

Eastend Students Demonstrate Robotics Skills



Eastend School grade 9 and 10 students, along with their PAA teacher, Mr. Daigle, visited the Chinook Board meeting to demonstrate Arduinos, which is a type of circuit board. The students talked about why the class is important and presented a number of projects that they have completed this year so far.

Eastend School is currently offering the new robotics curriculum as part of a 9/10 PAA survey course. In

this class students are programming Arduinos to do a number of tasks, ranging from turning on lights to operating a remote control car. Besides coding, students are also learning how to build the required circuits.



Thank you from the 2019 WCSG Host Society

Melissa Shaw and Mark Benesh, Co-chairs, shared the following message:

The 2019 Western Canada Summer Games Host Society would like to take this opportunity to thank the Chinook School Division for their outstanding support of the Games. Our vision was to inspire excellence in sport and community through relationships, teamwork and volunteerism. The Chinook School Division board and staff were excellent partners in all of these areas! Through the use of your facilities and equipment and the volunteer efforts of many, we were able to provide a safe, comfortable and enjoyable village experience for over 1500 young athletes.



The feedback from participants, mission staff, volunteers, community members and visitors has been overwhelmingly positive and your support played a part in making that happen.

Host Society Co-chairs Melissa Shaw and Mark Benesh presented a 2019 WCSG medal plaque to Chinook Board Chair, Kim Pridmore, as a token of their appreciation and a memento of a memorable Games experience.

Facilities and Maintenance Status Report

Kevin Jones, Manager of Facilities and Maintenance

Chinook maintains 29 buildings in the Division. In 2018-2019, the Maintenance department completed a total of 2,054 work requisitions. This year, special projects included starter's booth renovations and a washroom plumbing project at SCCHS, Herbert School science lab renovation, play structure and boarder at Irwin School, 5 gymnasium lighting projects, basketball hoop installation at Central School and rekeying projects at Leader and Hazlet schools.



Every year the Maintenance Department completes an assessment of all school facilities within Chinook. They are rated out of 100% according to criteria that includes Electrical, Plumbing, Structural, Roofing, Accessibility, Exterior Conditions, Health and Safety, Yard Site Development, Interior Finishes and Functionality. The goal that the Maintenance Department has set for a rating is 80%. This goal is not achievable for all facilities through the efforts of the Maintenance Department alone, in some cases this goal may only be reached with the support of a capital project. During the past thirteen years, 27 out of 29 schools (93%) have had an increase in their overall rating. Twenty-three schools or 79% increased more than 5% in their overall rating since 2005. The average increase in the overall condition of Chinook school facilities is 9.7% over the past 13 years. Each year the building envelope, landscaping, mechanical systems and interior finishes including doors, windows and flooring get one year older in their life cycle, which directly impacts these ratings.

91% of the approved minor renovation projects were completed over the past year. Requests are initially prioritized using the following criteria: 1) health and safety 2) educational, and 3) aesthetic. They are then rated (A) – Immediate Need, (B) – Moderate Need, and (C) – Low Need.

We are now in year seven of the PMR (Preventative Maintenance and Repair) Ministry funded program. Currently, funding is allocated to each school division based on the total gross area of all schools. Chinook received \$693,000 for 2013-2014 and has received a yearly increase in PMR funding, with \$2,263,184 for the current year 2019-2020. This type of funding, combined with previous budget allotments, will allow Chinook to plan and complete renovation projects internally without Ministry delays. PMR projects must be approved by the Board and follow the criteria set out by the Facilities Branch of the Ministry of Education. Several PMR projects are planned over the next 3 years at Eastend, Stewart Valley, SCCHS, Irwin, Sidney Street, Shaunavon High, Burstall, Hazlet, Herbert, Leader, Consul, Vanguard, Central, Shaunavon Public and Waldeck schools.

This past year, the maintenance department has been operating with a reduction in staff. Work responsibilities are adjusted as required to meet project obligations and work requests. With the current level of operational and PMR funding, we continue to look at solutions for the most efficient ways to operate and maintain Chinook school facilities. The continued focus on efficiencies include facility improvements such as lighting conversions to LED technology and occupancy sensors. Mechanical project enhancements include building management systems, energy efficient boilers, furnaces and heating equipment. These ongoing initiatives and general maintenance projects enable Chinook school facilities to be a great place to work and go to school environment.

The Western Canada Summer Games were hosted in Swift Current from August 9-18, 2019. Four Chinook schools were involved as facilities or venues during the Games, including Hazlet School, O.M. Irwin School, Swift Current Comprehensive High School and Wymark School. An acknowledgement is extended to the Facility and Maintenance staff, as their efforts helped ensure the games were a success. Staff served as volunteers and were also willing to alter and postpone vacation time to be available to work the required evening and day shifts in the schools to support the athletes, the school division and the community during the Games.



Official 2019-2020 Enrolments

Kyle McIntyre, Director of Education

As of September 30, 2019, Chinook has 5942 students; last year at this time we had 5948 students. We are only down 6 students from last year! Out of 5942, 5314 are in our public schools; 493 are colony students and 135 are home schoolers.

We are up 10 colony students, have 5 more home schooling students, and overall we are down 21 students in our public schools from last year. Significant increases were seen at Fairview (10); Centennial (49); SCCHS (33). Significant decreases were at Irwin (-30); Ponteix (-18); Val Marie (-17); Gull Lake (-12).

Currently no staffing adjustments are necessary at any Chinook schools, and annual staffing will be revisited in the spring based on enrollment projection. Our final enrollment is slightly below the number we had budgeted, but much better than we anticipated. Chinook will continue to monitor the enrolments to determine if some of the changes are trends or anomalies.