

Chinook's Edge schools mark Orange Shirt Day

A variety of activities filled our classrooms, hallways and gathering areas last week to mark Orange Shirt Day - also National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Since schools were closed on September 30, staff and students either observed the day sometime last week or planned to do so this week. From guest speakers or performers, to special art projects or other ways of learning and experiencing, schools helped students understand more about Indigenous history in Canada, as a part of our journey together. #CESDIndigenous Learning. Here are a few highlights.



Reed Ranch School

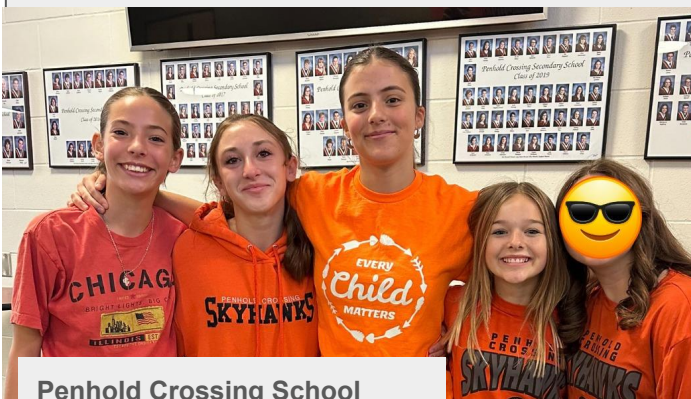


Didsbury High School



John Wilson Elementary School - dream catchers

Carstairs Elementary



Penhold Crossing School



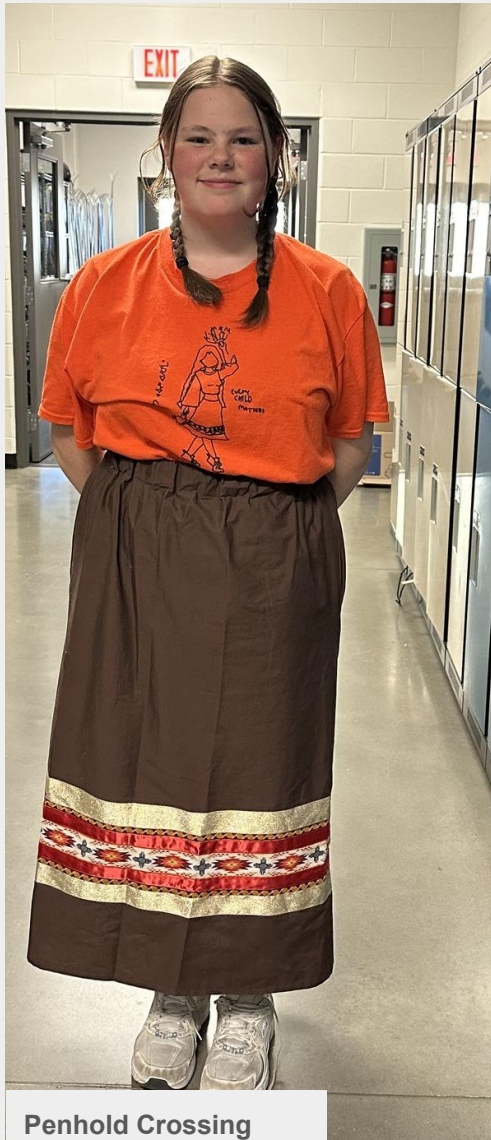
Westglan School



C.P. Blakely School



C.P. Blakely School



Penhold Crossing

Carstairs Elementary



Carstairs Elementary

Penhold Elementary



Penhold Elementary



Delburne School



Bowden Grandview - welcomes Clare Butterfly



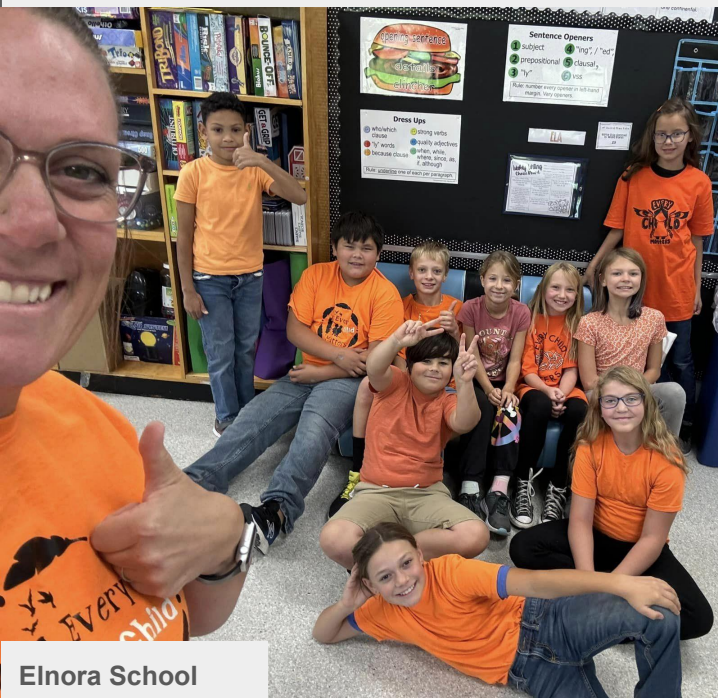
Spruce View School



Cremona School

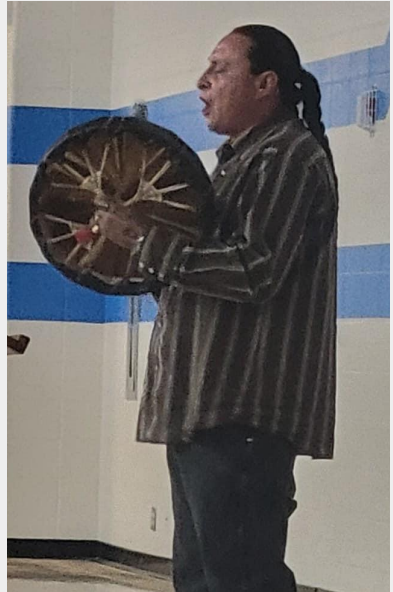


Penhold Crossing



Elnora School

River Valley School



Innisfail schools welcomed Ryan Willert, a professional Indigenous artist (right), who shared his story with students



Large atlas highlights Indigenous history for École H.J. Cody students

École H.J. Cody students, in Sylvan Lake, had the opportunity over the last few weeks to learn more about Indigenous history in a unique way.

Teacher Melissa McQueen borrowed a large atlas from the Alberta Teachers' Association, and asked Indigenous partner Clare Butterfly to share insights about Indigenous peoples to students.

“Students were able to really see the impact, in person, and the scale of impact of language and residential schools on different Indigenous groups in Canada,” says McQueen. “A few students were able to make a significant connection between what we were learning for transatlantic slave trade and the overlap with policy in Canada historically.”

McQueen says, “This map and the timeline that went around it offered students the ability to make these connections on their own without prompting.”

