



PANTHERS' POST

MAY 2025

True Education means more than pursuing a certain course of study. It has to do with the whole person and with the entire period of existence possible to human beings. It is "the harmonious development of the physical, the mental, and the spiritual powers" (True Education, p. 9.1).

Many of us may have read or heard this quote before, and for some, it may be the first time. Either way, it's a powerful reminder that God's blueprint for Adventist education is clear—designed with the best interests of His people: students, parents, and staff alike.

As the school year draws to a close in just a few weeks, it is a meaningful time for us as a school community to look back, reflect, and evaluate whether we are truly fulfilling God's purpose for His school.

I remember when I first started back in July 2022. I was knee-deep in preparing the school for the new year, working long days and late nights, doing my best to find my footing so I could effectively lead in God's school. At the same time, I was packing up and moving my family to Lacombe, navigating the transition into a new community. The school building itself had only recently opened, and everything still felt new and unfamiliar. I had many questions and many worries. But my relationship with Jesus had already prepared me for this moment—to trust that this is *His* school, and that He would lead it if I simply allowed Him to.

One day as I was tidying a bookshelf in my office, I picked up the book *True Education* and read the very first paragraph—the one I shared at the beginning of this message. In the midst of the chaos of that season, God used those words to calm my heart and remind me that He already had a plan. I didn't need to create it. I just needed to shift my focus away from what *I* had to do, and toward what *He* was already doing. That day, during my quiet time with Him, God impressed something deeply on my heart:

"Dani, align PAA with *My* blueprint, and the school will continue to thrive."

God's blueprint is clear—a *harmonious development of the physical, mental, and spiritual powers*. The rest of the book expands on the details, but that foundation has remained central in my leading — His School — Parkview Adventist Academy.

I can testify today that we are doing well—and all the glory goes to God. Since 2021, PAA has grown over 125% of its original enrollment. This has not happened by chance, but by God's leading. We are actively engaged in discussions about expanding the school's footprint in order to offer more programming and opportunities for our students — hands-on learning, applied technologies, real-world education — all while keeping Christ at the center of everything we do.

These blessings are not accidental. They are the result of the Holy Spirit moving in and through our school—among the staff, students, and families.

My prayer is that we continue to allow God to transform and soften our hearts, and that we invite Him to be at the center of every plan and every conversation. None of this is possible without Him. We must trust in His divine direction for *His* school and fully surrender our own plans, so that *His* will may be revealed and fulfilled at PAA.

Please continue to pray with us. Stay expectant. Be ready to witness the unfolding of God's plan—not only for our school, but for our community and beyond. Come and journey with us as God's school continues to grow and expand according to the plan He has already prepared.

Mr. Dani Desjardins - PAA Principal

What's up PAA?

PAUSE + PRAY

Please join us **Monday evening at 8pm** to pause and pray for our students, staff, parents and other members of our learning community. It is 2025 and God has incredible plans for our school and to know those plans is to sit with Him, listen to Him, and to allow Him the space to unfold His plans before us! We are so fortunate to have the knowledge of prayer and in 2025, let us commit to weekly **30 minute prayer** time as a community.

Please use the following link to connect with this community of prayer:

<https://shorturl.at/W4qjF>

Or use the following meeting ID and Password

Meeting ID: 993 2864 5014

Passcode: 1234567

PRAYER unites us with one another and with God. **PRAYER** brings Jesus to our side, and gives new strength and fresh grace to the fainting, perplexed soul to overcome the world, the flesh, and the devil. **PRAYER** turns aside the attacks of Satan.

Our High Calling, p. 177



Please pray for:

Our students as they prepare for their exams and diplomas;
Our teachers who will be grading and finalizing the semester;
Strong bond between home and school;
Protection over students and staff and their families;
Parents as they raise their children in The Way;
Clear direction for the future of God's school.

Chaplain's Corner

MAY

PAA

ISSUE 8

PASTOR DEE'S DEBRIEF



EPHESIANS 5:1-2

Imitate God, therefore, in everything you do, because you are his dear children. Live a life filled with love, following the example of Christ. He loved us and offered himself as a sacrifice for us, a pleasing aroma to God.

WALKING IN LOVE

Over the past few months, we've been journeying slowly through the book of Ephesians in our chapels and conversations, and just recently, we arrived at the rich and challenging words of Ephesians 5. In chapel on April 28, we finished Ephesians and I want to summarize all that we have learned by reflecting on the first few verses. This chapter opens with a bold and beautiful call in verses 1-2.

What does it mean to "live a life filled with love"? This isn't a love limited to good feelings or easy moments. Paul is talking about love that looks like Jesus—a love that gives, serves, forgives, and builds others up. It's the kind of love that transforms communities, not just individuals.

