



Dates to Remember

- September 2: First Day of School
- Sept 8: Laker Time Begins
- September 19: Professional Learning Day (No School)
- September 24: Terry Fox
- September 29: Students gathering for NDTR
- September 30: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

Important Links

- [HJ Cody Information Package](#)
- [Chromebook Rental Agreement](#)

Dear Laker Families,

It was great having our new and returning Lakers fill our halls on Monday and Tuesday for picture day. We eagerly await their arrival on September 2nd. If your child missed picture day, not to worry, re-take day is scheduled for October 3rd.

Student schedules are now live on Powerschool. Paper schedules as well as a printout of passwords and usernames will be available to students in the office on the first day of school if they are unable to access their Powerschool account.

If a schedule change is necessary for educational purposes, students should email the appropriate staff member listed below to request the change. Due to the complexity of scheduling over 860 students, we are unable to accommodate changes based on teacher preference or friendships.

Grade 9: Mr. Heppell (complementary courses only) - cheppell@cesd73.ca

Grade 10: Mr. Payne - jpayne@cesd73.ca

Grade 11: Ms. Donaghy - tdonaghy@cesd73.ca

Grade 12: Mr. Payne - jpayne@cesd73.ca

A reminder that the bell schedule from September 2nd-5th is as follows:

Block 1: 8:35-10:07

Block 2: 10:13-11:37

Lunch: 11:37-12:17

Block 3: 12:22-1:46

Block 4: 1:52-3:16

Please refer to the [HJC Information Package](#) for details on the school supply list, bell schedule, school calendar, school policies, and instructions for joining Powerschool to access student grades and attendance. Information about the cell phone policy will be provided next week.

Students are not permitted to use mobile devices during instructional time. Devices must be powered off and stored out of sight. In alignment with Chinook's Edge Administrative Procedure and Alberta Education's Ministerial Order, any device used during class will be confiscated and securely stored in the office until the end of the school day. Mobile devices can be a major distraction, and by removing them from the classroom, we can keep the focus on learning while also supporting students' emotional well-being.

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Our school requests that students bring their own device (Chromebook or laptop) to school daily. If obtaining a Chromebook poses a barrier for your child, the school offers chromebook rentals for \$50, with a rental agreement available in the office. We are committed to ensuring that all students have access to the tools they need for success in their courses. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you need support in providing your child with the necessary materials to start the school year successfully.

We ask for your support in prioritizing daily school attendance. Missing as little as 10% of school (about two days each month) can significantly impact a student's success. For details on our attendance policy, please refer to the information package.

Starting in September 2025, Alberta Education is requiring that all school divisions including Chinook's Edge School Division notify parents about instruction related to subject matter dealing primarily or explicitly with gender identity, sexual orientation or human sexuality. You can expect that your child's school will provide you with a form appropriate to your child's grade level. This notification provides parents with the option to 'opt in' their child for instruction related to the subject matter. Please visit the Chinook's Edge website, here, to see the grade level and curricular topics that require you to "opt in".

We kindly ask that parents and students refrain from using the front bus loop for drop-offs and pick-ups to ensure the loop remains clear for safe bus transportation. The front parking lot is reserved for visitors and staff only. Students may park on the street or in the back (west) parking lot.

We are excited to announce that we have purchased a new bike rack and scooter/ skateboard rack for our students. Students are to lock up their bikes, scooters, and boards outside. These are not permitted in the school. Students will be responsible for bringing a personal lock to secure their bikes, scooters, or boards.

The RCMP and the town of Sylvan Lake are hosting an evening for volunteers to receive their criminal record checks free of charge. Please save the date for September 4th from 4:30-7:30 at the Nexsource Centre. We welcome parental volunteers at our school as chaperones, parent drivers, canteen volunteers as well as other opportunities that come up throughout the year.

We can't wait to welcome our Lakers on September 2nd! Block 1 starts at 8:35 am.

Kind regards,

Alex Lambert, Principal.