

# Horizon School

CHINOOK'S EDGE  
SCHOOL DIVISION NO 73

JUNE 2020



## *Congratulations to our 2020 Graduates!*

Please click on the links below to watch a special video of our Graduates!

**Congratulations to our Graduates, Shane, Kegan, Quissianna, Aurora and Noah Riley! A little tribute to you!**

Aurora: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BboMqocNrgg&feature=youtu.be>

Quissianna: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hsnkwgPyR8E&feature=youtu.be>

Kegan: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZOhFCy6cROo&feature=youtu.be>

Noah Riley: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MUA1RgwKo4&feature=youtu.be>

### ***A special note for our graduates and their families:***

This is a graduation year like no other any of us has ever seen. However, this year's 'event' - our inability to hold a physical event - is transformational not only because of the context in which it occurs. While it may be a defining moment in our histories that we'll always remember, this pandemic doesn't define the moment that we get to celebrate that five members of our much beloved Horizon Family are beginning the next stages of their lives. It's a tough moment because goodbyes are difficult, but it is overwhelmingly a happy moment for us. We are SO proud of each of our graduates for the individual achievements we have been honoured to witness. The growth has been incredible. As the pictures shared below show, there's been physical growth - everybody is taller, but that's not the growth I'm talking about. It's all of the little things that each of our graduates has accomplished that has brought them to this wonderful launch point.

While school is complete, learning is not. Every day will continue to bring new opportunity, and you will continue to become more and more ... YOU. Our most sincere well wishes for the next leg of the journey!

And don't forget, we will be taking the opportunity to celebrate TOGETHER in the fall once we have clear guidance and confirmation from the government about what our return looks like. We look forward to seeing you all then.

If you are in Olds, swing by Grammie's Nooks & Crannies to check out their tribute display to our graduates. They are also proud supporters of the Horizon Parent Society.

### ***Staffing News***

Since our last newsletter, we have some updated staffing news to share. Mrs. Sharon Collin, our Vice Principal, will be moving into a Coordinator role with Division Office. While she will be greatly missed at Horizon, we are also so proud that she will be able to take all that she has learned here into schools throughout Chinook's Edge School Division. We greatly appreciate the contributions that she has made during her time here, and we are going to miss her dearly.

Sharon's departure means that we will welcome a new Vice Principal next year. Mrs. Coralie Mobley will be joining the Horizon Family in the VP role. Horizon isn't exactly a new place for Coralie as she has been supporting the work that we do here for several years through her role as our Student Services Liaison. She comes with a particular interest and skill in Assistive and Augmentative Communication, which is a huge asset and support for many of our students. We are very much looking forward to her becoming a more permanent member of our team!

### ***Gratitude***

A huge THANK YOU to the Cremona Community Chest. With their recent donation to the school we were able to purchase some new sensory furniture for our students! We truly appreciate that during difficult times Horizon School continues to be the beneficiary of the generosity and kindness of others.

### ***Returning Materials***

We are in the process of preparing for the return of materials (mostly Chromebooks that have been loaned) to families that we lent to students so that they could access online learning. We will be in touch about scheduling drop off times shortly!

### ***September***

As you may have heard, our government (and us!) are hoping for a 'near normal' return to school for students come September 1st. We will have confirmation of this from the Minister of Education by August 1st. We have been very busy planning and working to be prepared for all three possible scenarios, and we will ensure that we clearly communicate 'the plan' in late August. In the meantime, if you have any specific concerns, worries or questions, I encourage you to pass them along ([mmcewen@cesd73.ca](mailto:mmcewen@cesd73.ca)). The more we know about how our families are feeling and what they're thinking, the better we can prepare to meet everyone's needs.

### ***Change of Address or Move***

Please contact the office if you are planning a move or if your address has changed. Thank you!

Alumni & Newsletters

If your family is now moving on to becoming 'Horizon Alumni', we encourage you to continue to subscribe to our newsletter through the [Horizon School website](#).

### ***Horizon Parent Council and Horizon Parent Society***

On behalf of all Horizon staff, students and families, I would like to thank everyone who has participated in Horizon Parent Council and the Horizon Parent Society. Not only did they put up with meeting with me on a regular basis and providing input on 'school matters', but a very small team of people volunteered their time and decoded all the ins and outs of running a casino which raised a significant amount of money for the Parent Society to be able to give back to the school.

