

## International News

Spring 2011

Email: [internationalservices@rdpsd.ab.ca](mailto:internationalservices@rdpsd.ab.ca)  
 Website: [rdpsd.ab.ca/internationalservices](http://rdpsd.ab.ca/internationalservices)  
 Address: 4747-53 Street, Red Deer, Alberta Canada T4N 2E6  
 Skype: Red.Deer.Public.International  
 Facebook: Red Deer Public Schools International Student Alumni

### Important message

...FROM MR. ROWE...

It is hard to believe, but the end of the school year will be here before we know it. Here are a few things to remember:

- **If** you are planning to return to us next year, we require a deposit of \$1000 by May 1 in order to hold a place for you next year.
- Students from Mexico, Brazil and Columbia who require revalidation and legalization of their report cards, need to pay close attention to the procedure described later in this newsletter.

If you have questions or concerns regarding life at school or at home, please feel free to contact us.

For homestay concerns, please contact:

- Ashley Guenther at:  
[homestay@rdpsd.ab.ca](mailto:homestay@rdpsd.ab.ca)  
403-754-5562 ext 2038.

You may also contact Mr. Rowe or Mrs. Loepky at International Services

- [drowe@rdpsd.ab.ca](mailto:drowe@rdpsd.ab.ca)  
403-342-3726
- [lloepky@rdpsd.ab.ca](mailto:lloepky@rdpsd.ab.ca)  
403-357-3990

For academic concerns, please see your international school counselor.

- Mr. Doug Rowe, Lindsay Thurber
- Ms. Lisa Ryckman, Hunting Hills

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Lindsay Thurber High School, Red Deer, Alberta

[www.rdpsd.ab.ca/lthchs](http://www.rdpsd.ab.ca/lthchs)



Hunting Hills High School, Red Deer, Alberta

[www.rdpsd.ab.ca/hhhs](http://www.rdpsd.ab.ca/hhhs)

## Our Staff

We have one new face in International Services. Please welcome Doug Rowe who is the Interim Director **of International Services in Rob Porkka's absence.**



Doug Rowe is the Interim Director of International Services and is also the Lindsay Thurber Student Assistance Centre Curriculum leader. Doug has been an educator for 22 years, is a former ESL teacher, and has been in charge of the International Students at LTCHS for the last five years. Doug spent the summer teaching ESL to businessmen/women in Russia, and has been part of the LTCHS French Exchange program for the last four years.

drowe@rdpsd.ab.ca 403-342-3726



Rob Porkka is the Director and founder of Red Deer Public Schools International Student Program. Mr. Porkka, who was born in Red Deer speaks five languages to varying degrees and has worked overseas in Germany and the Netherlands for a five year period. Mr. Porkka has been a teacher and administrator in Red Deer Public Schools for nearly 30 years.

rporkka@rdpsd.ab.ca 403-342-3726



Lisa Loeppky is the Administrative Assistant to the Director of International Services. She grew up in Red Deer, is married and has 3 children who currently attend school in the district. She loves to travel and was a flight attendant for many years. Lisa spends her free time volunteering in the community, skiing and dancing. She is enjoying meeting students from many different cultures.

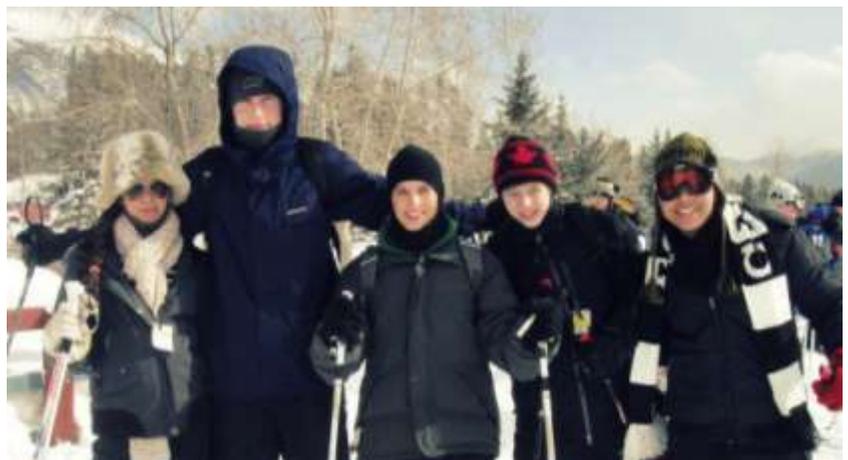
lloeppky@rdpsd.ab.ca 403-357-3990



Ashley Guenther, Homestay Coordinator, was born and raised in Calgary, Alberta and has lived in Red Deer for the past nine years. She has two young children and is currently a host family, as well. Ashley enjoys volunteering in her **children's school, and enjoys a variety of outdoor activities.** Ashley is looking forward to learning more about the many different cultures and traditions of the International Students.

