

WELCOME BACK!



Administrative Address

Well here it is late October and snow is on the ground. We have had a very busy start to another new year. Our numbers are very similar to last year with 345 students and 37 staff members between our two schools. We are in the second year of Chinook's Edge School Division's new Student Information System, PowerSchool. We believe it will enable us to communicate student progress more effectively, however, the division continues to work out the bugs in the system.

Both Golf and Cross Country Running seasons have come and gone. In Golf our girls team placed 3rd at zones while our boys team qualified for Provincials and placed 7th. Cross country was another successful season.

Our junior team won counties and placed well in zones. Our senior team received 1st at counties and then placed second in both zones and provincials. Great job Scorps! Our volleyball teams are going strong and already at the mid season point. Thanks to all of the athletes, parents, and coaches for their continued support. A special thanks to all volunteer drivers as Chinook's Edge increased the liability insurance to \$2,000,000. Without volunteer drivers any and all extra curricular events would be impossible. Thank you so much!

Other happenings have been our annual Terry Fox Run, "Get Real", wildlife and cosmetology field trips, Halloween Dance, and the humani-

ties field trip (grade 12) to the Vertigo Mystery Theatre. As per normal, school life is busy.

Our Academic Awards Night was a huge success where over 240 students were presented with \$86,000 in scholarships and bursaries including 36 of our students receiving Rutherford Scholarships. Way to go Sundre!

Finally, I would like to welcome you all back to another school year. I know it will be a great one!



High School Art - SPOG Neighbor's Day Auction

"Congratulations to the Sundre High School Art students who have raised \$3,135.00 in this year's SPOG Neighbour's Day Art Auction! In the 6 years that the art auction has been in existence, the students' artwork has raised nearly \$25,000 which has gone to help flood victims, the James River hall, the museum, the

volunteer firefighters association, Sundre Day Care, the Earth In Our Hands Environmental group at River Valley School and now this year, to 10 non-profit youth organizations in Sundre. What a legacy these Grade 12 students leave behind!

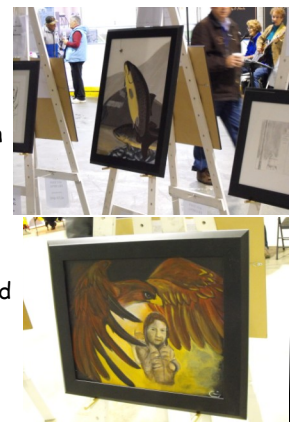
The co-operation between oil and gas businesses, schools and community are what

make our town very, very special. A big thanks goes out to Ms. Wiberg and her students for participating in this event by sharing their artistic talent to make Sundre a better place to live. Sundre High School, your town is extremely proud of you!"

Audrey Eslinger,

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Beginnings

A Message from the Superintendent
Mr. Kurt Sacher

Welcome to what I believe will be a great year to learn and develop in Chinook's Edge School Division.

Last May, I had a wonderful opportunity to tour every school in Chinook's Edge, to meet the vast majority of our staff and to chat with hundreds of students in a wide variety of school communities. This allowed me to begin my role as Superintendent on June 1st knowing the kind of welcoming, people-centered culture that exists throughout our school system. Also, I thoroughly enjoyed my opportunity to connect with nine of our school councils before the 2009-10 school year came to a close. This year I intend to visit and chat with the remaining 32 school councils that I haven't yet had the pleasure to attend.

The 2010-2011 year holds great promise as we set out to provide learning opportunities that are designed to set our students up for what we hope will be a lifetime of success. We want all our students to feel safe at school, to be engaged in their curriculum, and to arrive looking forward to the time they will spend with their teachers and others each and every day.

In Chinook's Edge, you can rest assured that your child will be surrounded by

caring and committed professionals - from bus drivers to educational assistants, administrative support to teachers, and school based administrators to district office staff. We are working to create a learning environment that allows every student to succeed and, ultimately, to follow their dreams.

I sincerely wish everyone in the Chinook's Edge family of school communities a wonderful and prosperous year ahead!

Helping our students achieve success

By many measures, our students are enjoying a strong level of success. The most recent provincial achievement tests show very strong results in Grade 3 (students placed at or above the provincial measure at both the acceptable and excellence levels) and Grade 6 (above acceptable in all four subjects and good results at the excellence level).

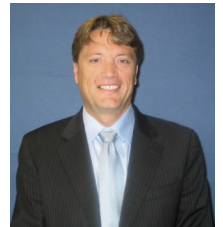
Results at the Grade 9 level are more mixed, however, with average acceptable marks in certain core subjects below what we would like to see. Performance in diploma exams last year was also below what Chinook's Edge is accustomed to achieving. These results are providing an opportunity for our academic teams to re-examine and evaluate our methods of engaging students in our classrooms, so that we can work to improve our

overall results. It is gratifying for us to see so many of our students meeting the standards set by Alberta Education, but we strive to deliver programs of excellence and we know we have work to do in some areas.

