

- Golden Hills School Division is unique as it is not located in the international student high traffic areas of Vancouver or Toronto. We are located in western Canada in the province of Alberta. We are about 30 minutes to the east of the city of Calgary, providing a western culture within a multi-generational community of English speaking families, students and schools.
- The Golden Hills International program launched in April 2004 and continues to offer quality learning opportunities, support and encouragement to all international students.
- Many of the Golden Hills schools are amongst the best in Alberta and all are located in safe communities where walking to school or riding the school bus is safe, fun and promotes a healthy lifestyle for kids.
- We have one of the smaller student/teacher ratios in the Province of Alberta and the quality of education in Alberta is ranked amongst the best in the world.
- Golden Hills provides flexible short term group programs with full integration into our schools throughout the year, and winter and summer programs consisting of ESL and cultural activities.
- We have office staff available Monday – Friday to answer phone calls and emails promptly.
- Golden Hills is the only public school division in Canada that offers dormitory residences for international students as well as homestay accommodation.
- Our accommodations coordinators, who are Golden Hills staff members, closely monitor students' living arrangements and report back to families and agents on a regular basis. We also have an International Program teacher who supports students in their academics and career planning including plans to graduate and apply for university programs.
- We send regular progress reports to families and agents to keep them updated.
- We offer the iCent app which provides students with pre- and post-arrival information, health insurance, and other information to help students make their transition in Canada easier.
- Our online application is easy to use. When you apply it will automatically flow into True North, our secure database, including documents and photos, where it will be reviewed by our admissions staff.
- We offer a school parent portal and a parent mobile app allowing parents the ability to access their child's school progress and attendance.
- **(PISA) The Program for International Student Assessment** is a system of international assessments. The report measures the “quality, efficiency and equity” of education in sixty-five countries. Canadian students score high in performance with the Canadian Education System scoring high in equity on **PISA** and Alberta students are consistently in the top five.
- Golden Hills School Division also partners with the Royal Tyrell Museum of Paleontology, the premiere dinosaur museum in the world, offering educational opportunities and experiences that are not available elsewhere.