As a high school community, we are constantly given opportunities to walk in love, through our words, our reactions, our attention to others, and even our silence. Every hallway, classroom, sports field, and group chat becomes an arena where the love of Christ can either be reflected or withheld. This month I want to leave you with a few practical tools that you can apply in your daily interactions.

Use your words wisely – Speak encouragement. Apologize when needed. Avoid gossip, sarcasm, or anything that tears down. Our words carry real power.

Serve quietly – Hold a door, pick up after others, let someone go first—small things done in love often carry the most weight.

Pray for others – Take a moment each day to pray for a friend, a teacher, or even someone you find difficult to love. Prayer softens our hearts.

Walking in love is not always easy. It costs something, but we're not doing it alone—we are dearly loved children, empowered by the Spirit to live differently.

MAY DATES

May 2

Chapel

May 7

Teacher Appreciation Day

May 9

PD Day

May 12

Chapel

May 16

Vespers

May 19-23

May Break

May 26

Chapel

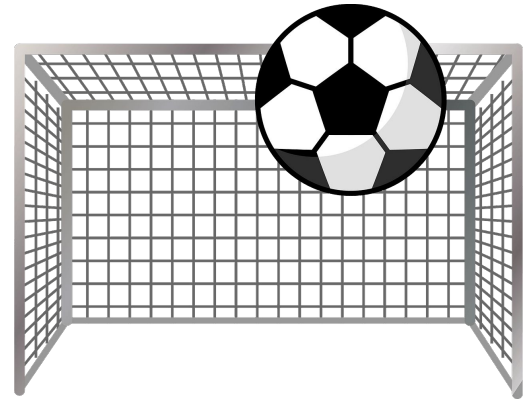
vespers will be announced through email week to week

WEBSITE: PAA.CA
INSTAGRAM: @PAACM

Athletics' Corner

PAA Panthers Athletic Update – Let the Games Begin!

The spring sports season is kicking off in full force, and the PAA Panthers are ready to roar!



Our soccer teams are launching into their official season with away games in Olds on **April 28th**. The action doesn't stop there—**our girls will host their first home game on April 29th**, followed by the **boys' home opener on April 30th**. Both squads have already seen some game time in exhibition play and are showing strong signs of a competitive season ahead. A huge **shoutout to our grade nines**, who have stepped up and been an incredible support on and off the field!

Meanwhile, our **flag football teams are hitting the road bright and early on May 1st**, heading off to FVAA at **5:00 AM**. They'll be competing hard and representing PAA with pride until **May 5th**, returning just in time for the girls' next soccer matchup.

And let's not forget—**track and field is just around the corner!** Athletes, now's the time to lace up and focus on your individual events. Whether you're sprinting, jumping, or throwing, every Panther has a chance to shine.

Let's go, Panthers! 🐾

Mr. Devon McAfee
Athletic Director
Parkview Adventist Academy



Mental Health Corner

Happy spring, once again. I hope you've had the opportunity to soak up some warm summer rays!

In our discussions with Open Parachute we've focused on aspects of emotional regulation. Emotional regulation is a fundamental skill that allows us to navigate life's challenges with greater clarity and confidence.

When we face difficult emotions—such as anger, fear, sadness, or shame—it can be easy to try and suppress or escape these emotions, or to find ourselves overwhelmed by them. In Grade 10 we've continued to focus on the impact of stress on the brain. In times of stress, the amygdala becomes hyperactive, shutting down the prefrontal cortex, effectively decreasing our reasoning, and decision making abilities.

In Grade 11 we've continued to have discussions to define some of the difficult emotions we face, and talk through perspectives of these emotions that help us take action to support our wellbeing. This empowers us to process and move through them, rather than being controlled by them.

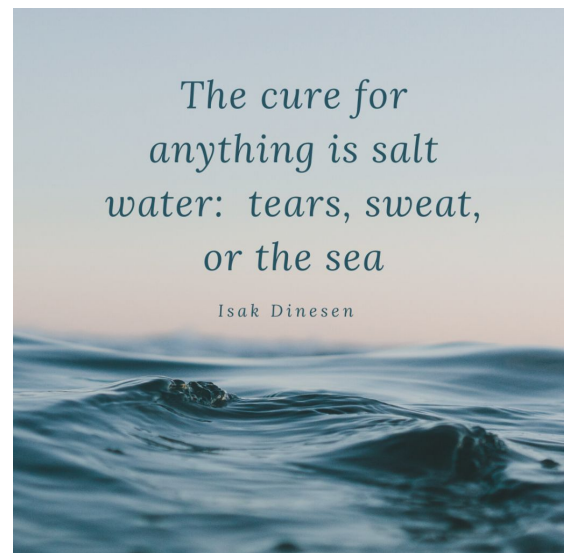
And in Grade 12 we've looked at the impact of unresolved emotions, recognizing that everyone has a story that involves facing challenges. Part of our stories involves noticing and taking responsibility for the behaviours that we rely on to escape, rather than facing our difficult emotions.

