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## Directions Newsletter Regular Meeting of the Board – February 2018

### MCCS Students Share Google Classroom with Chinook Board

Students and teachers from Maple Creek Composite School have been effectively using Google Classroom in a variety of ways. It has allowed them to be engaged in a variety of ways through academic projects and through collaboration. It is not unrealistic to have students working with teachers on any given day and at any time!

Today at the Chinook Board meeting, the MCCS students presented on Google Classroom and guided the Board Members through what it is like to log in to Google Classroom, complete an assignment, turn it in to the teacher, share feedback and see how they did!

*\*Photos available on Chinook social media platforms*

### Distance Education Monitoring Report for 2016-2017

*Shelby Budd, Principal of Chinook Cyber School*

The goal of the Chinook Cyber School is to support Chinook schools in providing students with core and elective programming to supplement and enhance their high school experience. As a result, students are able to stay in their home town school and receive a more well-rounded educational experience.

The Cyber School works in partnership with Chinook schools to provide students with programming to meet high school requirements, elective courses to enhance learning opportunities, a collaborative online learning environment by providing the opportunity and the means for communication between the student and the online instructor, and dynamic courses that take advantage of the online environment through differentiated instruction and assessment.

Cyber School courses are taught by highly qualified teachers who are teaching in their areas of expertise. This provides flexibility for timetabling in schools and for the busy lives of our students. CCS makes it a priority to create supportive learning environments by setting goals that focus on learning, not just credit attainment.

***In 2016-2017, the Chinook Cyber School offered a total of 63 courses (up from 59) through the following methods:***

- **Asynchronous** – online delivery of courses using the learning management system (LMS) Moodle. These courses are semesterized.
- **CSI (Continuous Student Intake)** – asynchronous delivery of courses using Moodle. Students may begin the course at any time during the school year and have up to one full calendar year to complete the course. Courses close over the summer. Students may

apply for extension, though it is not recommended. CSI is not the recommended enrolment option for most students.

- The Synchronous delivery option has been discontinued.

### **Highlights:**

- Enrolment increased from the previous year by approximately 140 seats to 1143.
- Teaching staff 9.3 FTE – made up of 6 full-time and 14 part-time in 11 schools.
- New courses: Earth Science 30, AgTech Crop Production 10, Construction 10, Environmental Science 20, Sports Psychology 20, Information Processing, IP10/LT30, ELA A30 Hockey Themed course.
- Highest enrolments: Core class - ELA classes; Elective class - Native Studies 30.

### **Celebrations:**

- 99% completion rate – up from 96%.
- Communication goal has resulted in students feeling more connected to their teachers.
- Visits to schools are always well received.
- Involvement on a provincial level with the future of online learning in Saskatchewan and continue to be leaders in the province in online course design and pedagogy.
  - CCS Staff presented at the DE Academy in Saskatoon.
  - Presentation at Rural Congress and involvement on the DE review committee.
- Continued interest from outside our division, provincially, nationally and internationally to have access to our courses for resources and development purposes.

Going forward, CCS will focus on formative assessment, course design an online reading comprehension and they will continue the integration of Chromebooks with courses. Engagement strategies in conjunction with effective student communication will also help inspire student learning.

## **Chinook School Division Strategic Plan**

In the Board's leadership role for the Division, they have committed to an annual strategic planning process. As a result, they have created and approved a school division strategic plan for 2017-19, giving direction to our schools as they do their planning for the 2017-18 year. These plans are also aligned with the provincial education sector plan.

***Within the 2017-19 Division Strategic Plan, the Board has highlighted the following areas for Chinook to focus on:***

- By June 2019, high impact writing instructional strategies will be implemented.
- By June 2020, strategies and structures will be researched and systematically implemented across the division to engage the 21st Century Learner.

***The long-term outcomes for the overall Division Strategic Plan are:***

- By June 2020, 80% of students will be meeting the Provincial expectation in reading, writing and math.
- By 2019, 100% of SCC's will have implemented a Community Engagement and Alignment Plan.

- By 2020, Chinook's 3-year average graduation rate will be 90% and the 5-year average graduation rate will be 93%.
- By 2020, 90% of Chinook students exiting kindergarten will score within the appropriate range in the cognitive domain, language and communication domains as measured by the Early Years Evaluation (EYE).
- By June 2019, the Board will have implemented strategies that will annually ensure efficiency of budget, compliance to policy and legislation, as well as alignment to the ESSP.

The Education Sector Strategic Plan (ESSP) is a province-wide plan developed in co-operation with all education sector partners, approved by the 28 school boards and accepted by the Government of Saskatchewan. The goal of the strategic plan is to enhance the experience and achievement of all Saskatchewan students using a Student First approach to focus our work on what matters most... the student.

## **Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week: February 11-17, 2018**

To recognize and celebrate the valuable work of all education professionals in our schools, the Government of Saskatchewan has proclaimed February 11–17, 2018 as Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week. As we celebrate Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week in Saskatchewan, this is a great opportunity to acknowledge and thank our remarkable education professionals who are responsible for the growth and development of our students. This year's theme, "Inspiration through Learning" celebrates the interactions between teacher and student, and how each can inspire each other to ensure students strive to reach their full potential.

The Chinook School Division Board would like to acknowledge and thank our extraordinary team of teachers and staff for their caring service and dedication to our students, schools, families and communities. We appreciate that Chinook teachers and staff work hard to put students first, and create positive and supportive learning environments for all children. Working with students directly and in support roles, they ensure that the school day is safe, engaging, and filled with great learning experiences.

We also want to celebrate the extra time that our teachers and staff give to students outside of the classroom! 513 Chinook teachers, administration and support staff have contributed a total of 17,238 Professional Service Recognition (PSR) volunteer hours this school year so far - from September to December 2017. *(PSR includes volunteer hours with students, doing supervision or extra-curricular activities)*

## **Kindergarten Registration for 2018-2019**

**Kindergarten Registration Week for all Chinook Schools is March 5-9, 2018.** Parents can check [chinooksd.ca](http://chinooksd.ca) or contact your local school for specific dates and to register their child.

- Kindergarten eligibility is age 5 by December 31, 2018.
- Parents must bring proof of child's birth date (Birth Certificate) AND Sask Health Card.
- Please contact your local Chinook school to register your child.

On Tuesday, March 6, there will be a common registration night at Irwin School for all **Swift Current city schools** (Irwin, École Centennial, Central and Fairview), starting at 7:00pm.