

Board eNews ... issued February 16, 2023

The Board of Trustees recently <u>received an update</u> about work underway to provide social emotional supports for students in Chinook's Edge. The division received a <u>provincial grant of \$1.4 million</u> earlier this school year, for a two year mental health pilot that will see the addition of five Mental Health Consultants and three Family Enrichment Workers in Chinook's Edge. The Board also financially supports the <u>YES program</u>, <u>the FSW program</u> and the Social Emotional Team with close to \$3 million in funding annually. Trustees are supportive of the division's preventative approach and the multiple layers of supports available for students and families.

The Board appreciates the daily work of staff in schools to strengthen the social-emotional skills of students. For instance, <u>this Roots of Empathy program</u> underway in <u>River Valley School</u> in Sundre is just one small example of the work teachers do with students.

The Board is pleased that each Chinook's Edge school will soon receive and display Indigenous flags, following a flag <u>ceremony at Olds College</u> in January. <u>This video</u>, summarizing the event, will be shown in schools and shared on the website and social media. Trustees are eager for the work of reconciliation to happen collaboratively in our communities.

Trustees were pleased to note that Chinook's Edge's Indigenous Education Coordinator, Patrick Mitsuing, performed at the Superbowl in Phoenix, Arizona on February 12, 2023. Mitsuing is a renowned Indigenous fancy dance performer.

The Board <u>has approved</u> its <u>Annual Education Results report</u>. The report reviews the work of Chinook's Edge in three major goals: Academic Excellence, Social and Emotional Well-being, and Career Connections.

Trustees <u>are considering</u> the impact of student attendance on success. The Board plans to take a deeper look at attendance to ensure correct supports are in place for students.

Chinook's Edge has <u>updated its Inclement Weather procedure</u>, including a few minor changes. The Board is supportive of the division's intent to continue finding a balance between keeping schools open and safety for students and staff.

Trustees congratulate Olds Koinonia student Mya Plett for her <u>team's win at the U18 Canadian championships</u> in Ontario. Plett's team members are from all over Alberta. Plett is the team skip and lives in Carstairs.

The Board was pleased to learn that Jane Turnbull, an École Olds High School student, is the recipient of this year's Julian Charles Arthur Sacher Scholarship.