homestay@rdpsd.ab.ca 403-742-5562 Ext. 2038

**"If we're growing, we're always going to be out of our comfort zone."** - John Maxwell



## Student Activities—Winter Fun

Florian snoozing on the bus



The Canadian Mountains and the weather treated thirty international students and International Services staff and supervisors to wonderful day of skiing and snowboarding on March 05. The day started early, with a 6:00 a.m. pick-up at Central Office but that allowed us to be strapped in and on the Nakiska slopes by 9:00 a.m. Many of us were worried that our skiing and snowboarding, would be mostly in the ski lodge because of the cold -30 conditions we left in Red Deer, but when we arrived it was a balmy -18 on the bottom of the mountain, and -13 on the top. Everyone got in at least 10 runs or more and the snow conditions were perfect. The day was **capped off by the Alberta tradition of stopping at Peter's Drive-in**, in Calgary on the way back, and the huge hamburgers, thick milkshakes, fries and onion rings were a hit with all of our International students. For many of our students it was their first trip to the awe-inspiring Rocky Mountains. Everyone had a great time and the students unanimously agreed that we should have another trip. That trip is scheduled for April 09. For more information and forms please contact International Services.

Jan on top of the mountain



Eddie and Oke snowboarding

# Student Corner

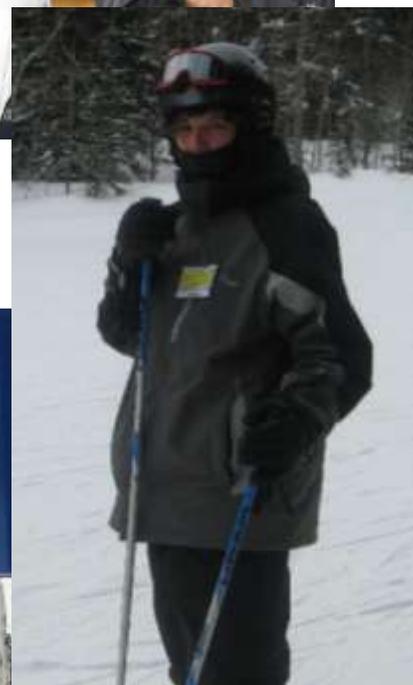


Haruya skiing at Nakiska

Florian, Sophie and Haruya taking a break in the lodge at Nakiska



Raul,  
braving the cold



## Renewing Your Study Permit

### HOW TO RENEW

If your study permit is expiring before your study time is completed, please read carefully:

A STUDY PERMIT is a document that allows you to study in Canada. It is the document that was stapled to your passport when you arrived in Canada.

You may contact our office for a copy of the study kit and to obtain copies of necessary documents.

**IMPORTANT:** You must send your application for extension while you are in Canada.

The kit may be downloaded from your computer. To do this, go to the following website and follow the links:

[www.cic.gc.ca/english/information/applications/visitor.asp](http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/information/applications/visitor.asp)

Unfortunately, International Services cannot complete your study permit application for you.

SEND YOUR COMPLETED APPLICATION TO:

CIC—Study Permit  
CPC Vegreville, Unit 101  
Vegreville, Alberta  
T9C 1X5 CANADA  
Phone: 1-888-242-2199

If you have photos to share, post them on the Red Deer Public Schools International Student Alumni Facebook page.

### BE HAPPY!

It is important to become part of your host family. Your host family is not a hotel.

Phone your host parent if you are going to be late for supper or arriving home.

Help out with household duties.

Make your bed and keep your room clean.

No phone calls after 9:30 at night. That is usually quiet family time.

Remember—your host family is providing your home away from home.

Being an active family member of the household will make for a positive experience for everyone.



Bernardo learning to love snow

## Departure Dates Returning Home

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS are expected to return to their home countries no later than June 30.

Year End Departure Dates for International Students:

### JUNE 25-26

NOTE: SOCIAL STUDIES 9, PHYSICS 30 AND SCIENCE 30 EXAMS ARE SCHEDULED ON JUNE 27-28. STUDENTS IN THESE CLASSES WILL HAVE TO ARRANGE FOR DEPARTURE ON JUNE 29-30.

