

August, 2012
Volume 1, Issue 1

Mission Secondary Newsletter

Administrators

Mr. J. Pearce, Principal
604-826-7191

Mr. D. Cyr, Vice Principal
Middle School
(Grades 7 to 9)
604-826-6487

Mrs. H. Grewal, Vice Principal
Grad Program School
(Grades 10 to 12)
604-826-8431

Counsellors

Mr. C. Love
All Grade 12 students and
Grade 11 students

Ms L. Francis
All Grades 9 students and
Grade 10 students

TBA
All Grade 7 students

Mrs. J. Shaw
Grade 7 to 12 Aboriginal
students and Grade 8 students

Grade 7 Students

This mail out includes an Internet Access Agreement, a Freedom of Information permission form, and a demographic form. Please complete these and return them to the homeroom teacher the first day of school.

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

This year will be our second year of implementation of our school into a Middle School and Grad Program School. We look forward to having our grade 7, 8, 9 students working closer to build strong relationships with one another and build leadership skills to support our Middle School years. 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 2012-2013 school year.

Sincerely,

Mr. J. Pearce,
Principal

School Start Up for September 2012

Tuesday, September 4th (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. 5th

8:50 – 9:05 Homeroom
9:11 – 10:20 Day 1, 1 (Gr. 7 Assembly)
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)

Friday, Sept. 7th

8:50 – 9:05 Homeroom
9:11 – 10:20 Day 3, 4
10:25 – 11:35 Day 3, 3
11:35 – 12:20 LUNCH
12:25 – 1:36 Day 3, 2
1:40 – 2:55 Day 3, 1 (Gr. 7, 8, 9 Assembly)

Thursday, Sept. 6th

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

Monday, Sept. 10th

Day 4 – Periods 8, 7, 6, 5
No Homerooms

English and Mathematics Course Placements 2012-2013

Students have been placed in English and Mathematics courses based on their selection and/or recommendation by the teacher as indicated on the June 2012 Report Card. In all cases, these courses satisfy graduation requirements. However, it is suggested you confirm, if necessary, the placement in the English/Communications course and Mathematics course to ensure they satisfy any admission requirements for post-secondary study. You are encouraged to contact Mrs. Janzen (Career Advisor) in September if you have any questions regarding course requirements for entrance at B. C.'s Colleges and Universities.

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 last Spring. 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.

Counsellor Appointment Times In August, 2012

In August, grade 12 students will receive a copy of their September course program (timetable) in the mail. Grade 12's and students NEW to MSS are encouraged to make an appointment with a counsellor 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 starting August 13th at 604-826-7191 to set up an appointment with a counsellor. After August 21st please phone 604-826-6487 for inquiries for grades 7, 8 & 9, and 604-826-8431 for grades 10, 11 & 12.

August 2012 ONLY Appointments as Follows:

Mr. Love - Grade 11 and 12 students, and NEW Grade 11 and 12 student registrations.

Ms. Francis - Grade 9 & 10 students and NEW Grade 9 and 10 student registrations.

TBA - Grade 7 student/parents, and NEW Grade 7 student registrations.

Mrs. Shaw - Aboriginal Grades 7 to 12 students and Grade 9 students and NEW student registrations for Aboriginal and Grade 8.

Students from grade 7 - 11 who wish to see their counsellor will have an opportunity to do so if time permits in August or appointments with their counsellor can be made during the first week of school in September.

Our Block Rotation

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

Bell Schedule – Mini Day

8:55 – 9:30	Homeroom (Grades 8 – 12)	
Grade 7 students will report to Gym "A" for an assembly where they will be dismissed to their homeroom teachers.		
Grades 8 – 12		
9:35 – 9:45	Day 1 Period 1	10:35 – 10:45 Day 2, Period 1
9:50 – 10:00	Day 1, Period 2	10:50 – 11:00 Day 2, Period 2
10:05 – 10:15	Day 1, Period 3	11:05 – 11:15 Day 2, Period 3
10:20 – 10:30	Day 1, Period 4	11:20 – 11:30 Day 2, Period 4

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

- Athletic Contract (members of athletic teams only) – grades 7 & 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.

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 7th. 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 and any outstanding fees have been paid.

Student Photos by Mountain West – Thursday, September 20th

Student photo packages range in cost from \$14 to \$41. 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 17th.

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 7 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

2012 – 2013 Year at a Glance

September 4, 2012	First day of School, dismissal at 11:30
September 21, 2012	Non Instructional Day, No Classes
September 20, 2012	Student Photo Day
October 8, 2012	Thanksgiving Day, No Classes
October 17, 2012	Picture Retakes
October 19, 2012	Prov. Pro-D Day, No Classes
November 9, 2012	Term 1 Ends, Rotation 1 Ends 1/2 Day Assessment
November 12, 2012	Remembrance Day, No Classes
November 13, 2012	Term 2, Rotation 2 Begins
November 22, 2012	Parent Teacher Interviews (3:30 - 6:00, 6:30 - 9:00 pm) Report Cards Available for pick up
November 23, 2012	Report Cards Available for pick-up
November 23, 2012	Non-Instructional Day, No Classes
December 21, 2012	Last Day before Winter Break
Dec. 22 - Jan. 6, 2013	Winter Break
January 7, 2013	School Reopens
January 28 – Feb 1, 2013	Provincial Exams
February 1, 2013	Turn-Around Day – No Classes
February 4, 2013	Semester 2 Begins, Term 3 & Rotation 3 Begins
February 11, 2013	Family Day, No Classes
February 14, 2013	Report Cards Available for pickup
February 15, 2013	Pro-D Day, No Classes
March 18 – 22, 2013	Spring Break
March 25, 2013	School Reopens
March 29, 2013	Good Friday, No Classes
April 1, 2013	Easter Monday, No Classes
April 5, 2013	Term 3, Rotation 3 Ends, 1/2 Day Assessment
April 8, 2013	Term 4, Rotation 4 Begins
April 18, 2013	Parent Teacher Interviews (3:30 - 6:00, 6:30 - 9:00 pm) Report Cards Available for pickup
April 19, 2013	Non Instructional Day, No Classes Report Cards Available for pick up
May 17, 2013	Non Instructional Day, No Classes
May 20, 2013	Victoria Day, No Classes
May 24, 2013	Prom & Dry Grad
June 6, 2013	Commencement
June 14, 2013	Last Day of Classes
June 17 – 19, 2013	School Exams
June 20 – 25, 2013	Provincial Exams
June 27, 2013	Report Cards Available noon - 4:00 p.m.
June 28, 2013	Report Cards Available noon - 4:00 p.m.
June 28, 2013	Administrative Day

**Enjoy your summer vacation.
Keep safe.
See you September 4th.**