

August, 2010
Volume 1, Issue 1

Mission Secondary Newsletter

Administrators

Mr. J. Pearce, Principal
(Grade 12)

Mrs. J. Heron, Vice Principal
Middle School - (Grades 8 & 9)

Ms M. Dempster, Vice Principal
Grad Program School
(Grades 10 & 11)

Counselors

Mr. C. Love
All Grade 12 Students and
Grade 11 Students, N – Z

Ms L. Francis
All Grades 10 Students and
Grade 11 Students, A - M

Mr. M. Greenshields
All Grades 8 Students and
Grade 9 Students, A - D

Mrs. J. Shaw
Grade 8 to 12 Aboriginal
Students and Grade 9 Students,
E-Z

Be on the Look Out:

A newsletter is produced on the last Thursday of each month. This newsletter is only posted on our school website. If you require a paper copy, please have your child request one from the office. School information and teacher emails are also available on the school website.

<http://mss.mpsd.ca>
Keep Informed!

Principal's Message

On behalf of the staff, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome back those students who attended Mission Secondary School last year. To our Grade 8 students and to those students who are new to Mission Secondary, we extend a warm welcome to you and hope you have a very wonderful and exciting school year.

This year will be extremely exciting for Mission Secondary School as we transition our school into a Middle School and a Grad Program School. We are looking forward to having our grade 8 & 9 students working closer together to build strong relationships with one another and build leadership skills to support our grade 7's the following year. For our Grad Program our school will have the ability to focus on building an excellent grad profile for our grade 10 to 12 students. With more resources provided to your child next year, this will be a year of outstanding learning.

I have found that honest, open communication between home and school is the best method to keep all of us abreast of your child's social and academic progress. I encourage you to contact the school through the counselors or Vice-Principals if you are concerned about any aspect of school life. It is also very helpful and useful for us to know any special circumstances that are occurring outside of school that may have an impact on your child's schooling. Attendance plays a major role in your child's success. Please ensure that your child makes every attempt to be on time and in attendance to have every chance to be successful.

I look forward to working with each and every one of you during this 2010-2011 school year.

Sincerely,

Mr. J. Pearce,
Principal

School Start Up for September 2010

Tuesday, September 7th (9:00 – 11:30 a.m.)

All students will report to their homerooms for fee paying, locker assignment and pick up of individual new timetables. Homeroom lists will be posted throughout the school. Buses will depart at 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 8th

8:50 – 9:05 Homeroom
9:11 – 10:20 Day 1, 1
10:25 – 11:35 Day 1, 2 (Gr. 8 Assembly)
11:35 – 12:20 LUNCH
12:25 – 1:36 Day 1, 3(Gr. 9 Assembly)
1:40 – 2:55 Day 1, 4 (Gr. 10 Assembly)

Thursday, Sept. 9th

8:50 – 9:05 Homeroom
9:11 – 10:20 Day 2, 5 (Gr. 11 Assembly)
10:25 – 11:35 Day 2, 6 (Gr.12 Assembly)
11:35 – 12:20 LUNCH
12:25 – 1:36 Day 2, 7
1:40 – 2:55 Day 2, 8

Friday, Sept. 10th

8:50 – 9:05 Homeroom
9:11 – 10:20 Day 1, 1
10:25 – 11:35 Day 1, 2
11:35 – 12:20 LUNCH
12:25 – 1:36 Day 1, 3
1:40 – 2:55 Day 1, 4

Monday, Sept. 13th

Day 2 – Periods 5, 6, 7, 8
NO HOMEROOM

English & Mathematics Course Placements

Students have been placed in these courses for the 2010-2011 school year based on their request for the courses and in some cases, the teacher’s recommendation. In all cases these courses will satisfy graduation requirements. However, you are asked to look at your son/daughter’s program of courses (timetable) in September, and determine if the English and Mathematics placements satisfy any aspiration for post –secondary study. You are encouraged to contact Linda Janzen, our Career Advisor, in September if you have any questions regarding post-secondary entrance requirements in B.C. and elsewhere.

Notice to Grade 11-12 Students

Students in grades 11 –12 on a semester timetable are required to take four courses per semester. The eight courses in total were selected at the beginning of the school year. It is expected that students will commence the second semester with the remaining four courses they chose at the beginning of the year. Students are reminded that the startup of the second semester is **NOT** an opportunity to make course changes to the second semester.

