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Directions Newsletter Regular Meeting of the Board – March 2018

Athletics Status Report

Presented by Deb Reamer, 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 sanctioned Senior (high school) sports: Golf, cross country, soccer, football, volleyball, basketball, curling, wrestling, badminton, and track and field. Junior programs offered within Chinook include volleyball, cross country, basketball, curling, badminton, and track and field, as well as some junior football. Chinook continues to have high participation rates, especially compared to urban centers.

The Current executive (2017-19) includes: President – Jann Walker (SCCHS), Vice President – Jennifer Foley (Shaunavon), Treasurer – Trish Carleton (Ponteix), Secretary – Talena Scott (Ponteix), and Officials Rep – Tyson Krause (Maple Creek).

- 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 CRC/vulnerable section 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.

In 2017-18, SWAC hosted Regional 1A girls soccer (Herbert) and 3A boys soccer (SC), Provincial 2A 9 man football (Shaunavon), Provincial 1A girls volleyball (Fox Valley), Regional volleyball (Leader - girls, SC - boys), and Regional wrestling (SC). In 2018-19 we will host provincial 1A volleyball (girls) at Fox Valley and provincial badminton at Swift Current.

There is an athletics information area within the Chinook website as well as links to the SWAC website. Parents, students, community members and school staff can all find a calendar and weekly updates in this area. SWAC has a Twitter account (@swacsports) for upcoming events, info and results as well.

Hutterian Status Report

Presented by Superintendents of Schools, Mark Benesh and Jan Pogorzelec

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.

There was an expansion to 32 colony schools in the 2017- 2018 school year. The general sense is that the Hutterian population is on a decline and dropped to 493 students in 2017-2018. This results in a drop of 59 students over four years, and a drop of 166 students over the last 11 years.

Chinook has a continuing positive relationship with the Brethren. There has been a decrease in student absenteeism and the learning coach is supporting colony teachers and students with Math and Literacy. This has been very effective in helping our young and new teachers adapt to their new colony school settings.

Success School “Writing Goals”

As part of Success School's Balanced Literacy around our Writing goal this year, we provide our K-9 students a variety of opportunities in each classroom, as well as during special occasions throughout the school year to participate in Quick Writes, Shared Writes, Creative Writing and Journaling.

Oakley (Gr. 1), Gib (Gr. 2), Kye (Gr. 4), Elliot (Gr. 5), Ty (Gr. 8), Zander (Gr. 9), Sydney (Gr. 9), along with Mrs. Tracy Spence and Mr. Kevin Regier highlighted these family group writing activities at the Board meeting today. The students had the Board members participate in a writing activity using a poetry template, and the middle years students show an Adobe Spark presentation that they created on our Chrome books that highlights writing within the classroom. The students read and shared their personal experiences with the Quick Writes and Shared Writes that stems from our teachers receiving Chinook SD professional development from the Penny Kittle book, "Write Beside Them".

During the Christmas season, we had our K-9 Family Groups do a Quick Write on the topic, "My favourite part of Christmas, or the Holiday Season is..." then during announcements throughout the following week, students read over the intercom what they wrote. Their writing was then laminated and posted around the trophy cases in our front foyer for everyone to read.

Our second opportunity to write as a whole school group activity was during the Family Literacy Week at the end of January. This was a Shared Write, where the older students were writing buddies with our younger students and they wrote on a topic of their own choice. Within each classroom, writing has become a central activity in our English Language Arts classes with different genres of writing from descriptive, narrative, expository, to creative and journal writing.

**Photos available for media use on Chinook social media platforms.*

Chinook Finds Cost Savings in Transportation

Media Release available on our [website](#).