

Celebrations 2021

Congratulations to our staff who are being acknowledged during the Alberta Teachers' Association & Board of Trustees Celebrations season! Thank you for your dedication to Chinook's Edge!

Although the pandemic has disrupted our traditional Celebrations banquet, we are pleased to know schools and departments are honouring our staff on their milestones with Chinook's Edge. Congratulations to this year's retirees, ATA inductees and long-service award recipients. The full program is attached for information.



Rick Phillips is congratulated for sharing his skills as a bus driver in the Didsbury area for 40 years! He is well known in the community for going beyond the call of duty to ensure student safety and he has had great relationships with all his bus families for decades.



Penhold Elementary, like schools throughout the division, honoured their recipients at a staff meeting: Lisa Baird (Principal-10 year recognition), Jessica Hammer (Music/Phys Ed teacher-ATA Inductee), and Melissa Rose (Admin Support-10 year recognition).

Bridging common ground in Health, Wellness and Safety

There are certain areas of their work where Aaryn Manning (Staff Health and Wellness Worker) and Rod MacLean (Health and Safety Coordinator) share the same goal: take good care of yourself and others.

“We approach it differently because we have different duties, but whenever we can combine our messaging for staff I think we should,” said Rod, whose primary role involves occupational health and safety.

“As just one example, Aaryn has a great approach to the positive benefits of walking and my role requires a staff reminder about safety while Winter Walking. Instead of distracting staff with a test about winter walking, how about we include safety messaging in Aaryn’s information that encourages staff to go for a walk. We can do this differently and still maintain safety practices throughout the division.”

“Division Office has a walking challenge underway right now and some of our schools have walking clubs,” said Aaryn. “Our Wellness Champions are taking the lead on these activities when there is interest. Staff Health and Wellness has always worked to encourage and embed all the concepts of a healthy approach to supporting wellness – combining safety tips with our messaging is a perfect idea.”



Best foot forward - Aaryn Manning and Rod MacLean bring their common priorities to their lunchtime walk! Winter is coming and the cold, dark months can be a challenge to our sense of wellbeing. Walking is a proven, easily accessible activity that brings a myriad of benefits. Let’s lace up our safe walking shoes and don our reflective gear and go for a walk!

From now on, watch for a Tip Sheet on safe winter walking instead of a test - and head outside for some fresh air!