Counselor Appointment Times

In August, grade 12 students will receive in the mail, a copy of their September course program (timetable). Grade 12’s and students NEW to MSS, are encouraged to make an appointment with a counselor in August prior to school startup to ensure the courses they have selected are appropriate with respect to satisfying graduation requirements and future post-secondary plans. Please call the school in mid August at 604-826-7191 to set up an appointment with a counselor.

August 2010 ONLY Appointments as Follows:

Mr. Love - Grade 12 students, and NEW Grade 12 student registrations.

Starting August 24th pm only, August 25 – Sept. 3rd (9:00 a.m. – 2:30)

Ms Francis - Grade 10 & 11 students and NEW Grade 10 and 11 student registrations.

Starting August 24th pm only, August 25 – Sept. 3rd (9:00 a.m. – 2:30)

Mr. Greenshields - Grade 8 student/parents, and Grade 9 students (A-D) and NEW Grade 8 and 9 (A-D) students registrations.

August 24th-27th (pm only), August 30th – Sept. 3rd (9:00 a.m.– 2:30)

Mrs. Shaw - Aboriginal Grades 8 to 12, and Grade 9 students (E-Z) and NEW student registrations for
Aboriginal and Grade 9 students (E-Z).

August 24th pm only, August 25 – August 27th (9:00 a.m. – 2:30), August 30th – Sept. 2nd (pm only)

Students from grade 8 - 11 who wish to see their counselor will have an opportunity to do so if time permits in August or appointments with their counselor can be made during the first week of school in September.

Parents and students should be aware that there will be charges for the following:

Athletic Contract (members of athletic teams only) - grade 8 - \$75.00, grades 9 - 12 \$125.00

Band Instrument rental (this is from an outside agency)

Cafeteria Uniform Rental - \$50.00

Football Fee – Grade 8’s - \$125, Junior - \$250, Senior - \$300

Tourism Certificates (optional) - \$20.00

Yearbook (optional) - \$50.00

School Supplies

Students will need basic school supplies: pens, pencils, erasers, ruler, notebook, glue sticks, binders etc. For the first two or three days of school, students should bring paper and a pencil. Teachers will inform students of their requirements for their classes during the first week.

Due to a Ministry directive, there will be no smoking by anyone on school property.

Parents are encouraged to pick up their child’s **report card**. Due to the cost of postage, please make every effort to pick them up as the school will not be mailing them.

Our Block Rotation – Day 1 and Day 2 Alternate

Day 1 - Periods: 1, 2, 3, 4

Day 2 – Periods 5, 6, 7, 8

Important Student Information

Student Timetables

The school's master timetable was computer designed in response to student course requests. Staffing decisions and hiring was also based upon these requests. Course changes are often difficult to make, however some students for very good reasons, will need adjustments to their timetables. We will do our utmost to ensure that these are dealt with in a timely manner.

All students will report to their homerooms on the first day of school to receive a new timetable. Homeroom lists will be posted throughout the school.

Student Parking

Students are advised to park along 7th Avenue (where permitted). Students are **NOT PERMITTED** to park in the staff parking lot, which includes all parking areas on the school property. Violators will be towed at their expense.

Roadrunner Package

Roadrunner Packages cost \$25.00 and will be available from your homeroom teacher the first day you attend and up to Friday, September 10th. Package includes: rental of locker and lock, ID card and student planner. To pay for this package we encourage students to bring a cheque in the amount of \$25.00 made payable to Mission Secondary School or the exact amount in cash. This package is optional.

Textbook Deposit Fee

All secondary school students in the Mission Public School District pay a textbook deposit fee of \$100.00 when first entering a secondary school. This deposit is returned to students when they have completed school or upon transferring out of the school providing all textbooks issued to that student have been returned.

Student Photos by Mountain West – Monday, September 28th

Student photo packages range in cost from \$10 to \$24. Package information and payment envelopes will be given to students the first week of school. To purchase one or more portrait packages, please bring the full payment with you to the photographer. You can pay by cash or cheque made payable to Mountain West Studios. Please include your address and phone number on your cheque. Mountain West will **NOT** accept postdated cheques. Retakes are October 21st.