These standardized tests are just one of the ways in which we reflect on how well we are doing as a school division. Student and parent responses in the government's accountability pillar survey shows Chinook's Edge has increased significantly in citizenship. Our division also continues to achieve high results in the areas of safe and caring, educational quality, work preparation and school improvement. Working together to provide safe schools, creating access to technology, supporting artistic and athletic initiatives, and providing diverse opportunities for our students are other priorities we work to achieve each day in Chinook's Edge. I am proud the results show students and parents agree that we are succeeding in these areas.

Chinook's Edge students work hard and are surrounded by skilled staff, devoted parents and supportive communities.

Thank you for your role in helping our students achieve success.



Provincial Cross Country

Congratulations to the Sundre Cross Country team who travelled to Vermillion on October 16 to compete in the Provincial Championships. Sundre placed 2nd this year to their rivals, Strathcona Tweedsmuir, but all the athletes ran a good race with Troy Groenewegen placing an impressive 6th in the Junior Boy's, and Cordel Evans placing 23rd in the Senior Boy's category. The team consisted of Birch Gano, Elise Jackson, Troy Groenewegen, Kyle Messervey, Meg Irving, TJ Trottier, Terri Beach, Alyssa Bill-

ings, Rochelle French, Taylor Jones, Cordel Evans, Andrew Bartell, Dave McDonald, Keijiro Osawa, Ian Stevenson, Colby Morris, and Dale Nylund.



Band News

Wednesday, October 6 the Sundre Band Parents' Society held their annual general meeting at River Valley School gym. This was followed by demonstrations by the Grade Seven Band, Grade Eight Band and the Sundre High School Concert Band. Thank you to Sarah Erickson, Ashley Thompson and Noah Bradley for a great report on the SHS Band's activities last year.

Parents also picked up a case of World's Finest Chocolates, the first fundraiser of the year. Chocolate almonds, caramel whirls, mint melt-aways and dark chocolate almonds sell for \$3 per box until **October 27**.

Get Real

I am pleased to report that our Get Real on October 21st went great! Most of the Grade 9's were in attendance plus 18 adults and a whopping 38 teen leaders from grades 10, 11, and 12. This just shows that the students are eager to see some positive changes in their school!! There is a new 'Inspiring Youth Club' made up of students who are keen in keeping this notion alive. Our motto: Small and random acts of kindness can help promote respect and acceptance in our school.

Terry Fox

Sundre High School students along with River Valley School participated in the annual Terry Fox Run on September 30, 2010. It was a wonderful fall day with approximately 1000 students and staff participating on the walk. Mr. Challoner issued a race challenge to his students' and this year the lucky winner was also a recipient of a Terry Fox T-Shirt. Congratulations to Troy Groeneweg for taking up the challenge.

A huge thank you to the outgoing executive:

President: Meg Hufnagel

Vice-President: Ginette Boucher

Secretary: Melissa Rhine

Treasurer: Deb Arkell

Members-at-large: Wendy Botheras, Shigeko Iwabuchi

Please welcome our new executive for 2010-2011:

President: Ken Musselman

Vice-President: Jan Bartell

Secretary: Tracy Hooch-Antink

Treasurer: Colleen Reimer

Members-at-Large: Jan Lahring and Neal Schulz

Many thanks to these parents for volunteering their time and expertise.

We are off to a great start and look forward to a great year of music making!



I am also available for individual or family support. Within a confidential environment, students are encouraged to explore the tough stuff they may be experiencing. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call me at the school on Monday, Wednesday or Fridays.

Warmly,

Melissa Seaborg

Family School Wellness Worker



Coming Events:

Oct. 29 - School Dance

Nov. 1 - Division PD - no school

Nov. 10 - Remembrance Day Ceremony

Nov. 10 - Reports Cards mailed out

Nov. 12 - Non Instructional Day - no school

Nov. 15 - Parent Council Meeting

To ensure the safety of everyone in our schools, it has been a division-wide practice since 2006 for schools to keep all doors locked during instructional times - except for the main front door. In this way, the school office is able to keep track of everyone who is entering and exiting the school facility. Thank you for supporting us in this priority.



Essentials for Food Service Providers

From volunteers who provide breakfast programs in our schools, to staff who manage food preparation, several people participated in a day-long workshop at division office on Oct. 25. The day included information on providing healthy food choices at school, environmental health and nutritional success stories, as well as an opportunity to share successes and challenges as we continue our goal of providing healthy food choices in our schools.



Happy  Halloween