Marvel McAmmond  
Abbie Cummings  
James Cummings  
Lisa Pierson  
Lianne Manning  
Tom Stockdale

## **THANK YOU!**

Your efforts and benevolence makes the lives of Horizon students BETTER. We appreciate your ability to give of yourselves for the benefit of others.

If you are interested in learning more about how you can join these wonderful souls next year, watch out for information coming when we return next year.

I'll end this newsletter by thanking you as our partners in learning through this pandemic. It has, no doubt, been challenging for all of us, but you have supported your children and done the best that you can, and that is something that we can all be proud of. It's also ok if we are all ready to get back to as 'near normal' as soon as possible!

Wishing you all a safe and wonderful summer!

Sincerely,  
Melissa McEwen



Staff were able to drive by and wish



Ethan is getting some great exercise this spring on his new bike. Good job Ethan!



Mr Vince has been so helpful adding some finishing touches to the school! Thank you so much!







Horizon School is grateful to have a garden plot at the College this year. We planted in May and we are excited to see how well the seeds will grow.

Many thanks to our helpers who volunteered to put the seeds in and water the rows!







We had a safe distance picnic this past month to wish Miss Jenna and Miss Sharon all the best in their new beginnings  
You will be missed!!

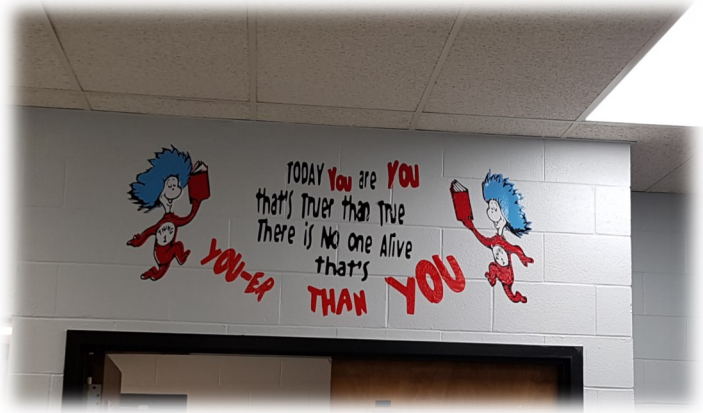


Welcome Miss Alanna! Alanna will be teaching the STAR 1 group this year.



Welcome to Mrs. Coralie Mobley our new Vice Principal at Horizon School!





The library has had a bit of a face lift! We can't wait to share it with all of you in the fall!



## **A message of thanks**

From the Superintendent

As the end of a school year draws near, our typical June newsletter message would reflect on the meaningful learning that we have shared together as a division. Although meaningful learning has taken place, I don't need to tell you that it required a significant adjustment to the way we typically serve our students in a face to face environment. I know that it has been equally as challenging at your end. This year has been a testament to the fortitude of everyone involved – our students, teachers, parents, staff, and community. Our entire Board and Central Office team would like to express both our pride and gratitude for every level of success that has been achieved in each of our school communities.

We know that even in the best of times our leaders and our people need to be able to handle a changing world and all of the ambiguity that comes with that. During a pandemic that pressure is elevated to a place that requires the very best mindset from all of us. To get through this, we are all doing what we can to remain calm, to be flexible, to support the increasing social emotional needs of our students, and yet still keep our eye on our core purpose: student learning. Our classroom, school and division leaders have all been put to the task in ways that we could not have completely anticipated. We know we did well under difficult circumstances, and yet we also know we need to learn from this and be even better in the fall. Moving learning forward during the pandemic has involved hard work and dedication from every corner, including the amazing perseverance of our students and their parents. We will need the best from everyone involved as we move into the 2020-21 school year.

Until that time, I hope that the summer months provide opportunities for all of you to be with your family and friends and restore the vitality that you may have lost during these unsettling times. I look forward to the fall and I hold out great hope for the days ahead.

**Kurt Sacher**  
**Superintendent of Schools**

### **Trustees at work for students**

As a Board of Trustees, we are proud of the robust structures in place that support high levels of student success. We believe this will help in closing any gaps in student learning at this time of pandemic. Please read more in the [June Board eNews](#)

### **Connecting with Students**

Please [click on this link](#) to see a publication we prepared for our Chinook's Edge students! This was emailed to all Grade 7-12 students last week and is posted on our website under the 'Caring' feature.





