

### What's Happening:

### Tuesday, September 7th

Picture Day

### Thursday, September 16

Class of 2022 Grad Ring
Order

#### Friday, September 24

No School

### Wednesday, September 29

Terry Fox Run

### Thursday, September 30

• Orange Shirt Day



There is a limited number of extra yearbooks available for purchase. Payment of \$35.00 can be made with cash only at the office on a first come, first serve basis.

# **Bowden Grandview School**

SEPTEMBER I, 2021

## Welcome Back

### Dear BGS Families,

We hope you had an amazing summer and were able to spend some time relaxing and enjoying our hot sunny weather. We are so happy to see our students returning to school in a somewhat "normal" scenario. We will continue to monitor the COVID situation and work closely with our Chinook's Edge Leadership Team and the Chief Medical Officer of Health to ensure that our staff and students continue to be healthy and well. We have included details around our protocols in the August 30 School Messenger that was sent out.

We are pleased to announce that Mrs. Emma Turville will be back teaching in our junior high. We are also happy to announce that Ms. Aimee Berreth is joining the team as the new playschool teacher. Welcome back Emma and welcome to our school Aimee!!

If you haven't had a chance, please check out our new BGS website. This along with our Facebook page, School Messenger and this newsletter will be our most common modes of general Bowden Grandview communication this year. In addition to this, each teacher will also have their own methods of communication.

Unfortunately we will have to postpone our Welcome Back BBQ and Community Registration night until a time when we can more safely gather.

We look forward to starting the new year and are excited to see all our BGS students again!

Mr. Jeff Thompson Mrs. Dawn Weststrate Principal Vice-Principal



The Student Vote 2021 will be held on September 20, 2021 for all students in grades 5-12. This is a fantastic opportunity for students to cast their ballot parallel to the 2021 federal election. Our hope is to foster the characteristics of young voters, increase political interest early and improve attitudes towards democratic participation in the population. We encourage parents to get involved and discuss the election and election issues with your kids!

PAGE 3

### A Message from the Board of Trustees

Believing in every student.

After a summer of long-awaited visits and activities, we are coming together with a sense of optimism for the year that awaits us. Although we still face challenges, we're able to look beyond and see the clearer pathway that is opening to us. We are all so very excited to welcome our students and staff back to school!

Our Central Office team, school administrators and many other staff have worked hard to take care of many details around safety protocols so that our students can enter into this school year full of enthusiasm. Safety is our top priority. Our schools are prepared and our staff are going out of their way to deliver a world of opportunity to our students. We look forward to engaging every student in meaningful learning, so they can achieve higher levels of success throughout their lifetime. On behalf of the entire Board and Central Office Leadership Team, we wish everyone a tremendous year in Chinook's Edge, where students come first!

Holly Bilton, Chair

**Board of Trustees** 

### Chinook's Edge Trustees:

Joe-Anne Knispel-Matejka (Ward 1 – Sylvan Lake) Sherry Cooper (Ward 2 – Penhold / Poplar Ridge) Colleen Butler (Ward 3 – Delburne / Elnora) Holly Bilton (Ward 4 – Innisfail) Connie Huelsman (Ward 5 – Bowden / Spruce View) Allan Tarnoczi (Ward 6 – Sundre) Trudy James (Ward 7 – Olds / Reed Ranch) Gordon Kerr (Ward 8 – Didsbury) Melissa Copley (Ward 9 – Carstairs / Cremona)

For Trustee updates and to read the latest Board eNews, please visit our website.

### COVID-19 Protocols for School Start up September 2021 ...at-a-glance information for staff and parents



• The first day of school for students is September 1.

• Chinook's Edge is **following the guidelines from Alberta Health Services** (AHS) as it pertains to COVID-19 protocols. If the situation changes, we may revise our Chinook's Edge protocols either by school or across the division. Safety is our top priority.

• Masking will not be mandatory in schools and classrooms, but masks are required for all students (K-12) and staff on school buses. We support students, staff and visitors who choose to wear a mask in

- our schools. If an outbreak occurs we may require masking if directed by AHS.
- It continues to be important that students and staff remain at home if they are sick. If your child is
- sick, please do not send them to school. If they become sick at school, we will notify you to pick themup immediately. Please refer to this Alberta Health Daily Checklist to monitor your child for symptoms of
- COVID-19. Please let your child's teacher know of any pre-existing conditions your child mayhave, toensure these won't be mistaken for COVID-19 symptoms.
- Schools will continue to employ **good public health practices** to help reduce the risk of transmission of respiratory infections (including COVID-19, influenza and common colds) among students, staff and visitors. Details are available here.
- AHS will be notifying parents should an outbreak situation occur at a school. Chinook's Edge will report o Alberta Health Services if any of our schools experience a **10 percent or higher absenteeism** rate.

Chinook's Edge will expect all students and staff to follow AHS Isolation and Quarantine requirementswhen they receive a positive test or when they have symptoms. The front doors will be open at our schools, but parents and visitors are asked to make a prior appointment with the school office. As per our routine procedures, all visitors will be asked to use sign-in sheets. There are no restrictions on school activities or classroom cohorting; however full school assemblieswill be avoided whenever possible. • Any food brought from home for sharing must be distributed by school staff. • Sports, music and fine arts activities will be permitted. • Parents will be given the option of in-person or virtual Parent Teacher Interviews. • Community use of schools is permitted. • If schools choose to hold special events, they may adapt the format in order to limit the number of participants. Chinook's Edge will continue to clean and disinfect high touch surfaces each day, and provide hand sanitizer in multiple areas throughout each school. Buses will continue to be sanitized after each route. Carpets may be used in classrooms; however, cloth furniture is not permitted due to difficulty in sanitizing.

- Chinook's Edge **field trips** within the province of Alberta may resume effective September 9th.
- AHS will be holding voluntary COVID-19 vaccination clinics in our schools for students and staff.

Details on this AHS vaccination program will be sent to parents. Chinook's Edge is strongly

recommending that our staff get vaccinated.

As the COVID-19 situation continues to change, Chinook's Edge will remain highly vigilant of safety protocols and will review these items on a regular basis. We are working to provide optimal safety for everyone in our school communities, as we focus on engaging every student in meaningful learning. We are aware that students will be needing reassurance as we move forward, and our teachers and staff will be highly attentive to the Social Emotional Well-being of everyone in our Chinook's Edge schools.