



PANTHERS' POST

February 2023

1 Peter 2:9 says “*But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God’s own possession, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.*” **This is us!** The feet that walk the halls at PAA are chosen, they are part of the royal priest hood, they are of a holy nation and they are a people that belong to God. What a privilege our students, parents, and staff have in partnering with God and with each other to testify of His GOODNESS.

Part of being set apart is having the opportunity to hear stories of how God works in people’s lives. This week our students were given the opportunity to hear the story of God made manifest through His child - a 20 year old who has just recently given her life to her Maker. The message was truly *proclaiming his excellencies*, and was titled “Broken Crayons Still Colour”. Ask your child about this inspirational story, specifically ask them, “How did God work in this story?”.

At PAA, we want our students to experience God relationally. We want them to know that they can come to Him as they are and that He accepts each one with open arms. This is true to them but also to you reading this!

Please continue to pray that our students will have this experience for themselves with their Creator. Please pray for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit within this school. Please pray that our staff’s lips would be anointed and that as they teach that their pedagogy would be lead by the wisdom from the storehouse of Heaven.

We are inviting you to come this coming **Sunday, February 5th at 10:30** to Pause & Pray at PAA. Everyone is welcome!

Mr. Dani Desjardins - PAA Principal



What's up PAA?

Happy February PAA Family!

As you may be aware, the month of February is a special month as it is a time when we as a country and as a school reflect on Black history within our borders and beyond. I believe that such a moment is vitally important because as an educator and as a Black man, I have seen the impact of representation and how the lack of it in the curriculum and beyond leaves people feeling like outsiders. We have a number of special programs planned for our school community this month in which students will get a chance to hear Black stories, and voices, and celebrate the amazing accomplishments of Black individuals and communities. We encourage our students (and by extension, you, their families) to continue these important conversations outside the classroom in the way that you may see fit. Please find the attached resources that have been shared with our staff and we hope that they can be a resource for education and conversation as we look to engage with diverse stories and learn from all members of society.

Mr. Emile Ndekezi

Resources:

[Black history is more than just slavery](#) (Video)

[It's time to 'unlearn' race. Thomas Chatterton Lewis interview](#)

[Color blindness and the issue of white supremacy](#)

[28 moments of Canadian black history](#) (Video)

[Holy Post - Race in America](#) (Video)

[The story of Africville](#)

[Heritage minute - Viola Desmond](#) (Video)

[Tainted Wealth: Canada Has Tried to Erase Its History of Slavery](#)



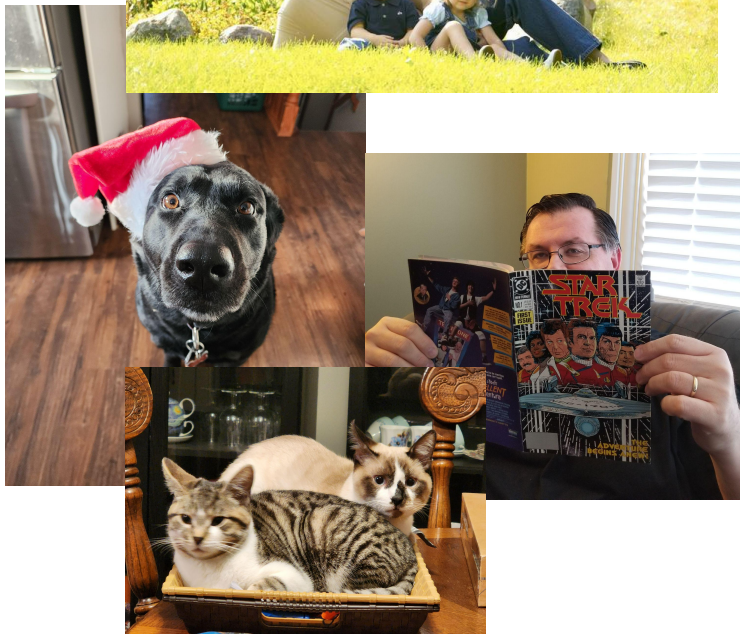
FEATURED STAFF MEMBER

A long time ago, in a province far, far away...

