



October 2011

H. J. Cody School



FIVE-0

Hawaii FIVE-0 Attendance Challenge!

We are now well into our Hawaii FIVE-0 attendance challenge. The goal of the challenge is for students to attend the first 50 days of school without missing. By building good attendance habits students will hopefully recognize the benefits of increased class time and access to teachers and their subject knowledge.

The challenge is a bit of double edge sword in that we want students to attend all 50 days but we realize that the fall is a time of colds and flus. When students are legitimately ill they should stay home and this unfortunately takes them out of the challenge. Not to despair! We will be running similar challenges in the upcoming semesters and hopefully everyone can meet or exceed the expectations if they happen to miss this one.

Dates to Remember

- Oct 10, 28, 31 ~ No School
- Oct 18 ~ Parent/Teacher Interviews
- Oct 19 ~ Picture Retakes
- Oct 21 ~ Awards night
- Nov 10 ~ Report Cards
- Dec 5 ~ Grade 9 Party Program
- Dec 6 ~ Grade 9 Party Program
- Dec 9 ~ No School

School Council Meeting

The next School Council Meeting will be held on October 25th @ 7pm in the Library. Anyone wishing to submit topics or ideas for the agenda can call the office or email our Chairperson, Sherry Erichson at knight47@telusplanet.net

**POWERSCHOOL USERNAMES
AND PASSWORDS HAVE
ARRIVED!**

Username and passwords for PowerSchool were handed out to students September 27th. The parent Powerschool access IDs and passwords have been mailed to parents. Watch for them in the mail. If you have any questions regarding PowerSchool please give the office a call.

Progress Reports

All parents can expect a progress report to be sent home during the week of October 3-7. Please sign the report and send it back to the teacher as soon as possible. We want parents to be in the communication loop with regards to their student's academic progress. Please feel free to contact the teacher if you have questions, compliments or concerns with your child's academic progress!

Parent Teacher Interviews

Our Parent Teacher Interview evening will be in the gym on October 18 from 5-8 p.m.

We will be handling our second evening a little differently than we have in the past. Teachers will be gathering one evening to call parents of those students with whom they have concerns if they did not see them on the 18th. As always, a parent can make arrangements through the office to meet with one or all of their child's teachers.

Our staff values collaboration!

On the 23rd of October we met as a staff to discuss, plan and begin the process of building Individual Program Plans (IPPs) for many of our students. Parents of special needs students can expect to be contacted to provide their input into the document in early October.



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome to our first newsletter of the year!

Our school year is off to an extremely busy start. Our teaching staff has been focusing on getting to know the students in their classrooms and are all working hard to deliver highly engaging lessons that cover the various curriculums. Great teachers spend time building relationships with their students so they learn how each student learns as well as their particular strengths and weaknesses. The month of September has been packed with a number of sports teams and clubs starting up. Cross country running, golf, volleyball and football are now all in full swing. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our volunteer coaches for giving up their time to help each of our student athletes participate and enjoy learning the finer points of the sport while experiencing being part of a team.

We also have a large number of students joining our CSI club (Cody Student Initiative) which is a volunteer club based on giving students leadership opportunities in a variety of settings in the school and the community. One of CSI's first major events of the month was a new student luncheon. Our 65 new to Sylvan Lake schools students were invited to a taco lunch and a welcome program which included introductions to student leaders from their grade, welcome packages, even entertainment from our very own Shaye Lyons. What a positive event! Please encourage your son or daughter to get involved so that they are part of such an enhanced school culture.

Our first School council meeting was held on September 20th and a new executive was formed. We welcome Chairperson, Sherry Erichson, Vice-Chair, Tracey Villeneuve and Secretary, Tricia Schmidt. Our next meeting is on October 25th and we welcome all parents and guardians. If you have ideas or suggestions of topics you would like discussed please see the info on the front page on how to submit your ideas.

By now most of our students are settling into productive routines that support their learning. For example most of our students arrive at school on time and are prepared for class. Classes start at 8:35 and this does seem to cause issues for some of our students. The school is open at 8am and our supervision starts at 8:15. We want our students to understand that life after high school will involve deadlines. Punctuality is a recognized condition of employment. We really appreciate those parents who continue to support their child's education by insisting they be on time. Being on time is a real key to the teaching and learning process.

