# **Poplar Ridge Elementary School**

### May 3, 2021 Newsletter

#### Principal's Message

#### Congratulations Mrs. Funk and Welcome Mr. Davidson

As you all know by now, Mrs. Funk has moved on to a new gig at Division Office! She will be one of the CESD Student Service Coordinators, supporting teachers and school leaders in the area of inclusive education. I know I speak for all of us at Poplar Ridge when I say how much we will miss her! Mrs. Funk has left an indelible mark on the lives of every child she has taught, every family she has supported and every staff member she has worked with.

It is my pleasure to announce that Mr. Daniel Davidson will be replacing Mrs. Funk as Mrs. Chu's grade 5 teaching partner! Mr. Davidson completed one of his pre-service practicums with Mrs. Funk and Mrs. Chu and as been a valued substitute teacher in their class and our school over the past year and a half. He knows the students in grade 5 well and will do a wonderful job supporting their learning for the remainder of the year. I have asked Mr. Davidson to write a little bio for our newsletter. Please see below!

#### Ticks

With the warm and dry spring, we have a few new visitors on our playground - TICKS!! Please make sure that you are checking your child each night to ensure one hasn't found a home with them!

#### **Baseball in Grades 4-6**

Our grade 4-6 students will be playing baseball in PE when the weather permits. We have been given permission to play this sport in **PE class only**, as long as students have their own or an assigned glove provided by the teacher. They cannot share gloves. We will be sanitizing bats and balls after each use, as per AHS guidelines. Your child's teacher will be letting you know what they have planned in case your child doesn't have a glove. At this time, students are not permitted to play catch during recess times.

#### Hiring of New Vice Principal

As Mrs. Funk has moved on to a new role, we are now working with People Services at Division Office to post for and hire a new Vice Principal ,who will begin with us in the 2021-2022 school year. The School Council Executive and PRS staff have had an opportunity to provide feedback to the hiring committee on the attributes and qualities they hope the new VP will have. Interviews and hiring will take place in the last two weeks of May. As soon as we know who the successful candidate is, we will make an announcement. In the meantime, I will be leading the school on my own for the remainder of the year with support from our amazing staff.

As Covid numbers continue to climb, we are so very grateful that, as a school, we have not been affected. This is in part due to our diligence in ensuring that we are following AHS and CESD guidelines and due to your support of the guidelines and keeping your children home when they have symptoms. Thank you so much for working with us as we do our best to keep students and staff safe! Let's hold the course for a eight more weeks.—we've got this Team PRS!!

Carolynne Muncer

## Welcome to our Team



Hi! My name is Daniel Davidson and I am very honored to be replacing Mrs. Funk for the rest of the school year. I thought I'd take the opportunity to share a little about myself. I grew up camping, 4-wheeling, and helping my father renovate the homes we lived in. Some of my favourite ways to pass the time are to play sports, like hockey and golf, or read my favourite book " The Lonesome Dove." For some reason I have decided that my favourite hockey team is the Calgary Flames! I am the oldest of four; I have one younger sister and two younger brothers. Last but not least, I have recently decided to buy a house in Red Deer that I am going to renovate this summer. I'm excited to provide an awesome learning experience for the students in Grade 5 in any way I can!











#### Ensuring the highest levels of safety

A Message from the Superintendent

As we enter into the second spring of the pandemic, we are exceedingly grateful to everyone in our school communities for working to maintain our high standards of safety. While our diligent attention to safety continues to be practiced in every classroom and in every building throughout our division, this year the pressing need to work within COVID-19 restrictions has required an extra effort from everyone.

In Chinook's Edge our staff and students are mindful of maintaining the detailed safely protocols that are embedded in our division culture. This means that, while we all deal with the ebb and flow that the pandemic has required of us, our attention to our safety program is unchanged. Chinook's Edge has continued to achieve COR (Certificate of Recognition) status for multiple years, as we surpass the required safety standards in our schools and departments. We insist on optimum safety, because we care about the people in our buildings – our students, staff, parents and volunteers – and because it's the right thing to do.

We do want to acknowledge the efforts of our parents and volunteers, who have been creative in finding virtual ways to reach out and support our schools despite the restrictions on in-school visits. We had this goodwill in mind during the recent National Volunteer Week, as we continue to move forward together with caring and compassion.

#### Kurt Sacher Superintendent

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