I was born and raised in Ontario. I have been a participating supporter of Adventist education since I was in grade 6. In my post-secondary education, I started classes to become a medical doctor. After a couple of years, I realized that I had a higher calling: English. I transferred programs and universities and went on to graduate from McMaster University with my honours degree in English, minoring History and General Science. Months before I graduated from teacher's college, God called me to work in Peace River, Alberta (a long way from home) where I finished my teacher training in a practical way teaching at Peace River Adventist Junior Academy. In 2015, I graduated from La Sierra University in California with my MA in Education.

I spent a full year in northern Alberta back in 1996-97, and then moved south to teach English and serve as the Acting Principal at Chinook Winds Adventist Academy in Calgary. After a year of these administration duties, I decided to move to the Calgary Public Board and spent several years teaching science and English to junior high students. I eventually moved schools to head the Humanities Department at Lord Shaughnessy High School in Central Alberta. Since then, I have continued to work instructing senior levels of English and Social Studies in both Alberta and Ontario.

While in Calgary, I reconnected with my friend Lori Wiens (PAA class of 1990) and we were married a few months later in 2001 in Burman's chapel. Our family includes Wynn, who graduated from PAA in 2021, and Eirik who will graduate from PAA this year. I feel a little left out, being a Kingsway graduate; however, I'm making up for it by working at PAA. We are a family that loves animals, and currently have one black lab/shepherd cross (Ripley) and two kittens (Hicks and Bishop). It's a busy household at feeding time.



I am an avid collector of action figures and music. I love books and film, notably science fiction and fantasy. Although I appreciate both, Star Trek will always be better than Star Wars. As an English teacher, though, my calling to classic literature is my greatest passion – notably writers like Shakespeare, Jane Austen, Charles Dickens, Victor Hugo, and so many more. I probably will be the biggest Tina Turner fan you might ever meet – I love her music and respect her life story even more. Truly, I'm an eclectic person.

Despite these distractions with which I identify, I wholeheartedly believe in Christian education and in the work I truly believe God called me to do. I'm blessed every day I work at PAA, and endeavour to continue the legacy that has come before me.

Mr. Scott MacDonald

What's up PAA?

HOME AND SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

ATTENTION: Home & School Officers

You are invited to join us for a meeting on **Thursday, February 9th at 6:30 pm** at PAA to discuss Home and School matters and do some brainstorming. Please let Mandy Dubyna know if you have any items you would like to discuss and she will add them to the agenda for the evening.

Thanks so much for taking the time out of your busy schedule for this important meeting.

Looking forward to seeing each of you!

Mario Parchment and Mandy Dubyna

Please send any communication items to mandydubyna@burmanu.ca

AFTER SCHOOL PICK UP AND LOITERING

We love that our students enjoy their time here at PAA. This tells us that it's a great place to be at ease. We would like to remind everyone that our exit bell rings at 3:50pm and to have everyone go home thereafter. We have had students loitering from 30 minutes to a few hours after business is closed. We are asking that pick up arrangements be made for within 15 minutes after students are dismissed. For everyone's safety we have supervised extra curricular activities, and all unsupervised students (and their younger siblings) must go home. Thank you for your cooperation and for your support!

PAUSE AND PRAY

The busyness of life often keeps us from using an incredible tool that connects us with Christ our Lord and Saviour. I implore you to read or re-read Ch. 11 in Steps to Christ - The Privilege of Prayer, specifically p. 94.1. *"Our heavenly Father waits to bestow upon us the fullness of His blessing. It is our privilege to drink largely at the fountain of boundless love. What a wonder it is that we pray so little!..."*

Save the date to come Pause and Pray at PAA on the following Sundays at 10:30am:
February 5, March 5, April 2, May 7, June 4.

"Prayer is the key in the hand of faith to unlock heaven's storehouse, where are treasured the boundless resources of Omnipotence" Steps to Christ, pp. 94, 95. 1892

What's up PAA?

Semester 2 Schedule

It is in our students' best interest to be on time and present for all of their classes. We understand that at times there are some hiccups that hold us back from being on time, but we request that all efforts should be made to be punctual. Thank you for your attention to this very important part of education.

