



# PENHOLD PANTHER CHRONICLES



## JANUARY 2022 NEWSLETTER



### FROM THE DESK OF THE PRINCIPAL

Happy New Year, and welcome to 2022! We hope you have enjoyed the winter break thus far; that it was full of laughter, love, rest and reflection!

As you all know, Alberta Education has decided to extend our winter break until January 10, 2021. While this is not how we had hoped to start the 2022 calendar year, we are hopeful that this extension will be short lived and we will be able to see all of our students in person soon.

Since this is an extension of the winter break, teachers will not be assigning work for students and students are not expected to log into Google classroom. Our teachers will be working throughout this week, using this time to develop and plan instructional materials, make plans to support student needs, and engage in professional development. We have asked our teachers to honor this extended break to our families and limit information being sent home.

We recognize that the news of the new variant and students not coming back to school feels different to each one of our families. We have families that feel relieved that they are able to keep their children at home for a while longer and we have families that feel getting back to a normal school year is what is best for their kids. We know that each of our families have their own story and reasoning. We also know that each of our families are making the decisions that they believe are best while keeping their child's academic and social emotional needs at the forefront of their minds. Please know that we respect our families decisions and will work with all of you to ensure the best academic programming is put into place for each of our students.

For a multitude of reasons, this can be a difficult time for people. We would like to remind families that there are a number of supports available including:

- Food bank number is 403-346-1505
- AB Mental Health is 403-346-5466
- Help distress line - 1-800-779-5057

Our school Family School Wellness, Teresa Ainscough, can also support families who need assistance in accessing these resources. Please reach out to her through email at [tainscough@cesd73.ca](mailto:tainscough@cesd73.ca).

For families who purchased hot lunches on January 4 and 6th, these lunches will be moved to days further in the month. Once these days are confirmed, messaging will be send home in agendas, through our message system and communicated through our Facebook page.

We will be in touch with families as this Covid-19 landscape changes over the next few days, weeks and months. As always, please call the school to speak to either one of us if you are in need of support, have questions or concerns.

Yours in Education,

Lisa Baird, Principal and Giselle Meyer, Vice-Principal

### SCHOOL WIDE TURKEY DINNER

Our school wide turkey dinner was a complete success! The students thoroughly enjoyed their meal, and celebrated the Christmas season together as a whole! A huge thank you to Mrs. Tindall, our nutrition coordinator as well as the staff members of PES the hard work and extras that they put into making this event one to remember! A huge thank you to Bulletproof Info Tech for their generous donation that provided this wonderful meal!

### Important Dates @ PES

- January 10th - First Day Back of 2022
- January 11th - Parent Council Meeting
- January 12th - Flannel Theme Day
- January 14th - No School - Collab Day
- January 27th - Literacy Day
- January 31st - No School

### January Hot Lunches

- January 11 - Chicken Burgers
- January 13 - Chicken Caesar Salad
- January 18 - Chicken Alfredo
- January 20 - Pizza from Pizza Pizza
- January 25 - Taco in a Bag
- January 27 - Baked Potatoes



### A message from the Superintendent

In Chinook's Edge, we know that creating a positive social-emotional culture in our schools will significantly impact the well-being and achievement of both students and staff. We care deeply about this priority and the entire division is engaged in creating SEW supportive classrooms. Social Emotional Well-being (SEW) has been a key divisional goal for us for several years.

Under the direction of Dr. Marcie Perdue, Associate Superintendent of Student Services, Chinook's Edge has developed a series of training sessions for school leaders, teachers and support staff. The focus of these sessions is to promote universal social emotional strategies, such as focusing on the classroom environment and using visuals to support classroom routines. The training also focuses on the importance of developing emotional vocabulary and self awareness. The strategies are being shared through training to all division staff who work directly with students: teachers, educational assistants and school administrators. A highlight of the training sessions was recognizing key characteristics which capture the most impactful social emotional classroom environment.

This determined focus, to bring social emotional well-being supports to life in every school, will help students and staff reach their full potential. When everyone in our school communities are met each morning knowing they are welcome, safe, cared for and respected, they are more open to learning, leading and succeeding.

We would like to hear from you about this priority through a brief survey on our website: [Let's Talk Social Emotional Well-being](#). (link to website button when it's live)

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and the Central Office Leadership Team, we wish each of our Chinook's Edge families a happy and healthy new year! Here is the latest [Board eNews](#), and please visit our website for more Trustee Updates.

**Kurt Sacher,**  
Superintendent of Schools

**A MESSAGE FROM OUR SUPERINTENDENT - MR. KURT SACHER**

**SUPPORTING THE HEALTH AND WELLNESS OF OUR STUDENTS AND STAFF**