Transportation to the airport should be available by host families on these dates.

*Students departing outside these dates may be subject to an additional charge to a maximum of \$165.00 for airport drop off.*

*Students cannot extend their stay into July as our program is over at the end of June*

## Student Corner

# Revalidation Request

## Attention Students from Mexico, Brazil and Columbia

Some students from Brazil, Mexico and Columbia who need their year of study recognized by their home country's **Minister of Education, must have their documents** revalidated by their embassy in Canada.

If your agency is Interprograms (Brazilian students) your agent will do this for you. If you require assistance, International Services can help you through the process.

PLEASE FILL OUT AND RETURN THE FORM INCLUDED WITH THIS NEWSLETTER IF YOU REQUIRE THIS SERVICE.

COST OF REVALIDATION:

- \$125 Canadian Dollars, payable in advance

THE FEE COVERS:

- Legalization of report card by a Canadian lawyer
- Revalidation by your Consulate or Embassy in Canada
- Courier Service to and from the Consulate or Embassy to our office in Red Deer
- Courier Service to you in your home country

THIS IS HOW THE PROCESS WORKS:

- Final report cards for students are issued about July 10 (they are mailed to Canadian students' homes and to our office for International students)
- The final report card is legalized by a Red Deer lawyer.
- The legalized report card is sent to the Mexican Consulate in Calgary for revalidation.
- The revalidated report card is returned to the International Services office in Red Deer after about 7 working days.
- The revalidated report card is sent by courier to you in your home country.

If all goes well, you will have your documents to present to your school by the fourth week of July.

The cost of revalidation (\$125) is payable by cheque, cash, or credit card at the International Services office.

You do not require revalidation if you have already graduated from high school in your home country.



Huibin Lin, Mrs. Young, Justin, Felicia

## Student Corner

### Meeting New People

By now you have had time to get to know your host family and some other International Students. If you want to expand your Canadian experience, seize the opportunity to meet some new people and practice your English. Some ideas to consider:

- Take a class outside of school in something that interests you. The Community Activities Guide has lots of great courses and activities.
- Join school clubs or participate in youth activities in your community.
- Join school or community sports teams.
- Go to the movies, music concerts or meet with some Canadian friends at the mall or restaurant.
- Join a choir or band.
- Join your host family when you are invited to do new or different activities.



ESL Christmas Tree at LTCHS



Isabela, Jorge, Mr. Porkka and Dayanara at LTCHS Christmas Dinner



Gustavo, Lucas, Hugo, Maite with friends at Collicutt Centre

Truly great friends are hard to find,  
difficult to leave, and impossible to  
forget.

# Student Corner



Pedro

Yuka



Eddie  
HHHS Football



Lucas and Luiz

January  
Orientation Day



## Student Corner



Justin, Bamboo and Felicia

## ACCESS Your Grades On-Line

- Open up Internet Browser
  - In the address bar type <https://portal.rdpsd.ab.ca/my.logon.php3>
  - Type in your user ID and password
  - Click on Elink
  - Re-enter your ID and Password
  - Click Enter Gradebook
- NOTE: Your user ID and Password are the same as used to access your school email account.

E-LINK



Jorge carving pumpkins



Ana  
Isabela  
Melissa  
Hannah



Pedro enjoying a Red Deer Rebels Hockey Game



Fani and Lucas

## Homestay Corner

### Curfews and Household Rules

Spring is approaching and with it comes daylight savings time. It is now light outside longer and everyone is eager to get outside and participate in more activities than during the cold winter months. Your students may have been spending much of their time at home up to this point and you might now find them wanting to venture out on their own more.

For many host families, this is a concern and dealing with curfews can be even more difficult for families who are living with teenagers for the first time. Having some freedom and independence to make their own choices is a large part of the experience of being an International Student. However this **doesn't mean that they don't still need their host parents to be concerned and involved in their lives.** Setting limits for students (and your own children) may mean being even more involved in their lives but in a different way. International Students, much like our own children, need to know that you are there for them and that they still need to answer to you while they are exploring their new independence.

