



Horizon School Newsletter

CHINOOK'S EDGE
SCHOOL DIVISION #73

SEPTEMBER 2021

Hello! We are well into the 2021-2022 school year, and it feels so great to be back. Here are some Horizon Happenings for you.

Horizon Hoodies

Last year, as a staff, we decided that we all wanted to show off our Horizon pride and we worked with Diggers Sports in Olds to create the 'Horizon Hoodie.' We had many students request to purchase a hoodie for themselves, and so we have shared an order form if you like. There are a variety of colours and sizes available.

Coming up.....

September 27th - October 1

Truth and Reconciliation Week

September 29th

Orange Shirt Day. We will be preparing Three Sisters soup and bannock from the harvest of our Horizon garden.

September 30th

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. School closed.

October 6th

Parent Council & Parent Society AGM 9:15 via Google Meet.

Updated CESD COVID-19 Protocols

We thank all of our families for supporting CESD's updated COVID-19 Protocols.

As you may have noted we are still able to welcome visitors to our building, but we ask that you schedule any visits beforehand with either the office or your child's teacher, and it is also required that visitors remain masked when inside the building.

We also appreciate your support in keeping students home when they are sick, even when we are fairly certain that it's 'just a cold'

Our students continue to do an amazing job of supporting all the mitigation efforts that are in place.

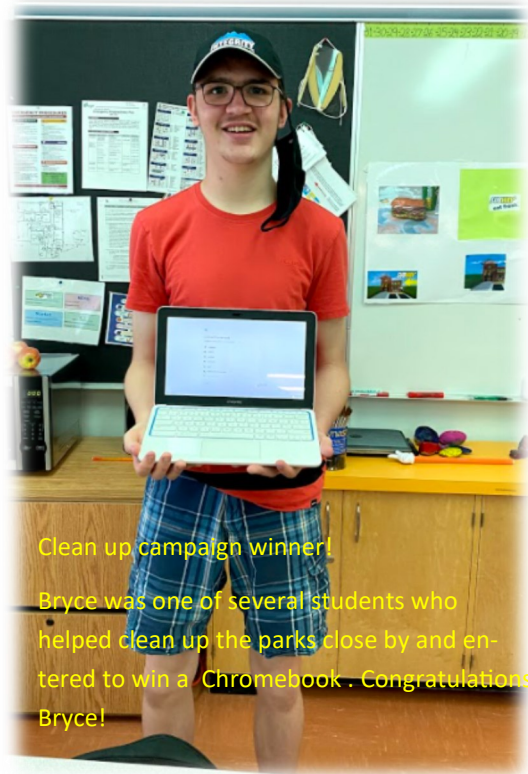
For up to date news and information, visit our school website: <https://www.horizonschool.ca>

Melissa McEwen
Principal
Horizon School





Thank you to Lyndsay James who came to our school and shared a smudging ceremony, delicious bannock and a round dance with our students in June.



Clean up campaign winner!

Bryce was one of several students who helped clean up the parks close by and entered to win a Chromebook. Congratulations Bryce!



Believing in every student

A Message from the Board of Trustees

After a summer of long-awaited visits and activities, we are coming together with a sense of optimism for the year that awaits us. Although we still face challenges, we're able to look beyond and see the clearer pathway that is opening to us. We are all so very excited to welcome our students and staff back to school!

Our Central Office team, school administrators and many other staff have worked hard to take care of many details around safety protocols so that our students can enter into this school year full of enthusiasm. Safety is our top priority. Our schools are prepared and our staff are going out of their way to deliver a world of opportunity to our students. We look forward to engaging every student in meaningful learning, so they can achieve higher levels of success throughout their lifetime. On behalf of the entire Board and Central Office Leadership Team, we wish everyone a tremendous year in Chinook's Edge, *where students come first!*

Holly Bilton, Chair

Board of Trustees

Chinook's Edge Trustees:

Joe-Anne Knispel-Matejka (Ward 1 – Sylvan Lake)

Sherry Cooper (Ward 2 – Penhold / Poplar Ridge)

Colleen Butler (Ward 3 – Delburne / Elnora)

Holly Bilton (Ward 4 – Innisfail)

Connie Huelsman (Ward 5 – Bowden / Spruce View)

Allan Tarnoczi (Ward 6 – Sundre)

Trudy James (Ward 7 – Olds / Reed Ranch)



COVID-19 Protocols for School Start up September 2021 ...at-a-glance information for staff and parents

- The first day of school for students is September 1.
- Chinook's Edge is following the guidelines from Alberta Health Services (AHS) as it pertains to COVID-19 protocols. If the situation changes, we may revise our Chinook's Edge protocols either by school or across the division. Safety is our top priority.
- Masking will not be mandatory in schools and classrooms, but masks are required for all students (K-12) and staff on school buses. We support students, staff and visitors who choose to wear a mask in our schools. If an outbreak occurs we may require masking if directed by AHS.
- It continues to be important that students and staff remain at home if they are sick. If your child is sick, please do not send them to school. If they become sick at school, we will notify you to pick them up immediately. Please refer to this Alberta Health Daily Checklist to monitor your child for symptoms of COVID-19. Please let your child's teacher know of any pre-existing conditions your child may have, to ensure these won't be mistaken for COVID-19 symptoms.
- Schools will continue to employ good public health practices to help reduce the risk of transmission of respiratory infections (including COVID-19, influenza and common colds) among students, staff and visitors. Details are available [here](#).
- AHS will be notifying parents should an outbreak situation occur at a school. Chinook's Edge will report to Alberta Health Services if any of our schools experience a 10 percent or higher absenteeism rate.
- Chinook's Edge will expect all students and staff to follow AHS Isolation and Quarantine requirements when they receive a positive test or when they have symptoms.
- The front doors will be open at our schools, but parents and visitors are asked to make a prior appointment with the school office. As per our routine procedures, all visitors will be asked to use sign-in sheets.
- There are no restrictions on school activities or classroom cohorting; however full school assemblies will be avoided whenever possible.
- Any food brought from home for sharing must be distributed by school staff.
- Sports, music and fine arts activities will be permitted.
- Parents will be given the option of in-person or virtual Parent Teacher Interviews.
- Community use of schools is permitted.
- If schools choose to hold special events, they may adapt the format in order to limit the number of participants.
- Chinook's Edge will continue to clean and disinfect high touch surfaces each day, and provide hand sanitizer in multiple areas throughout each school. Buses will continue to be sanitized after each route. Carpets may be used in classrooms; however, cloth furniture is not permitted due to difficulty in sanitizing.
- Chinook's Edge field trips within the province of Alberta may resume effective September 9th.
- AHS will be holding voluntary COVID-19 vaccination clinics in our schools for students and staff. Details on this AHS vaccination program will be sent to parents. Chinook's Edge is strongly recommending that our staff get vaccinated. As the COVID-19 situation continues to change, Chinook's Edge will remain highly vigilant of safety protocols and will review these items on a regular basis. We are working to provide optimal safety for everyone in our school communities, as we focus on engaging every student in meaningful learning. We are aware that students will be needing reassurance as we move forward, and our teachers and staff will be highly attentive to the Social Emotional Well-being of everyone in our Chinook's Edge schools