



SWAN HILLS SCHOOL

# Grizzly Pride

October 2021

CHARACTER TRAIT OF THE MONTH

GRATITUDE



Students and staff of Swan Hills School had a good beginning to the year. Everyone was pleased to be back in school for face-to-face learning, and several extracurricular programs kicked off. We, like most others in the province, were affected by rising cases of Covid-19, and returned to wearing masks in common areas and when an appropriate physical distance could not be maintained between one's self and others. Extracurricular activities were able to continue, and we could allow visitors into the school. Unfortunately, due to a high number of absences resulting from respiratory illness and a number of identified Covid-19 cases, SHS was assigned Outbreak Status by Alberta Health Services, which occurs when absences due to respiratory illnesses increase beyond 10%. While under Outbreak Status, we can continue extracurricular practices but cannot travel to or host games, and nor can we run field trips or have visitors into the school. We have fewer students and staff ill each day, and the outbreak status was be revoked October 6th. The Province has made changes to guidelines, which will be reported to school and communities as soon as possible.

The first school council meeting was held on the evening of September 15<sup>th</sup>, with Jaymie Raymond retaining her position of Council Chair and the election of Dean LaBerge as Council Secretary. The School Council continues looking at ways to engage parents and increase attendance. Remember that the School Council is the parent's opportunity to learn more about what is happening within the school and to advise administration and help shape policy. Meetings are held bi-monthly and can be attended in-person or via Google Meet. The next meeting is scheduled for November 17<sup>th</sup>. We'd like to see you out!

We are hopeful the snow and cold will hold off for several more weeks and that students and staff can continue enjoying the weather and outdoor activities as much as possible. As always, contact the school with questions and we will do our best to assist. Have a great month.

## Vote! Vote! Vote!

Municipal elections are scheduled for October 18, and one of the positions we'll be voting on is **School Board Trustee**. Pembina Hills School Division's reduction of wards from 7 to 6 and revision of electoral boundaries has Swan Hills and Fort Assiniboine sharing one trustee who will represent both communities' schools. Various PHSD school board trustees represent more than one school in their ward, but this will be the first election with the new boundaries, and the first time Swan Hills will share a trustee with another school and community. Some wards have only one candidate who will be acclaimed, but many have more than one person running for election. This year, there is at least one candidate from each community, so it is especially important for everyone to get out to vote if they wish to elect a local resident as trustee.

"Together We Can; Together We Will"

PEMBINA HILLS SCHOOL DIVISION

# Recent News

## HIGHLIGHTS & KEY DATES

- Oct. 11      Thanksgiving –  
                    No School
- Oct. 22      Teacher Workday  
                    – No Students
- Oct. 29      Alternate Day –  
                    No School

See all events  
on our website [Calendar](#)

### PRINCIPAL

Slade Sekulich

### ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL

Sheila Gardiner

4707 Ravine Dr.  
Swan Hills, AB T0G 2C0  
780-333-4471  
[www.swanhills.ca](http://www.swanhills.ca)

**"anything  
is possible  
if you try."**



### Terry Fox Fundraising Exceeded Expectations for the second year in a row!

On September 29, Swan Hills staff and students got out to run or walk in support of cancer research for the Terry Fox Foundation. The final week of fundraising was kicked off with the special, "Never too late to donate," video by Chris Thomsen and ended with a motivational voice recording from Fred Fox, Terry Fox's older brother, & a Terry Fox cheer. The weather was great and the students were engaged as they pushed themselves to their limits to complete their routes around town.

The challenge for the students this year was to "Try like Terry" who ran 5373 km and raised \$1 from each Canadian. Our students set a goal of raising \$1500.00 and completing their routes by lunch time. The junior/senior high had to make it to the top of the hill and back while grades 4-6 had to push hard to make it to North Ave and back in 45 minutes. Division one students walked a total of ten blocks.

Following the run, we hosted another Toonie hot dog lunch which sent us soaring past our fundraising goal! Altogether, we raised an astounding \$1903.60 for the cause. True to his promise, Mr. Sekulich will be singing over the announcements again this year, so stay tuned...

A special thank you goes out to Chris Thomsen, who put together some very special motivational videos for each day of the week. It was another successful event!

## HEALTH NEWS



Here is a direct link to the Alberta Health website with info on novel coronavirus (COVID-19):

<https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/topics/Page16944.aspx>

## SHS SR. STUDENTS' UNION

### 2021 – 2022 Executive:

**President** – Nicholas Baker

**President Chief of Staff** – Eric McLean

**Sr. Vice President** – Aden Keough

**Jr. Vice President** – Billy Lewis

**Secretary/Treasurer** – Amton Reeves

**Sports & Social Events Director**– Evan Budney

**Student Engagement and Social Media Director**  
– Bryanna Ross

**Sr. High Committee Reps** – Josh Davies & Austin  
Verschoore-Seney

**Jr. High Committee Reps** - Avery Robichaud-  
Bourque & Owen MacDonald

Div. 3/4 Students' Union has a limited edition print at the Super A for members of the community to bid on. Bids will be accepted until Wednesday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, at 4 pm. Funds raised will go toward the purchase of additional lunchroom furniture for the jr/sr high students.

Prizes, gift cards, or cash donations are now being accepted for the annual Volleyball Tournament Raffle (to be held Oct. 29 and 30<sup>th</sup>). Funds will go toward the purchase of lunchroom seating as well. Please contact Nicholas Baker or Mrs. Hooey for more information. Letters are available for companies who require donation documentation.

## SHS SPORTS

As of now the Halloween Howler Sr. Volleyball Tournament will be running as planned but without a dance and DJ. Volleyball season will continue now that the Swan Hills School "outbreak" status has been lifted by AHS.

Practices will continue as scheduled.



The school will collect **large dead batteries** for recycling. Money raised will be spent on program enhancements. Thank you in advance for any donations you make

Swan Hills School  
4707 Ravine Dr.

# Tidbits & Reminders



- ❖ **PLEASE call the office when your child is absent from school**
- ❖ Please be mindful of the school bus when you are out and about.
- ❖ Items on the bus **must fit in a backpack.**
- ❖ Please Do Not Enter the staff parking lot for the safety of the staff and students.
- ❖ **Please** do not leave your vehicle unattended in the **drop-off zone** in front of the school. You may be ticketed by the Bylaw Officer.

## See all events on our website [Calendar](#)

- ❖ Did you know that you can subscribe on our website at <https://www.swanhillsschool.ca/>

[This will let you see all news items posted from our school](#)