In the first week of the October all of our teachers will be sending home a breakdown of each student's academic progress to date. Please sign the attached sheet and send it back to the school to let us know the information has made it home. We really want you, as parents and guardians, to be in the communication loop. Have a great month of October...hopefully we continue to experience a month of great fall weather!

Cheers

Dave Elwood, Principal



Achieving success in our safe and caring schools

Knowing that a school is safe is a key foundation for a quality learning environment. Chinook's Edge works very hard to create and maintain a variety of safety initiatives. For example, our Safety Manager has regular site visits at each of our schools to ensure staff, structures and processes meet the highest standards. Our staff are trained and comfortable with the division's Violence Threat Risk Assessment protocols, our Emergency Response Plan, and our procedures for dealing with a variety of emergent situations.

Our commitment to ensuring that safety is everybody's business has helped to create a culture of caring and trust in our schools. Our most recent data shows that 92 percent of our students feel welcome at school, 89 percent state they are encouraged to do their best at school, 87 percent feel the school staff cares about them and 86 percent feel safe at school.

From breakfast programs to athletic leagues, and exciting clubs to engaging classrooms, our students are well cared for from the time they arrive to school to the time they go home each day. Everyone at Chinook's Edge is working to bring our Mission and Vision to life by ensuring we are a school division full of safe, happy, healthy students and staff.

Kurt Sacher

Superintendent of Schools

Mission:

Chinook's Edge School Division will engage every student in meaningful learning by challenging, encouraging and believing in them.

Vision:

Chinook's Edge School Division will be universally recognized as a collaborative learning community where learning is personalized for all students to achieve success as compassionate and innovative global citizens.

Student Violence Threat/Risk Assessment: Fair Notice and Process

What behaviors warrant a Student Violence Threat/Risk Assessment to be initiated?

- A Student Violence Threat/Risk Assessment will be initiated when behaviours include, among other activities,

- serious violence or violence with intent to harm or kill, verbal/written threats to harm or kill others, Internet website/MSN threats to harm or kill others, possession of weapons (including replicas), bomb threats and fire setting.

Duty to Report

To keep school communities safe and caring, staff, parents, students and community members must report all threat related behaviours. Every threat must be taken seriously, thoroughly investigated and a response and follow through completed.

What is a threat?

- an expression of intent to do harm or act out violently against someone or something.
- may be verbal, written, drawn, posted on the Internet or made by gesture.

Threats must be taken seriously, investigated and responded to. Schools in Chinook's Edge School Division have zero tolerance for not responding to serious violence or threatening behaviours.

What is a Violence Threat/Risk Assessment team?

Each school has a multi-disciplinary Violence Threat/Risk Assessment Team. The team may include the Division Threat Assessment Liaison, school Principal, or Vice-Principal, School Division Psychologist, Family Wellness Worker, RCMP, Child Protection

It is important for all parties to engage in the Student Violence Threat/Risk Assessment process. If for some reason there is reluctance to participate in the process, by the threat-maker or parent/guardian, the threat assessment process will still continue in order to ensure a safe and caring learning environment for all.

What is the purpose of a Student Violence Threat/Risk Assessment?

The purposes of a Student Violence Threat/Risk Assessment are :

- to ensure the safety of students, staff, parents and others
- to ensure a full understanding of the context of the threat
- to begin to understand the factors that contribute to the threat-makers' behaviour
- to be proactive in developing an intervention plan that addresses the emotional and physical safety of the threat-maker
- to promote the emotional and physical safety of all.

What happens in a Student Violence Threat/Risk Assessment?

The process of a Student Violence Threat/Risk Assessment:

- all threat making behavior(s) by a Student(s) shall be reported to the principal, who will activate the Chinook's Edge School Division No. 73 protocol.
- Interviews will be held with the student(s), the threat-maker, parents and staff to determine the level of risk and develop an appropriate response to the incident
- intervention plans will be developed.