Families have questions such as: What is a reasonable curfew? Are there times when exceptions can be made? How do I discuss this with my student? How do we deal with disciplinary **issues regarding curfews? My student isn't keeping me informed of their plans and whereabouts - what can I do?**

Students come from many different cultures and backgrounds so establishing your house rules around curfews and **communication early is important.** If you haven't talked to your student about curfews yet, this is a perfect time to do so. You might want to start the discussion by asking your student what the rules and expectations are in their home. This will give you a place to begin a discussion of what your expectations are for them, why the rules are needed and can allow them to have some input. If your student is part of the process of establishing the rules, they are less likely to break them. Things that you might consider discussing are: weekday and weekend curfew times, rules about how they are getting around (eg. bus, rides from you or other host families, etc.), when and **how to let you know if they won't be home for supper, where**

they will be and who they are going to be with in the evenings. Ensuring that everyone has a clear understanding of the rules helps to avoid misunderstandings. A verbal or text reminder when the student leaves for the evening can be helpful.

If your student breaks curfew or other household rules, give them a chance to explain. Perhaps there were circumstances beyond their control. If you have set clear guidelines and find that your student is not respecting them, begin with a conversation on why the rules are the way they are. Ask your student for input as to why they are having difficulty following the rules and together establish some consequences for breaking curfews. If you find that you need some help discussing this with your student, contact the Homestay Coordinator as she is able to provide ideas and support to help deal with these types of issues.

Our Homestay Coordinator suggests setting curfews for International Students at 9:00 pm on weeknights and the last bus which should get them home by 12:30 on weekends however it is up to host families to set the expectations in their house and communicate these expectations to their International Students.



Luana and her host sister Hadley

If your student has found some favourite Canadian foods, consider giving them a copy of the recipes that they enjoy most. This will allow them to take a little bit of Canada home.

## Homestay Corner

### Snow Couch

Rodrigo seems to have found himself adapting to the cold Canadian winters very well. One quiet evening his host mother came home to find that he had built a snow couch in their front yard. Rodrigo and his host brother Cole, bundled up, brought some popcorn and enjoyed a movie outside on a laptop. I am sure that the neighbours enjoyed the show too.



Jada, Mackenzie, Ainsley and Matheus at Panorama ski resort



Daniel in his football uniform



Jan and Daniel reading to elementary students at Halloween

## Agent Corner

### Prices for 2011-2012

All fees are in Canadian Dollars

Tuition Fees	Full Year	One Semester (Half Year)
	\$10400	\$5200
Application Fee (non-refundable)	\$200	\$200
Homestay Placement Fee	\$500	\$500
Medical Insurance	\$600	\$320

PLEASE NOTE: *Monthly Homestay: \$700. For additional nights, please add \$25 per day. Homestay fees include all meals.*

### Homestay Applications

The STUDENT should provide the following if homestay is required:

- Complete a homestay application form
- Include an attached letter of introduction to host family
- Include photos of the student in a variety of settings with family and/or friends

REMEMBER - a detailed homestay application with extra details helps to better match student with host families. The PURPOSE of the homestay application is to help present the student to the potential host families.

Well presented and organized portfolios give a better first impression to potential host families.

#### HOW TO PAY FEES:

##### Payment Method #1—Preferred Method

Payment of funds from outside Canada can be made using Custom House\* **StudentPay**.

**StudentPay** is available in various languages to assist you with your transfer and provides you with bank details from over 25 countries worldwide, so you can directly transfer funds from bank accounts in your own country.

**StudentPay** offers excellent exchange rates and helps you to avoid some or all bank service charges. Since 1992, Custom House has provided foreign exchange solutions to businesses and individuals around the world.

Custom House **StudentPay** is a safe and secure method of paying invoices to Red Deer School Board.

For complete instructions on how to use this new method, please go to the following link:

[www.rdpsd.ab.ca/internationalservices/bank](http://www.rdpsd.ab.ca/internationalservices/bank)

### Yuka and Huibin Remembrance Day Poppies



#### Payment Method #2

If you cannot use the StudentPay system from your country you can transfer to our bank directly.

Contact a local bank in your country and provide them with the banking information given here. They will deposit the money for you in our bank account, in trust. Services and transfer fees will apply.

Account Holder:  
Red Deer Public School Board  
Bank Name:  
Servus Credit Union (Credit Union Central of Canada)  
Bank Address:  
#400-6730 Taylor Drive  
Red Deer, Alberta  
Canada  
T4P 1K4  
Telephone number :  
(country code) +403-347-0731  
Account Information:  
Account Number: 4517280  
Transit Number: 11629  
Bank Number: 899  
Swift Code: CUCXCATTAL

Visa, MasterCard, Amex as well as bank transfers and travelers' cheques are accepted.

## Agent Corner



Ana, Isabela and Leoni

## Travel Policy

### FOLLOWING IS THE TRAVEL POLICY FOR RED DEER PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS:

1. Students may travel out of town *with their* host families.
2. Students may travel out of town *with another* host family.

