

Lindsay Thurber Comprehensive High School

**Career Centre**

4204 – 58 Street

RED DEER AB T4N 2L6

Ph: 403-356-5315

Fax: 403-340-1676

Email: [cindy.visser@rdpsd.ab.ca](mailto:cindy.visser@rdpsd.ab.ca)



# How to Improve your Grades

SUGGESTED order of what you SHOULD do to help improve your marks in a class:

1. Book a time with your teacher to review concepts you missed/don't understand.
2. Attend the extra help sessions that the teachers offer during FLEX in your teacher's classroom.
3. Come to the Career Centre and fill out a form requesting a peer tutor (this is a student who is strong in the subject area you are requesting assistance with)
4. Utilize websites for extra assistance:
  - a. <http://www.khanacademy.org> – a variety of core subject topics and lessons – HIGHLY RECOMMENDED SITE TO USE!!!!
  - b. <http://ww17.ronblond.com/> - Math 10, 20 &/or 30 course content help
  - c. [www.abacusreview.com](http://www.abacusreview.com) – links for Bio, Chem, Physics, Math & Social
  - d. <http://www.rtdlearning.com> – practice exams & solutions for Chem, Physics, and Social
  - e. [www.freerice.com](http://www.freerice.com) – help feed the world by answering questions in subject areas
  - f. <http://patrickjmt.com> – Just Math Tutorials – WOW – HUGE variety of topics
  - g. [www.sparknotes.com](http://www.sparknotes.com) – overall help in a variety of literature topics
5. REMEMBER: use your judgment when using these sites for help. You are NOT allowed to copy and paste (i.e.: plagiarize) information from these or any websites or information sources. They are here to help you understand topics, concepts, and information. When writing answers to your questions or writing a paper, you MUST CITE your sources specifically so you don't risk being accused of plagiarizing information. All your work must be YOUR OWN!!!
6. Visit Castle Rock Research at <http://castlerockresearch.com/> to order Key books for Core (you are welcome to access the Key Books in the Career Centre if you can't afford to buy your own). See more information below.
7. Order the SNAP Books from Castle Rock Research or Chapters/Indigo for subjects in the core areas (this provides additional instruction/explanation and some additional practice questions)
8. Sign up for Rock the Diploma weekends for 30-level Sciences (Bio, Chem, Physics), Science 30, English 30-1, Social 30-1, Math 30-1 & Math 30-2 (\$135)
9. Make an appointment with a counselor and/or the Career Advisor if you suffer from test anxiety to learn strategies to alleviate exam stress.

## **HELP is Offered for All Subjects during FLEX**

Various teachers are available in their own classrooms to assist students in all levels and subjects during FLEX. Student's who need clarification on subject material are encouraged to attend any of these days throughout the school year. For a schedule, please check posters around the school or LTCHS website at

<http://lindsaythurber.rdpsd.ab.ca/LTFLEX-Schedule.php>

## **Peer Tutors**

If you are in need of one-on-one assistance in a subject, please come to the Career Centre where we can assign you a peer tutor. We have many students who donate their time to assist other students in all subject areas. If you are strong in a subject area, we encourage you to consider becoming a peer tutor. Peer Tutors are typically free for students to access, however, if you require a tutor on a regular basis for an extended period of time, we recommend that you pay them. The going rate is \$15-20 per hour for a student peer tutor. Most of the tutors prefer to volunteer, but please understand, these are very busy, academic students and if they are giving up a ton of their own time to help another student, they should be reimbursed.

## **Khan Academy**

The Khan Academy is a non-profit organization with the goal of providing a free world-class education to anyone anywhere. All of the sites materials and resources are available to you completely free of charge. Students can make use of their extensive video library, practice exercises, and assessments from any computer with access to the web. Visit their website at [www.khanacademy.org/](http://www.khanacademy.org/) and click on the links as you scroll down the page for lessons on individual topics for many of your core subjects.

## **Order “The Key” Study Guides**

The Key Study Guides are available online from Castle Rock Research (current cost \$29.95) or Chapters (current cost up to \$30.00). They are 100% aligned with the Alberta curriculum, and include practice questions and tests, with answers and detailed solutions. These study guides are highly recommended by many teachers to assist students with their courses.

Visit: Castle Rock Research at [www.castlerockresearch.com](http://www.castlerockresearch.com)

Chapters at [www.chapters.indigo.ca/books](http://www.chapters.indigo.ca/books)

## **Math 30 Concepts**

Ron Blond offers explanations in various Math 30 concepts.

<http://www.ronblond.com/M12/index.html>

## **“Student Notes and Problems” Workbooks (SNAP)**

These workbooks are also available to purchase online through Castle Rock Research (\$29.95) and Chapters (\$29.95 – Math only). The Career Centre has the Solution Manuals on hand if the student needs it. They include all of the class notes and all of the questions with solutions to basically the “odd” numbered questions. Highly recommended for the Math’s & Sciences!

## **“Class Notes” and “Problem Solved”**

Class Notes (\$19.95) and Problem Solved (\$19.95) are available to purchase online through Castle Rock Research. Class Notes contains the notes from the SNAP workbook and Problem Solved contains the same questions but will all of the solutions. Castle Rock Research recommends this option for best value.

## **Rock the Diploma**

We are excited to continue our partnership with Rock the Diploma organization that has previously only offered Diploma review in Edmonton, Calgary, and Lethbridge. Now, each semester, RTD Learning facilitates **Rock the Diploma** review courses for \$135.00 that includes a minimum of 15 hours of extensive review over one weekend. Their goal is to provide the tools and expertise to help Alberta students succeed in their studies. You can register for several different options of curriculum review for Social 30-1, English 30-1, Chemistry 30, Biology 30, Math 30-1, Math 30-2, and Physics 30 hosted at LTCHS the weekend prior to the Diploma Exam. To register for the Lindsay Thurber Rock the Diploma in January or June please refer to LTCHS website at <http://lindsaythurber.rdpsd.ab.ca/Rock%20The%20Diploma.php>

**They also offer downloadable study notes and practice exams from their website.** Their weekend review sessions will cover the entire course curriculum in one weekend. They also offer an option of registering for their Online Diploma Prep Courses. These online courses are taught in real time with real teachers. There are also online review sessions for students wishing to prepare for April diploma rewrites in Math 30-1. Visit the website for more information or to register for one of the April Math courses or for the online review. <http://www.rockthediploma.com/>

The following website has practice exams, with solutions for Social 30-1, Chemistry 30, and Physics 30.

<http://www.rtdlearning.com/>