Councilor's Corner

This is the first edition of *Councilor's Corner* and I have a considerable amount of information to pass along this month. First off, I have changed my job description this year. I no longer have a teaching assignment so I am able to spend more time in the councilor's office. This affords me the opportunity to spend more time with students dealing with their concerns around academic issues.

We are using a new career investigation tool this year called *My Blueprint*. This is an interactive program whereby students, teachers, parents and administrators can find information around career programs and choices for students. I am currently in the process of putting our grade 12's on this program and the feedback I have received from the kids has been extremely positive. We will be putting the rest of the grade 10 and 11 students on the program throughout the year.


Red Deer College will be here on October 12 to do their application drive. This is an opportunity for any students going to RDC next year to have their application processed on that day. If they have the courses required for the program they are applying to, they will receive conditional acceptance that day. To date, the appointments are almost filled up so we may have to host a second day later in the month to accommodate any others wanting to apply.

This is an off year for our Career Fair so to offset that, we are trying to host as many post-secondary institutions to present in our CALM classes. To date we have had Augustana University (U of A), with Olds College, Memorial University (Newfoundland), and the University of Lethbridge coming in November. I am waiting on confirmation on a host of other schools as well.

This year we are also taking 5 of our grade 12 students to the University of Alberta to attend workshops dealing with medical programs. These sessions are being hosted by the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame, with each school in the province allowed 5 seats at the conference.

I am about 70% through grade 12 interviews and I would like to extend an invitation to any parents who would like to sit in on these interviews to call and make an appointment. If I have already met with your son or daughter, please feel free to call and make a second appointment.

Mr. Ken MacVicar

Sylvan Lake Youth Drop In Centre					
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
DAZE END Ages 7-12 3-6 pm Boy/Girls Club	DAZE END Ages 7-12 3-6 pm Homework Club	DAZE END Ages 7-12 3-6 pm Sports-o-Rama	DAZE END Ages 7-12 3-6 pm Creative Cats	DAZE END Ages 7-12 3-6 pm Kids Choice	DROP IN Ages 7-12 12-3 pm
	GIRL POWER Girls Ages 9-13 6:30-8:30 pm	TEEN GYM NIGHT Ages 13-18 6-9 pm	BOYZ UNLIMITED Boys Ages 9-13 6:30-8:30 pm	PRANK'D Ages 10-14 6:30-8:30 pm	
		TEEN DROP IN Ages 13-18 6-9 pm			
<p>These Youth Centre programs are provided at NO COST and are well supervised by professional staff & volunteers. The Youth Centre is located upstairs in the Family & Community Centre (4725 43rd Street). Registration is not required but it is recommended that a Membership Form be filled out. Phone 403.887.1137, email youthservices@sylvanlake.ca or check out www.sylvanlake.ca for more information.</p>					

ENGLISH 20 classes

The Grade 11 Chapters trip went well and the students have purchased 55 new books for the library at a cost of \$705.74. Thanks to Ms. Falcon for assisting with supervision of 55 Grade 11's!!



New student Luncheon

In an attempt to make our new students feel welcome and connected, luncheon was planned by our grade 10 and the 20/30 Leadership classes. Welcome packages, a taco lunch, entertainment by Shaye Lyons as well as introductions to many of our student leaders were a big part of the agenda. We have 65 + new students this year!!



Lakers Athletics



Our athletic program is up and running full tilt! This does not happen without our volunteer coaches. Please join us in thanking the following coaches for the giving of their time and effort in making our programs happen for our students to participate in fun, competitive and safe sporting activities:

Mr. Braitenback, Mr. Dunnigan, Mr. Payne – Football

Ms. Gross – Cross Country Running

Ms. Lambert, Ms. Steinback, Mr. Chatwood – Volleyball

Ms. Hosaluk – Cheerleading

Sna Buyks—Curling

CONGRATULATIONS MIKALA JOHNSON!!

Mikala represented HJ Cody at the CESD High School tournament where she took first place. She proceeded to Zones where she won first there as well. This qualified Mikala for Provincials. She placed 30th out of 74 which is a very good showing. Congratulations Mikala!



LAKERS CURLING

Curling starts October 17th. Practices are Monday & Wednesdays

from 4:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.

Sign up for SLCC league play is September 30 at the curling rink. League play is optional., but is encouraged for additional experience.

