 2024 \(e2ma.net\)](#).

throughout the second semester and then write their own review of the strategy in June of this year.

High School Course Withdrawal Procedure

If your child is in high school, we understand that there are circumstances where students need to withdraw from a class. Students under 18 years old will need the course withdrawal completed by a parent and sent to Foothills Digital School by email. For our adult students, you must complete the withdrawal form and submit it. **Foothills Digital School will only complete a withdrawal from a course with this form. Please use this link:** <https://forms.office.com/r/7WHeWGbjZU> to fill out the form. You will receive an email confirming the withdrawal.

Please reach out to us if you have further questions regarding this. **Please note that if a student in high school is in danger of not completing the course, the parent or student needs to take responsibility for the withdrawal to avoid a non-passing grade being placed on transcripts.** ****Foothills Digital School will not withdraw a student from a course. This is a parent/student responsibility.**

Important School Dates

February 19 – 23 – No School

March 15 - Professional Development Day - NO SC

March 29 - April 8