“The atlas encourages exploration and, while Clare Butterfly was telling stories, students were able to listen while simultaneously discovering things that relate to important places, names, locations and languages,” she says.

McQueen says she has been able to use the atlas in previous years and appreciated the resource because it ***“opens up space for discovery and helps us to look at Canada from a new perspective.”***

McQueen says, ***“The size of the map is one of the best things about it. It takes up space. A lot of it. In a world where Indigenous culture, language and knowledge has been marginalized in educational spaces, this map takes over space and pushes Indigenous knowledge to the forefront of our learning.”***





Clare Butterfly, centre in the top image (and on previous page, as well as the image to the left by the tipi)), shares about Indigenous culture and history - using the atlas borrowed from the Alberta Teachers Association.

Bottom image, teacher Melissa McQueen (3rd from the right), shows Ecole HJ Cody students the Atlas



THANK YOU!



Educational Assistants...

you make a difference!



It's a great week to celebrate some of our amazing staff members!

September 29 is a day for celebrating Educational Assistants. Since that fell on the weekend, the division chose **October 1** as a day to say thank you.

We appreciate each of our educational assistants for the caring way you work with students, encouraging and helping them be successful.

You make a difference! Thank you!

On **October 2** it is National Custodian Day.

Thank you to each of our custodians and our maintenance staff. Your hard work helps to create and maintain clean, healthy and safe learning environments and we are so grateful!

We are also thankful for the positive influence you have with students and with staff.

Thank you for all you do!

THANK YOU!

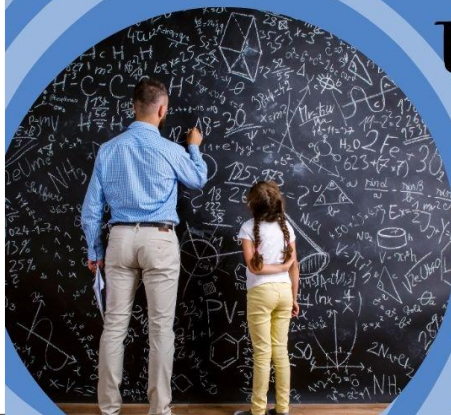


Custodians...

for all you do to make our schools amazing!



THANK YOU!



Teachers...

for inspiring and encouraging students!



On **October 5** it is World Teachers Day.

To all of our amazing teachers, thank you for the passion and dedication you show in classrooms, and for the students we serve.

Thanks for inspiring and encouraging students - and for helping them become all they are meant to be!

We appreciate you!

