

The Chinook's Edge Board of Trustees approved the 2025-26 student attendance calendar on January 7, 2025. The calendar can be found [here](#), on the division's website.

Also at the Board's January 7th meeting, trustees [reviewed first quarter financials](#), and [received a report](#) about the division's work in the area of technology. [Among the highlights](#) in the technology report: Chinook's Edge is preparing for provincial achievement tests that will move online next school year, the division has received a very good rating on its cyber insurance controls and is establishing a new firewall in the spring to further increase the robustness of the division's security. Also, the division is working to support teachers with introductions to Artificial Intelligence in classrooms.

Trustees were pleased to learn [Chinook's Edge avoided](#) being caught in a [cyber security breach](#) involving the [PowerSchool platform](#). Other Alberta school divisions and divisions across North America saw a breach in student and staff data, while Chinook's Edge's own security measures were effective in preventing the same damage seen elsewhere.

Trustees were happy to see the many community service projects underway in schools throughout December, including [this one](#) to collect and deliver stockings [for seniors in Olds](#), as well as [many more](#). See a summary [here](#). The Board thanks staff for working with students to find meaningful ways to contribute, and to develop the quality of good citizenship.

The Board continues to watch with interest, the number of students who are taking advantage of opportunities to explore career pathways. Recently, a [Bowden Grandview student](#) decided her career path after a chance to participate in a meaningful job shadow at her school. Also, a [Penhold Crossing student](#) is exploring veterinary medicine, and enjoying a dual credit program focused on that topic.

Congratulations from the Board are extended to [three Ecole Olds High School graduates who have received](#) the Julian Sacher scholarship. [All three are students](#) enrolled in sciences at post secondary, and who received high academic marks in high school and showed care for other students at school. [Superintendent Kurt Sacher](#) presented the scholarships.

The Board wants to thank the volunteers involved in ensuring the [Innisfail Middle School ski program's success](#). The [program has been running for three years](#), and involves having [Grade 5 students spend three sessions](#) at the ski hill, with instruction. Thanks to volunteers, the program has continued and also expanded so that Grade 6 to 8 students get to have a session at the hill each year too.