Under *any* other circumstances, ALL of the following conditions must be met:

1. Student must be under the direct supervision of an adult 25 years or older.
2. **Student's natural parents must provide written consent.**
3. Student must provide details of proposed trip with contact info of supervising adult, etc.
4. Student must receive consent from Mr. Doug Rowe before incurring any costs associated with the proposed trip.

This policy applies to all students studying in High School or Middle School, even those over the age of 18.

- Our travel policy is a School Board policy
- Students risk being removed from the program should they not follow guidelines.
- Should the above conditions be met, students are welcome to travel outside of Red Deer.

## Reminder

Complete, detailed applications ensure quicker processing.

Student Applications should include the following:

- A complete and accurate RDPSD student application
- Certified copy of birth certificate and passport
- Letter of intent stating why student wishes to study in Canada and long-term academic goals
- If homestay is required, a completed Homestay information form
- Two references (recommendation letters) with full names and telephone numbers
- Transcript of marks for past two years
- Two recent photographs



Carlos, Victor and Pedro

## Homestay and Insurance

### NOTICE:

ALL students in our homestay program must our insurance provider

For details about our provider, go to the website at: [www.ingleinternational.com/rdpsd](http://www.ingleinternational.com/rdpsd) and follow the links

## Agent Corner



Sophie and Luanna at the airport—  
Luanna's holding snow for the first time



Red Deer Public Schools is now a member of CAPS-I  
(Canadian Association of Public Schools—International)  
[www.caps-i.ca](http://www.caps-i.ca)

CAPS-I is an association of 70 Canadian public school districts/boards that provides educational programs to international students from around the world.

The CAPS-I website is a comprehensive resource of information for international students, parents and partner agencies that are interested in learning more about the various opportunities for studying in public schools throughout Canada.

Over 10 000 international students are currently studying in CAPS-I elementary, middle, junior high and high schools.

## Mexican students/Canadian Visas

Mexican students who need Canadian Visas  
You can now apply for a visa to travel to Canada at three new Canada Visa Application Centres

Centro de Solicitud de Visas—Ciudad de México  
Sófocles 127  
Miguel Hidalgo  
C.P. 11591, D.F. México  
Horario de Atención: 9:00 a.m a 6:00 p.m., Lunes a viernes  
Número de Teléfono: (55) 4780-5200  
Dirección de Email: [VACSupport@CICMEX.com.mx](mailto:VACSupport@CICMEX.com.mx)

Centro de Solicitud de Visas—Monterrey  
Avenida Hidalgo 400 Poniente (esquina Rayón)  
Colonia Centro  
C.P. 64000, Monterrey, Nuevo León  
Horario de Atención: 9:00 a.m. a 6:00 p.m., Lunes a viernes  
Número de Teléfono: (81) 1642-1942  
Dirección de Email: [VACSupportmtty@CICMEX.com.mx](mailto:VACSupportmtty@CICMEX.com.mx)

Centro de Solicitud de Visas—Guadalajara  
Agustín Yáñez #2537  
Zona Minerva  
C.P. 44130, Guadalajara, Jalisco  
Horario de Atención: 9:00 a.m. a 6:00 p.m., Lunes a viernes  
Número de Teléfono: (33) 4780-4990  
Dirección de Email: [VACSupportgdl@CICMEX.com.mx](mailto:VACSupportgdl@CICMEX.com.mx)

Processing Fee (in addition to the Canadian visa fee):  
\$19.76 Canadian dollars per applicant, payable in Mexican pesos at Scotia Bank, or at the Visa Application Centre with a Visa or MasterCard.

How to apply for a visa at the Centre:

1. Go to [www.cicmex.com.mx](http://www.cicmex.com.mx) and print out the visa application form you need to come to Canada.
2. Go to Scotia Bank and pay the Canadian visa fee. Keep your receipt. You will need it to submit your application.
3. You may either go to the Centre in person to submit your application or send it by courier with DHL.



## Recipe Corner



## A taste of Austria—Student shares recipe

Florian Schoenhofer, one of our International Students from Austria was kind enough to share a few of his favourite recipes with us. ENJOY!

## Goulash

(makes approximately 4 large servings)

- 2 lbs. of very lean beef, cut into bite sized cubes
- Onions (amount equal to the beef or a bit more)
- Paprika powder, Salt and Pepper



Put some oil in a big pot and fry the meat a few minutes and then put the onions into it.