Navigating difficult emotions (our own, or those of others) can be challenging, but don't underestimate the power of a listening ear, or as the quote pictured here mentions, water. :)

Once again, if you're looking for tools to support yourself and/or your teen in this journey, check out the [parent login](#) from Open Parachute.

Till next month,

Kayla Whitworth
Learning Support Teacher



What's up PAA?

Important Dates

- May 9 - PD Day, No School
- May 10 - Karaoke Night/Hideout, 8:00pm
- May 19-23 - May Break, No School
- May 26 - H&S Meeting, 6:30pm
- June 1 - Amateur Hour, 6:00pm
- June 6-8 - Alumni Weekend

Home and School Association

PAA's Home and School Association is a parent led association that assists at PAA as needed. Joining the leadership team, becoming a class parent, supporting financially, and providing snacks and assistance for events are just some of the ways parents can play a part in the Home and School Association.

The next meeting is Monday, May 26 from 6:30-7:30pm.

Come visit with parents and share your ideas.



Contact the Home and School
Assoc. secretary today at
hsleader@gmail.com
to see how you can get involved!

What's up PAA?

Karaoke NIGHT PARTY



**SATURDAY
10 MAY
8PM**

**WRAP
UP AT
10 PM**

WE WILL MEET AT PAA TO WALK TO
THE HIDEOUT TOGETHER.

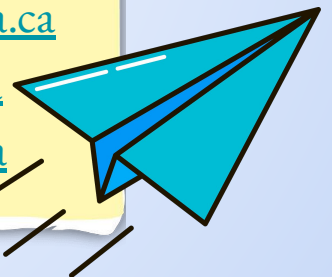
WE WILL BEGIN WITH WORSHIP, AND
MOVE TO KARAOKE, POOL, PING-
PONG, AIR HOCKEY AND BOARD
GAMES.

What's up PAA?

Coming Soon!
Semester 2
Diploma/Exam Schedule
Watch your emails
for it this week.

If you wish to meet or connect with a teacher at any time throughout the year, please email them to make an appointment or communicate your needs.

Name	Email
Mr. Dani Desjardins	principal@paa.ca
Mr. Karel Blankenfeldt	karel.blankefeldt@paa.ca
Ms Sharline Fernandez	sfernand@paa.ca
Miss Dennalia Fray	dfray@paa.ca
Mr. Scott MacDonald	smacdonald@paa.ca
Miss Skyla McCreery	skyla.mccreery@paa.ca
Miss Michelle Mitchell	michelle.mitchell@paa.ca
Mr. Bruce Ruzindana	bruzindana@paa.ca
Mrs. Kayla Whitworth	kwhitworth@paa.ca



What's up PAA?

Summer AMATEUR HOUR

Theme: Beach/Summer

For students and families

Where: Parkview Adventist Academy

When: Sunday, June 1, 2025 @ 6-8:30 PM

There will
be snacks
for sale!!

There will
be prizes!

Signups are
in
Miss
Mitchell's
room!



What's up PAA?



BLIND CAMP	JUN 29-JUL 4
KINDLING CAMP	JUL 6-JUL 11
FAMILY CAMP	JUL 27-AUG 1
JUNIOR CAMP	AUG 4-AUG 8
TEEN CAMP	AUG 10-15



SCAN QR CODE

OR VISIT

'FOOTHILLSCAMP.CA'

TO REGISTER

What's up PAA?



PowerSchool

Parent Access: Paying School Tuition & Fees

Parent access to PowerSchool is set up and you'll be able to view your child's grades and attendance. You'll also have access to pay tuition and school fees online using the following link.






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

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 submit payments.

Having access issues?
Contact the office: office@paa.ca





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	 3 H&S Spring Potluck, 1:00p
4	 5 Chapel	6	7	8	9 No School PD Day	10 Karaoke Night/ Hideout, 8pm
 11 Mother's Day	 12 Chapel	13 Board Meeting, 6:30p	14	15	16	 17
18	 19 Victoria Day	20	21	22	23	24
	May Break - May 19-23 - No School					
25	26 H&S Meeting, 6:30p	27	28	29	30	31 June 1 Amateur Hour, 6pm 
			June 6-8 - Alumni Weekend			