

École Centennial: “Building Connection and Culture During COVID”

École Centennial School Principal, Angela Schindel and Vice Principal, Chris Siemens presented a video demonstrating how they introduced staff and students to the rest of the school throughout the year; how they shared and celebrated their learning with the rest of the school and their families; and ways they connected with their school community positively through activities. The video wrapped up with a focus on team morale.



Heading into this school year, the staff team at ÉCS committed to a focus on relationships, connections and finding creative ways to keep the school community connected during covid (due to restrictions and not being able to have school wide events and activities). The daily video announcements are an excellent way to build this connection with students, staff and families. As a result, every day at ÉCS is like an assembly. The school starts each morning with video announcements, available to families via the school YouTube and website. Staff and students can submit videos to share their learning and classroom activities with the rest of the school via the video announcement. It gives students, staff and families a "window" into the awesome days at ÉCS.

There is no denying that this is an incredibly challenging school year, and the school administration is very proud of their team and students for making the best of this year and showing what "Star Grit" is!

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 (2020-21) includes: President - Jennifer Foley (Shaunavon), Vice-President - Lana Steckler-Marshall (Leader), Treasurer - Trish Carleton (Ponteix), Secretary - Talena Scott (Ponteix), Officials Rep - Tyson Krause (Maple Creek), Whitemud Rep - Riley Zielke (Shaunavon), Rolling Hills Rep - Eric Crosbie (Gull Lake), Cypress Hills Rep - Pat Wilde (Fox Valley), and SCCHS - Andrew Herrick. Mark Benesh is the Superintendent and Trustee Ken Duncalfe represents the Board of Education. 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.

COVID-19 Impact on Extracurricular

In March - June 2020, due to COVID-19, winter extracurricular sport was put on pause (wrestling, basketball, curling) and spring sports were canceled (badminton, track and field). In the fall of 2020, a “Return to Sport” protocol manual and subsequent documents for schools was shared with schools. Schools/coaches had the choice of no extracurricular, “in house” extracurricular and “mini-league” extra-curricular.

SWAC was one of a handful of districts that were able to have competition during the fall sport season.

- Football - SCCHS played “in house”, Shaunavon/Maple Creek/Gull Lake all played 9 man in a home/home series.
- Soccer - Herbert and SCCHS stayed “in house” for practices/games.
- Golf Celebration - 17 golfers from 4 schools took part.
- Cross Country Celebration - 47 runners from 6 schools took part.
- Volleyball (42 teams took part in mini-leagues of three teams)
 - SCCHS/Gull Lake/Shanavon High/Shanavon Public stayed all in house.
 - The North Cluster middle years started in the house after Thanksgiving.
 - A few schools kept young junior teams playing “in house”.



In November 2021, SWAC plans to host 1A boys Provincial Volleyball (Fox Valley) and 5A girls Provincial Volleyball (SCCHS). In March 2022, we will host Curling Provincials in Swift Current (boys/mixed) and Fox Valley (girls).

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

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 regularly and communication has been very effective, our positive relationship is continuing with the Brethren.



At the beginning of the school year, reopen plans were established in all Chinook Hutterian schools to address safety concerns and COVID-19 protocols. This was due to the collaborative work of the Hutterian Safety Council, Hutterian Brethren, Saskatchewan Health Authority, and the Chinook School Division. Consultation also occurred with colony teaching staff and other school divisions.

26 Hutterian schools have remained in face to face learning each day this school year. Many personal connections are made with colony students, teachers and German teachers, and there is a deep pride in colony education and way of life. Teachers, school staff, and German teachers have worked together to provide positive student learning experiences within the expectations of the reopen plans. Schools are supported in a number of ways including the Hutterian Learning Coach, professional learning communities, and teacher assistance teams.

In November, the Grade 2 and 3 Reading Levels in colony schools were down 11% from last year. We are working to support schools in the short term through the intervention funding and to support our learning response. Hutterian Schools have access to funding this spring to bring in additional staff, attend PD to support these literacy gaps.



The division has 32 colony schools in the 2020-21 school year with 499 students, which is up six students from the previous year. There has been a general population decline over the last 13 years of 170 students.