

## Chinook's Edge offers new Diploma Exam preparation opportunity for students

Chinook's Edge School Division is offering students taking Diploma Exams - in specific subjects - access to new exam preparation courses. The courses will be available online to Chinook's Edge students in their home communities, free of charge, in the subjects of Math 30-1, Math 30-2, Chemistry 30, and Biology 30.

***"In the past, students wanting supplementary support or review may have travelled to other communities, and they would have paid \$165 or more to attend those sessions," said Jason Drent, Associate Superintendent, Chinook's Edge School Division.***

***"This opportunity will allow our students to stay in their home communities and access engaging online support for free. What also makes this exciting for students is that they will receive immediate feedback about their own readiness with each content area," said Drent.***

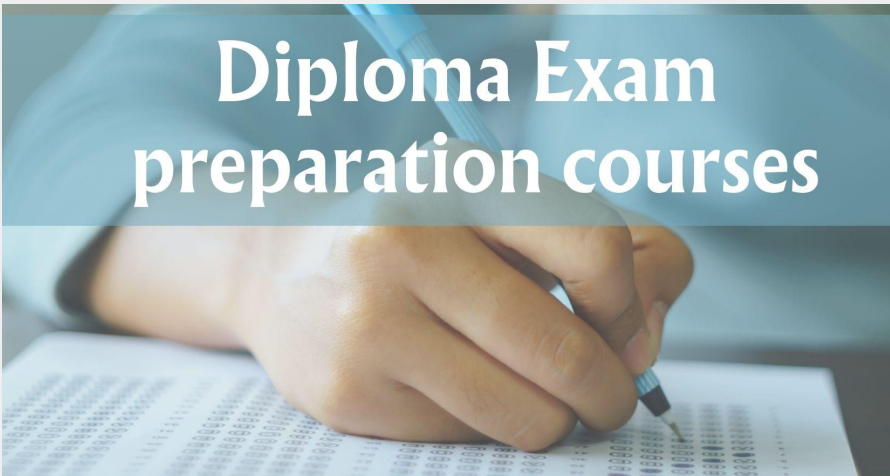
The exam preparation courses are called Exceleator, and have been developed by the division's partner, Castle Rock. Exceleator courses will include instruction that aligns with the curriculum and practice questions that mirror Diploma Exam style questions, utilizing thousands of questions.

Exceleator will be able to generate an immediate feedback loop to diagnose student strengths and learning gaps, and create individualized learning plans for each student.

The courses will be taught by Alberta teachers via Google Meet and are intended to supplement and support Chinook's Edge teachers instruction and guidance.

Registration opened last week and will close on December 21, 2023.

For more information or to register (with a Chinook's Edge student email address): <https://bit.ly/3NcSn7Z>



## Diploma Exam preparation courses



Exceleator

- For Math 30-1 & 30-2, Chem. 30 & Bio. 30
- \$165 value - FREE for Chinook's Edge students
- Taught online in your home community
- Designed to help students succeed!



Registration deadline: December 21, 2023

# Successful second year of Bowden Grandview Christmas market shows its sustainability

Bowden Grandview School's Christmas market made it to its second year with great success. On December 7, 2023 the school's Grade 5 students sold out of products they created, ensuring the market will have the resources it needs to continue another year.

***"We're thrilled with the result," said Amy Severtson, the Bowden Grandview teacher who started the market in 2022. "It's good for students to have a taste of entrepreneurship. I'm impressed with their hard work. Thanks to our community for their incredible support of this project."***

The market is a recipient of a Flourishing Stories and Innovation Grant from the Chinook's Edge Board. The grant allowed Bowden Grandview School to have the seed money to purchase supplies so students could create products to sell at the market in December 2022. Last year's profits were used to purchase supplies for the 2023 market, and the profits from this year will go to fund next year's supplies.

Students decide what they'll create and sell, as well as packaging and pricing. This year, available products included perogies, jam, popcorn, silicone beaded pens, candles, soap, Christmas ornaments, cotton candy, Italian sodas, specialty coffees and more.

Grade 5 student Coleson Wilting and his partner created wreaths and ornaments. ***"I've never been in a market before, so it's cool to see what it's like. I liked working with my friend," said Wilting.*** Wilting said he had other ideas of products he could add to what was offered, but that he had to learn to ***"not plan too much."***



Above: Teacher Amy Severtson with Grade 5 Bowden Grandview students who created items for the 2nd annual Christmas market.

***"My Mom runs a business and goes to trade shows and I've gone with her," said Keely Marshall, a Grade 5 student. "I liked making and selling my own stuff this time."*** Marshall's partner was sick the day the students were supposed to create their products, so she spent the entire school day making the product - 100+ cake pops - herself. ***"I learned that sometimes even if you plan, things can happen. But I also learned I could do this myself."***

***"We are very proud of this market, the students, and their teacher, Amy Severtson," said Jeff Thompson. "It's a great learning opportunity for students, and we are grateful the community has embraced it."***







Above: A Grade 5 student sells a candle she created for the market.



Right: a strong community turn out to the Bowden Grandview Christmas market was a key part of the event's success.

## Two Chinook's Edge graduates receive Julian Sacher Memorial Scholarship

Chinook's Edge School Division Superintendent, Kurt Sacher, presented two recent graduates with the Julian Sacher Memorial Scholarship. Victoria Twa, a graduate of Penhold Crossing Secondary School, and Katy Saby, a graduate of École Olds High School are both receiving \$1,500 scholarships.

Twa and Saby are both in their first semester of post secondary education, studying nursing, at Red Deer Polytechnic.

Saby was influenced by the compassionate treatment she watched nurses provide to her mother, who has also worked as a nurse. **"My mom is a truly remarkable woman and she is the inspiration for my own dream of becoming a nurse,"** said Saby.

Twa said she is excited that **"science is constantly evolving, and the possibilities for discoveries are endless."** Twa is focused on nursing because, she said, **"I believe I would value building relationships with my future patients."**



Left to right; Victoria Twa, Superintendent Kurt Sacher, and Katy Saby.

The Scholarship has been given annually since 2020 to a student or students who have a strong academic average in grade 12 diploma level subjects, are pursuing a degree in science, and show care and concern for the people around them.





# École Olds High's Christmas Palooza raises \$2,300+ for families in need

École Olds High School's leadership class has successfully raised funds for the community's Christmas Angels through the school's 3rd annual Christmas Palooza. On December 6, student leaders hosted a bake sale and raffle in the school's common area and raised \$2,360.

***"We're so pleased with the success," said Louan Statchuk, one of the school's leadership teachers. "Our school leaders are great examples to all of us in their commitment to serving our community. Also, special thanks to their families for supplying the delicious baked goods. And, thanks to the students, staff and community who supported our Palooza."***

The Christmas Angels is a charity group in the Olds area that provides gifts for families who need them during the holiday season.

In addition to the amount raised this year, the \$4,500 raised in previous years, brings the school's contributions to almost \$7,000 in three years.

