

Sidney Street School Presentation: “First Nations Dancing”



One of the goals for Sidney Street School this year was to build cultural awareness and education. They have been very fortunate to have Terrance Goodwill as a partner from Nekaneet First Nations and Terrance has come to the school to teach Grade 4 and 5 students about First Nations dancing.

Three students from the Grade 4 class attended the Board Meeting to demonstrate the Grass Dance, also known as Freestyle, that they learned from Terrance! Board Members were invited to participate in a demonstration of a Round Dance and to celebrate and appreciate what it means to be part of the circle.

Thank you Principal Rob Stewart, Terrance Goodwill and students for a great presentation and dance lesson!

Athletics Status Report

Valerie Gordon, Athletic Coordinator

The Chinook School Division area matches our SHSAA Southwest district. The South West Athletic Conference (SWAC) has been in existence since 1951, with the purpose to plan, supervise and administer inter-school athletic activities in the SWAC of Saskatchewan, including play-offs leading to section, district, conference, regional and provincial level championships.



The following are SHSAA Senior (high school) sports: Golf, cross country, soccer, football, volleyball, basketball, curling, wrestling, badminton, and track and field. Junior programs offered within Chinook include golf (exhibition) volleyball, cross country, basketball, curling, badminton, and track and field, as well as some junior football (Grade 8). Chinook continues to have high participation rates, especially compared to urban centers.

The Current executive (2018-19) includes: President – Jennifer Foley (Shaunavon), Vice-President - Lana Steckler-Marshall, Treasurer – Trish Carleton (Ponteix), Secretary – Talena Scott (Ponteix), Officials Rep – Tyson Krause (Maple Creek), Whitemud Rep - Riley Zielke, Rolling Hills Rep - Eric Crosbie, and Cypress Hills Rep - Pat Wilde. SWAC is divided into three geographical areas called “sections”: Cypress Hills, Rolling Hills and Whitemud. Each school with students in grades 7-12 has a person designated as Athletic Director.

- There are more than 325 junior and senior coaches (grades 6-12) who are teachers. Some of them coach more than one sport.
- Chinook has approximately 50-60 community coaches, including non-teaching staff members.
- There are 50-75 registered officials (not including students who officiate) for volleyball, football, soccer and basketball.
- We continue to monitor and require proper coaching certification and criminal record/vulnerable sector checks for all our coaches to ensure the safety of student athletes. We have a number of steps in place at the local, division and SHSAA levels and these are absolutely essential.

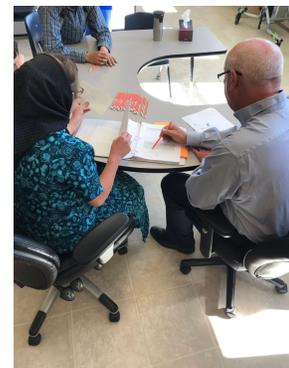
There is an athletics information section within the Chinook website with links to the SWAC website, where parents, students, community members and school staff can find a calendar and weekly updates. SWAC is very active on social media ([Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#)) posting upcoming events, photos and results.

Hutterian Status Report

Steve Michaluk, Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Michaluk shared many of his insights and discoveries as a new superintendent supporting learning at ten of Chinook's Hutterite schools. Chinook has built a very respectful and positive relationship with the colonies. Brethren leaders, German teachers, colony administrators, teachers, and staff; as well as Chinook Education Centre staff work together to educate Hutterian youth, while supporting their way of life. Colony representatives meet with Chinook on several occasions and communication has been very effective, our positive relationship is continuing with the Brethren.

The Board supported all colony teachers and educational associates in attending the annual Saskatchewan Hutterite Educators Association (SHEA) conference. The Brethren is very appreciative of Chinook's support of the SHEA conference, where principals, teachers, educational assistants, German teachers and ministers can work together in supporting Hutterian schools and their students.



The division has 32 colony schools in the 2019-2020 school year with 493 students, which is up 10 students from the previous year. There has been a general population decline over the last 12 years of 176 students.

Chinook Receives Notice of Job Action

The Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation has been involved in a provincial bargaining process that has reached a difficult stage. This morning, the STF announced that the Teachers' Bargaining Committee will be implementing sanctions beginning Thursday, March 12, 2020.



Under the Restriction of Services sanction, all Federation members will:

- Continue to provide students with the best possible learning opportunities during the school day.
- Report to school and provide professional service no more than 15 minutes prior to the start of the school day and not later than 15 minutes after the conclusion of the school day.
- Continue to provide student supervision such as recess, lunch or bus supervision within the time frame specified above.
- Not provide any voluntary or extracurricular services.
- The sanction will remain in effect until further notice from the STF.

The Chinook School Division recognizes that extracurricular activities provided to our students outside of the classroom are not part of the required areas of study nor the specific duties of staff. As a result of these sanctions, we must cancel all extracurricular activities beginning Thursday, March 12, 2020 until further notice. This includes sports, clubs, band, music and drama events, as well as any field trips or travel outside of the school day.

The division has a plan in place to cover a few locations where bus supervision is needed outside of the time frame specified by the STF. All bus schedules will remain unchanged at this time. Families have been asked to make sure that students walking/driving to school or being dropped off do not arrive until 15 minutes prior to the first bell time.

The Chinook School Division values the excellent work that teachers do with students in our schools and for our communities. Teaching is a challenging vocation. Unfortunately, the challenges are compounded when boards of education do not have the necessary funds or resources to better support our teachers.

Letters have been sent to all Chinook families. Should this job action cease, or if there is a change, division personnel will communicate with families and staff directly. Updates will be posted on our social media channels and website as well.