When the onions are soft and the meat has a nice color but is still raw inside, put lots of water in the pot. The water should cover the onions and meat in the pot. Then put 1 or 2 table-spoons paprika powder

into it. It varies. You have to taste it. Salt and Pepper.

Turn the heat down and simmer for 4-5 hours. Stir frequently, and when the water is gone, add some more.

It is done when the meat is very very soft and the water has turned into a very strong tasty juice.

Cooked potatoes are a typical side dish with goulasch.

## Schnitzel

- Kaiser rolls (few days old and very dry)
- Chicken breast, Pork with no fat or veal
- Bowl of stirred raw eggs
- Plate of flour



Take the rolls and grate them very fine and set aside in a bowl. Cut the meat into very thin pieces, like the size of your hand only much thinner. Cover the meat with plastic wrap so that **it doesn't rip when you pound it, then pound it with a meat hammer**, until the slices are very thin so that you can see through them. Salt the meat. Take the meat and dip both sides in the flour so that it is covered. Then dip it in the eggs and after that dip it in the breadcrumbs so that it is totally covered.

Take a big deep pan and puts lots of oil in it. The schnitzel should be covered when it fries in the pan. Make sure that the oil is hot before you put the schnitzel inside. Turn the schnitzel a few times and cook until it has a golden color.

## Potato Salad (typical side dish with Schnitzel)

Peel and Cook potatoes. When they are done slice them pretty thin. less than a centimeter. Chop onions (red ones are best) and add to sliced potatoes. Put a sip of white vinegar and oil in it. Salt pepper and a tiny bit of sugar. And then you have to taste it to see if you need more oil or more vinegar.

## ESL Class at HHS



## The Last Word



Welcome 2nd Semester Arrivals!

### Hunting Hills High School:

Matheus Miranda Rossetti  
Luanna Alves Silva  
Kwang Ki Song  
Luis Lima  
Fernando Pacheco  
Pedro Nicolau

### Lindsay Thurber High School:

Bernardo Nono  
Gabriela Rejon Ruis  
Hannah Schnieders  
Florian Schoenhofer  
Haruya Umekawa

## What Are You Doing Next Year?

Please complete the following information regarding your intentions for school year 2010-2011:

Please PRINT

\_\_\_\_\_  
Your FIRST Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Your LAST Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Your HOST Family Name

NEXT YEAR I WILL (Please MARK One)

- Study in my HOME Country
- Study Another Year in RED DEER
- Study in a DIFFERENT School System
- Attend UNIVERSITY or COLLEGE in Canada
- Attend UNIVERSITY or COLLEGE at HOME

## When Are You Returning Home?

DATE:  
\_\_\_\_\_

AIRPORT: (check one)

Calgary \_\_\_\_\_ Edmonton \_\_\_\_\_

AIRLINE:  
\_\_\_\_\_

FLIGHT NUMBER:  
\_\_\_\_\_

TIME:  
\_\_\_\_\_

.....  
If your HOME COUNTRY ADDRESS has changed, please let us know.  
.....

## IMPORTANT

- Departure DATES are June 25 and 26 except for those with exams on the 27 and 28 who will then depart on June 29 or 30.
- Host families are expected to provide transportation on June 25 and 26 at no extra charge to you. Students who need to depart on a later date need to check with the Homestay Coordinator and the International Services office.

\_\_\_\_\_  
You MUST return this completed form to International Services before  
May 1, 2011.



## Request For Revalidation / Legalization of School Marks

Many countries including Mexico, Brazil and Columbia require school final report cards to be legalized and revalidated in Canada in order for the document to be accepted at the home school.

The cost is \$125.00 for this service, which includes all legal, embassy and courier fees. Payment may be made by cash, debit card, credit card or cheque at our office.

Please complete the following form and return along with payment to the International Services Office.

Revalidation Request		
Please print clearly –		
Last Name (Family):	First Name:	Middle Initial:
Address of where you want the documents sent once they are legalized. These documents will be sent via courier not regular mail therefore you must provide a building address not at box number.		
Delivery Address Street		
City:	Province/ State:	Country & Postal Code:
Full Telephone Number:	Email address:	Date of Application:

Red Deer Public Schools -International Services  
 4747 53 Street  
 Red Deer, Alberta, Canada T4N 2E6  
 Telephone 403 304 1405  
 Email [internationalservices@rdpsd.ab.ca](mailto:internationalservices@rdpsd.ab.ca)  
 Website [www.rdpsd.ab.ca/internationalservices](http://www.rdpsd.ab.ca/internationalservices)