<p>Religious Studies 8:15 - 9:00</p>	<p>Religion 10 Religion 20 Religion 30</p>	<p>Mr. Desjardins/Mr. Ruzindana Mr. Ndekezi/Mrs. Whitworth Mr. Loxdale/Mr. MacDonald</p>
<p>Block 1 9:05 - 10:25</p>	<p>English 10 Social Studies 10 Physics 20 Science 20 Chemistry 30</p>	<p>Mr. MacDonald Mr. Ndekezi Mr. Loxdale Mrs. Whitworth Mr. Ruzindana</p>
<p>Block 2 10:30 - 11:50</p>	<p>Math 10C Math 10-3 Chemistry 20 English 30-1, 30-2</p>	<p>Mr. Ruzindana Mr. Ruzindana/Mr. Greenlaw Mrs. Whitworth Mr. MacDonald</p>
<p>Flex Block - 11:50 - 12:30</p>		
<p>Lunch - 12:30 - 1:05</p>		
<p>Block 3 1:05 - 2:25</p>	<p>PE 10/20/30 Individual CALM/WkSf/FoodSafe Social Studies 20-1, 20-2 Biology 30 Math 20-2, 20-3</p>	<p>Mr. Loxdale Mrs. Fernandez Mr. Ndekezi Mrs. Whitworth Mr. Greenlaw</p>
<p>Block 4 2:30 - 3:50</p>	<p>Foods Personal Finance French 10/20/30 Philosophy Creative Writing Art 10/20/30 Work Experience</p>	<p>Mrs. Fernandez Mr. Greenlaw Mr. Ruzindana Mr. Ndekezi Mr. MacDonald Mrs. Egolf Mr. Desjardins</p>

Chaplain's Corner

Hi PAA Family and happy Black History Month!

Here are the updates from Campus Ministries this month:

Black History Month Events

Feb. 6 - BHM Chapel

Feb. 10 - Ubuntu BHM Music Workshop

Feb. 13 - BHM Chapel

Feb. 13 - BHM Food Fest

Feb. 21 - BHM Chapel

Feb. 25 - BHM Movie Night

Feb. 27 - BHM Chapel



Mission Trip Update

Our mission trip, scheduled for March 23 - April 3, is getting closer and we are even more excited! Thank you for supporting our students throughout this fundraising process.

Participants' Payment Timeline:

Each participant should have fundraised at least \$2,800 by now (flight and ground deposit).

Next up:

- **Feb. 15 - \$1,000**

Campus Ministries and Constituent Church Visits

Last month we visited the College Heights SDA Church and our students did an exceptional job at leading our community in worship at both services. Our next constituent church visit will be to Ponoka SDA Church on February 4. Please come out and support our students!

Blessings,
Pastor Romando



Athletics' Corner

New semester, new opportunities. Basketball season is soon coming to a close with our first playoff games happening this Monday, February 6th. Actually, both the girls and boys first round games are against Eckville. Badminton will continue and gain momentum as basketball closes. Soon there will be football, soccer, and some track and field. I am excited to see what our athletes can accomplish in these new activities. *Please remember to thank your coaches, as the volunteer time they put in is only paid back through the love and appreciation you show them.* Each and every day, God gives us the opportunity to show His love to those around us. The Bible nine class asked a question this week around the idea of “how do we know God loves us?”. You might think this is an easy question to answer or you might think it is not. Either way, I think it is an important question to think about. I challenge you to do just that! Think about how you know and experience God's love.

Health Challenge: Go for a run at least once a week. I believe there are at least two running groups on campus. Join one or start a small group of your own.

Devon McAfee

PAA - Athletic Director



Paying: School Tuition, Fees, and Hot Lunches

Go to

<https://albertasdaedu.powerschool.com/public/home.html>

to pay tuition, school fees, and buy hot lunches online.


The office sent an email on or around Oct. 12 with information on how you can access PowerSchool and Rycor.

In PowerSchool you can view your child's grades and attendance.

To pay for school fees, click "Pay School Fees" in your PowerSchool account (on the bottom left side) and it will open Rycor, where you can make payments and order hot lunches.

Having access issues? Contact office@paa.ca.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH
FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		31 First Day of Semester 2	1  PAA Basketball	2 Groundhog Day	3 Core Schedule A	4  PAA at Ponoka
5	6 - BHM Chapel - PAA Basketball in Eckville	7 PAA Board Meeting	8	9	10 - Core Schedule B - Ubuntu BHM Music Workshop	11
12	13 - BHM Chapel - BHM Food Fest	14  Valentine's Day	15	16	17  No School (Teachers' Convention)	18
19	20  No School	21 BHM Chapel	22	23	24 Core Schedule C	25 BHM Movie Night
26	27 BHM Chapel	28	Mar 1	2	3 Core Schedule A	4  PAA at Wetaskiwin