

Dear Parents,

We would like to take this opportunity to let you know that we are focusing on helping your child explore career and life pathways for their future. You may be aware that Chinook's Edge School Division held public consultations last year to provide input to the Board of Trustees on what's important for education to focus on. One of the repeated themes was careers. We have initiated a pilot project in Sylvan Lake, Red Deer, Olds and Didsbury which we hope will provide more structure, information, and exploration as we look to the future and meet the needs of the 21<sup>st</sup> century learner.

The goal of our pilot project is to help students become more self-aware, explore life/career options, know where to get the information that they need, and further develop 21<sup>st</sup> century skill sets (eg. critical thinking, problem-solving, etc.). Your child will be involved in individualized interviews beginning in Grade 10 subsequently in grades 11, and 12.

Over the years, we have heard repeatedly from parents that they really aren't sure how to talk to their children about careers. To support you in that process, we have provided a sample of the kinds of questions that we will be asking your children in the interviews. Of course, you are always welcome to contact Sandra Schwartz at the school to get information or ask questions to help you support your child. We always welcome your feedback regarding your child's experiences in this pilot project.

- Right now, what are your hopes and dreams for your future
- What else? And, what else?
- What are your hopes and dreams for the work part of your life?
- What else? What can you imagine yourself doing?
- Tell me more about \_\_\_\_\_? Paint that picture for me.
- What do you believe are your current strengths and skills?
- How do you see a fit between where are you now (strengths/skills) and what's required to be successful as a \_\_\_\_\_?
- Let's explore that a little bit more.
- What else have you thought about, in terms of your future?
- What do you need to know? How are you going to find out more?
- When are you going to check in with me again?
- How can I /We support you?