

Remote Learning - Semester 2

February 22, 2021



Remote Learning is entering Semester 2 under the leadership of Dean Nielsen, Vice Principal of Hugh Sutherland School in Carstairs. Dean's role at Hugh Sutherland is being covered for the duration of this school year, so that he can guide remote learning for Chinook's Edge students until they are ready to return to their classroom.

Remote Learning began in Chinook's Edge last fall, in response to a need for students to learn from home due to COVID-19. It was created to address unique short-term challenges that certain students and families may face during this time of COVID-19.

"We know the best learning happens in the classroom, but that doesn't mean there's not great things happening in Remote Learning," said Dean. "A very positive development at the start of Semester 2 is that we're seeing a significant decrease in the number of students requiring remote learning at all. I think people in general have become more comfortable moving safely forward in our reality of the pandemic and the shock has worn off. Our schools have worked hard and been successful in keeping everyone safe. When the time is right for our remote learning students and their families, they are returning to in-school learning."

Before his role as Hugh Sutherland Vice Principal, Dean was the division's Assistive Technology Coordinator - a position which supports his current objectives of connecting with students and families remotely. He has worked to create a newsletter for remote learning parents and provides opportunities for them to see inside the remote learning centre, which has been set up inside École Innisfail Middle School for this school year.

"We're working to ensure students and parents are engaged and moving their learning forward, until they're ready to return to school. We're building a connection to the school community, as we support each other on the way back to the classroom."

A team of five teachers and four Educational Assistants is supporting the work of Remote Learning in Chinook's Edge for this school year.