

The Steffie Scoop

4720 45th Ave Sylvan Lake, AB T4S IA5 Website: <u>steffiewoima.ca</u> Chinook's Edge School Division #73

February 2022



	February Dates
4	Hot Lunch– Main Street Eatery (M/W
9/10	Winter Conferences (K-5)
	Booster Juice– Very Berry (T/Th KG)
10	Jersey Day
11	No School - Non Instructional Day
14	Wear Red for Valentine's Day
	Pink Shirt Day
18	Wok Box (T/Th KG)
21-25	No School– Winter Break
24/25	Teacher Convention

February is Steffie's Acts of

Kindness Month.

Let's practice kindness, compassion, compliments and friendliness to each other.



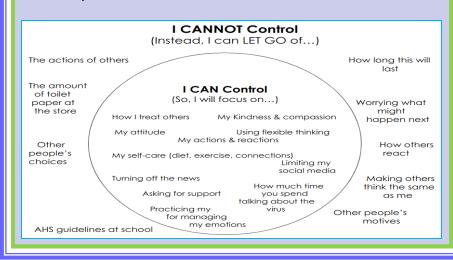
Safe & Caring Message: Focusing on Our Circle of Control



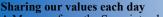
Wow! The last two years have certainly been difficult for all of us. In a global pandemic, there are many uncertainties that surround us. It has never been more important for us to support one another and reflect on how to practice self-care as adults and students!

In his book "The Seven Habits for Highly Effective People," Stephen Covey talks about things that are in our circle of concern (things we are concerned about but have no control over) versus our circle of influence (things we can control).

If we spend all our time and energy focusing on the things that are beyond our control, our mental energy becomes depleted and our stress levels rise. It is so important to try to let go of the things that we cannot control, or at least pay less attention to them. It is much healthier to decide to work in our circle of influence/control to help us to decrease our frustrations/worries as well as increase our positivity and energy level. We can start this by reflecting on what is directly within our control to do something about and focus our time and energy toward this. By switching our focus and our energies to positive activities we regain a sense of control in a world that can feel very unsettling and messy.



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A Message from the Superintendent

In Chinook's Edge we are proud of our mission and vision statements, which continue to guide our every effort. This year more than ever, teachers and school staff have relied upon these words that guide our relationships, inform our work together, and impact the potential of each student. We all place a high value on relationships in

Chinook's Edge and, although we have been challenged to maintain our usual high level of connectedness, we see many examples of our strength as a connected team of staff, students and families.

With respect to parents, we are proud of a number of ways we are connecting in a meaningful way:

- Despite restrictions in our buildings, many of our schools are seeing strong participation in virtual School Council meetings.
- Schools are also reporting a positive response to the new Parent Teacher Interview module provided through our new websites.
- Grade 5-12 students and parents are accessing PowerSchool to see continual updates of student progress.
- Our bus families are using a new app that allows our Transportation Team to communicate in real time each day which is particularly vital during a cold season where every minute counts if you are waiting outside on a rural road.
- Collaborating with our Parents Matter Committee ٠ continues to provide a meaningful exchange of ideas.

Being connected to our parents and to one another is key to our success in many ways. It has never been more important for us to remain understanding of each other, as we continue reaching towards the aspirations contained within our mission and vision statements so that all students can achieve success.

We would love to hear your thoughts through this month's parent - what word or phrase describes what you value most about your child's school?

Kurt Sacher **Superintendent of Schools**

For Trustee updates and to read the latest Board eNews, please <u>click here</u>.

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.

Firstly, I would like to thank our parents for your help and support as we have navigated January. The AHS checklist is an important component in keeping our school as safe as possible. Thank you for going over the checklists daily with your kids and following the

expectations of the different scenarios as listed in the boxes below the checklists. Thank you for letting us know when your child is ill, keeping them home when they are sick or needing to isolate as a household contact, and monitoring for symptoms. I would also like to thank our staff for all the extra work they have been doing with keeping the student work posted to google classroom, catching kids up, and doing all the regular daily work! With everyone working together we are able to move learning forward for our students.

We are looking forward to a busy month in February. We will be having Parent-Teacher conferences on February 9th and 10th and we are looking forward to connecting with our families. February is Kindness Month at Steffie! We will be encouraging our students to do Acts of Kindness and encouraging everyone to be treating others with kindness. Our days are so much better when everyone shows kindness and fills the buckets of others! Please take a few minutes to talk with your child about how they might fill someone else's bucket or do an Act of Kindness. We will be having Valentine's celebrations this year. Students are welcome to bring Valentine Cards for their classmates and if families wish to send in individually wrapped treats or snacks for classmates, the adults will hand them out following AHS protocols. We will be having our Pink Shirt Day on February 18 as the official Pink Shirt Day is during winter break. Winter Break is February 21-25th for students and teachers will be busy learning as Teachers' Convention is February 24th and 25th.

To help prepare our students for the world of work and learning beyond high school, we have, at the elementary level, the important job of building the critically important foundational skills of reading and writing. As a school, we have been focusing on improving student reading results for about nine years. We have been so excited about the progress and achievement of our students. Just like any skill, students need to practice reading regularly to become very good at it. Thank you for reading with your child often and helping them to discover the excitement of books and reading. With all of the learning disruptions, reading every day has become even more important!

Have a fantastic February!

Ms. Eadie-Gyori-Principal

Hot Lunch

Thank you very much to Jennifer Bahler, Rhonda Christie, and Lindsay Clark for helping with January Hot Lunches.

If you would like to help with hot lunches please contact

Jennifer Bahler at jbahler17agmail.com

HARD COPIES OF THE NEWSLETTER ARE AVAILA-

A Message from our Principal



The Steffie Scoop



Parent Council News

Next Parent Council Meeting: Tuesday, February 15th, at 7:00 p.m.

Our last School Council meeting was on January 18. We have decided that we will be postponing the Whole School Book Club indefinitely. We will purchase a book and be ready if restrictions change and allow the activity to be fulfilled in its entirety with the integration between schools, activities and draws throughout and the final wrap up. The purpose of the Book Club is to get families reading and talking about reading together and unfortunately in this difficult time we do not want to "add just one more thing" to everyone's already overloaded lives.

Marathon Day is June 10! Save the date. Things will look different this year...but we are hoping it will still be a go, just different! Sponsorship packages will be going home soon once all details have been ironed out and approved. But if you know you'd like to be a sponsor of the marathon this year, please contact me, Jennifer Bahler, at <u>jbahler1720gmail.com</u> for more information. This is our 10th year and we'd really like to make it the best yet; while still maintaining the low cost and abiding by all the COVID rules. For those of you who are new to the school, the marathon is a pedometer marathon geared to encourage daily physical activity for all, with the side benefit of achieving a goal! We encourage everyone— students, siblings, parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, friends—to join in and get active. We hope to motivate children and their families to commit to a healthy lifestyle and develop a habit of daily fitness for life.

We are looking at ways to possibly do the book swap safely within parameters, look for more details to come.

Jennifer Bahler—School Council Chair



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