Demographic and/Freedom of Information Forms

It is up to parents to contact the school if and when there are changes to demographic information (i.e. phone number, address, etc). If you have received the Freedom of Information form, please sign it. Please have your son/daughter return this form to their homeroom teacher on the first day of school. The Freedom of Information form is retained for 5 years. Parents must notify the school if there is any change to this form during the school year.

Internet Access Forms (Grade 8 Students)

Internet Access forms are required for students to access email and the internet. Parents should carefully review the School District Regulations BEFORE completing the access request on behalf of their child. Access forms can be forwarded to the school on the first day of classes.

Grade 12 Students

All grade 12 students will pay a \$60.00 grad fee. This is to cover the commencement ceremonies, the rental of the gown, the cap, and the grad tea.

Dress and Grooming

Some clothes appropriate for the beach, for a party or for the gym, may not be appropriate for the classroom. Clothing which is a distraction to fellow students, staff members or which is otherwise not conducive to a positive learning environment, should not be worn to school. All students should adhere to the following guidelines:

- Students should be neat and clean
- Clothing should be perceived to reflect good taste and judgment by keeping in mind the Four “B”s: no bare bellies, breasts, backs or butts
- Boxers or bras straps may not be visible
- See-through clothes may not be worn
- Logos, words or symbols may not be worn on clothing which are discriminatory, based on ethnicity, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, colour or physical or mental disability
- Logos, words or symbols may not be worn on clothing which promote alcohol, tobacco, drugs, terrorism, violence or death
- No gang related clothing
- Wallet chains, metal spikes or metal studs may not be worn
- Shoes must be worn at all times
- Hoods on sweaters, jackets and other types of tops may not be worn in the building

Students are permitted to wear hats in the hallways but they are not to wear hats into class without the teacher’s permission. **Hats may not be worn during assemblies or in the office.**

FAILURE TO MEET EXPECTATIONS WILL RESULT IN PROGRESSIVE DISCIPLINE:

- 1st Violation: warning, clothing changed
- 2nd Violation: clothing changed and parent conference
- 3rd Violation: Suspension and parent conference

2010-2011 Year at a Glance

September 7, 2010	First day of School, dismissal at 11:30
September 24, 2010	Non Instructional Day, No Classes
September 28, 2010	Student Photo Day
October 11, 2010	Thanksgiving Day, No Classes
October 21, 2010	Picture Retakes
October 22, 2010	Prov. Pro-D Day, No Classes
November 11, 2010	Remembrance Day, No Classes
November 12, 2010	Term 1 Ends, Rotation 1 Ends 1/2 Day Assessment
November 15, 2010	Term 2, Rotation 2 Begins
November 25, 2010	Parent Teacher Interviews (3:30 - 6:00, 6:30 - 9:00 pm) Report Cards Available for pick up
November 26, 2010	Report Cards Available for pick-up
November 26, 2010	Non-Instructional Day, No Classes
December 17, 2010	Last Day before Winter Break
Dec. 20 -Jan. 3, 2011	Winter Break
January 4, 2011	School Reopens
January 24 - 28, 2011	Provincial Exams
January 28, 2011	Turn-A-Round Day – No Classes
January 31, 2011	Semester 2 Begins, Term 3 Begins
February 11, 2011	Report Cards Available for pickup
February 21, 2011	District Pro D Day, No Classes
March 18, 2011	Last day before Spring Break
March 21 - 25, 2011	Spring Break
March 28, 2011	School Reopens
April 15, 2011	Term 3, Rotation 3 Ends 1/2 Day Assessment
April 18, 2011	Term 4, Rotation 4 Begins
April 22, 2011	Good Friday, No Classes
April 25, 2011	Easter Monday, No Classes
April 28, 2011	Parent Teacher Interviews (3:30 - 6:00, 6:30 - 9:00 pm) Report Cards Available for pickup
April 29, 2011	Non Instructional Day, No Classes Report Cards Available for pick up
May 20, 2011	Prom & Dry Grad
May 20, 2011	Non Instructional Day, No Classes
May 23, 2011	Victoria Day, No Classes
June 2, 2011	Commencement
June 17, 2011	Last Day of Classes
June 20-22, 2011	School Exams
June 21 - 29, 2011	Provincial Exams
June 29, 2011	Report Cards Available noon - 4:00 p.m.
June 30, 2011	Report Cards Available noon - 4:00 p.m.
June 30, 2011	Administrative Day

Enjoy the rest of your summer vacation. Keep safe. See you September 7th.