Lakers Bonspiel is November 26. If interested in joining the Lakers curling team, please see Sna Buyks.



Pick sign up information from Sna Buyks. **Everyone is welcome to join!**

News from the Wild Sida' Things!

Lakers News

This year the Outdoor Education grade 9 classes and the Wildlife classes are starting out with getting their Hunter Education Certificates. Ms. Wagers is hoping to have students tested and qualified to be able to participate in the 'First Time Hunter Mentorship Program' this fall if they so wish to pursue a desire for hunting. Just a reminder to parents that this program costs \$25.00 and must be paid to cover the cost set out by A.H.E.I.A. (Alberta Hunter Education Instructors' Assoc). Ms. Wagers is a qualified instructor and lifetime member of A.H.E.I.A.



This program is to NOT make hunters and fishermen out of all the students but to provide an opportunity to showcase the outdoors as a place of beauty and enjoyment for all. One of the first projects for the students was to create a survival kit that should be carried along on any outdoor excursion... it is hoped that this will also extend to parents and others to put an emergency kit in their vehicles! If anyone would like a copy of what to put in that kit, please contact Ms. Wagers at the school.

To this point, students have had the opportunity to participate in a backpacking trip out to Barrier Lake where they hiked into one of the beautiful backpacking campsites on the lake. Fishing was successful and students enjoyed the chance to "eat what they caught".

On September 24th, about 20 students and parents from Sylvan Lake attended the "Provincial Hunting Day" held out at Alford Lake where they were able to select from a variety of activities such as archery, firearms, leather crafting, and wilderness cuisine. Two of the students from H.J. Cody successfully shot "Robin Hoods" from their crossbow sessions - not an easy feat!! Congratulations!

A huge thank you goes out to the great support from the numerous parents who have helped in so many ways including driving students out to these events!





Do you have unused camping/outdoor equipment?!!!

If you have any camping or outdoor equipment that you are no longer using, would you consider donating it to the Outdoor Ed program? Tents, sleeping bags, tarps, camp stoves, camp fuel, water filters, etc. would be graciously accepted. Some items here at the school have become worn out or have disappeared over the last couple of years and they need to be replaced. Even donations of Canadian Tire money can go towards replenishing supplies. Thank you in advance.

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Fundraising for Outdoor Ed.

If you are looking to buy a SUTP coupon book, consider supporting the Outdoor Ed program. You can get your SUTP coupon book for \$20 camping at the office or you can phone Ms. Wagers at the school. (403-887-2412)

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SCHOOL PICTURES

Picture orders are due on October 6. If you send them in later, Lifetouch will accept the order, but cannot guarantee pictures by Christmas.

Retakes are on October 19. The original proofs must be signed by a parent/guardian and submitted to the photographer before the retake picture is taken.



JAPAN - SUMMER 2012!

Any students interested in going to Japan in July, 2012 are asked to see Miss Wagers as soon as possible.

Mark your Calendars

Transitional Vocational Program

Information Meeting for Parents And Prospective Students

Transitioning Students towards Employment

Janice Findlay, Chairperson, Transitional Vocational Program will be presenting information on their 10 month program that offers employability, independence and interpersonal skills training to young adults with developmental disabilities at Red Deer College.

The Transitional Vocational Program (TVP) offers variety and flexibility in community-based work experiences and classroom instruction in topic areas which will complement workplace learning and independent living skills. Modules include employer expectations, workplace relationships, social skill development, healthy lifestyles, recreation and leisure, managing your finances and many others.

Students are also encouraged to participate in Red Deer College activities such as drop-in sports, attend sports events or simply going for coffee with a friend!

Our goal is for student employment by the end of June.

Although your son or daughter should be 18 to attend, planning ahead is a great idea, so come for the information when they are in grades 10 - 12.

Funding for tuition, books and room and board is provided for all students matched to TVP, so come and learn more!

When: October 24th , 2011 from 7:00 - 8:30 pm

Where: Room 1800, Red Deer College

Registration: Please register with **Janice Findlay** by Oct. 17th , 2011

janice.findlay@rdc.ab.ca or 403 342-3113. Directions will be provided at that time.

