

August, 2011  
Volume 1, Issue 1

# Mission Secondary Newsletter

## Administrators

Mr. J. Pearce, Principal

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

## 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 Grade 7 and 8 Students

Mrs. J. Shaw  
Grade 7 to 12 Aboriginal  
Students and Grade 9 Students

## Principal's Message

On behalf of the staff, to our Grade 7 & 8 students and to those students who are new to École 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 École Mission Secondary as we transition 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 2011-2012 school year.

Sincerely,

Mr. J. Pearce,  
Principal

## School Start Up for September 2011

### Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> (9:00 – 11:30 a.m.)

All students, except grade 7 students who will report to gym 'A' and then will be dismissed to their homeroom teachers, 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. 7<sup>th</sup>

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)

### Thursday, Sept. 8<sup>th</sup>

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. 9<sup>th</sup>

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)

### Monday, Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>

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

## 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!**

**English and Mathematics Course Placements 2011-2012**

Students have been placed in English and Mathematics courses based on their selection and/or recommendation by the teacher as indicated on the June 2011 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 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, 2011**

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 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 after August 15<sup>th</sup> at 604-826-7191 to set up an appointment with a counselor.

**August 2011 ONLY Appointments as Follows:**

- Mr. Love - Grade 12 students, and NEW Grade 12 student registrations.
- Ms Francis - Grade 10 & 11 students and NEW Grade 10 and 11 student registrations.
- Mr. Greenshields - Grade 7 & 8 student/parents, and NEW Grade 7 and 8 students registrations.
- Mrs. Shaw - Aboriginal Grades 8 to 12 students and Grade 9 students and NEW student registrations for Aboriginal and Grade 9.

Students from grade 7 - 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) – 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.

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 = 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

## ***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 7<sup>th</sup> 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 9<sup>th</sup>. 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 29<sup>th</sup>**

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 19<sup>th</sup>.

### **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 & 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:**

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

**2011 – 2012 Year at a Glance**

September 6, 2011	First day of School, dismissal at 11:30
September 23, 2011	Non Instructional Day, No Classes
September 29, 2011	Student Photo Day
October 10, 2011	Thanksgiving Day, No Classes
October 19, 2011	Picture Retakes
October 21, 2011	Prov. Pro-D Day, No Classes
November 10, 2011	Term 1 Ends, Rotation 1 Ends 1/2 Day Assessment
November 11, 2011	Remembrance Day, No Classes
November 14, 2011	Term 2, Rotation 2 Begins
November 24, 2011	Parent Teacher Interviews (3:30 - 6:00, 6:30 - 9:00 pm) Report Cards Available for pick up
November 25, 2011	Report Cards Available for pick-up
November 25, 2011	Non-Instructional Day, No Classes
December 16, 2011	Last Day before Winter Break
Dec. 19 - Jan. 2, 2012	Winter Break
January 3, 2012	School Reopens
January 23- 27, 2012	Provincial Exams
January 27, 2012	Turn-A-Round Day – No Classes
January 30, 2012	Semester 2 Begins, Term 3 & Rotation 3 Begins
February 9, 2012	Report Cards Available for pickup
February 17, 2012	District Pro D Day, No Classes
March 16, 2012	Last day before Spring Break
March 19 – 23, 2012	Spring Break
March 26, 2012	School Reopens
April 6, 2012	Good Friday, No Classes
April 9, 2012	Easter Monday, No Classes
April 13, 2012	Term 3, Rotation 3 Ends, 1/2 Day Assessment
April 16, 2012	Term 4, Rotation 4 Begins
April 26, 2012	Parent Teacher Interviews (3:30 - 6:00, 6:30 - 9:00 pm) Report Cards Available for pickup
April 27, 2012	Non Instructional Day, No Classes Report Cards Available for pick up
May 18, 2012	Non Instructional Day, No Classes
May 21, 2012	Victoria Day, No Classes
May 25, 2012	Prom & Dry Grad
June 7, 2012	Commencement
June 15, 2012	Last Day of Classes
June 18 – 20, 2012	School Exams
June 20 – 28, 2012	Provincial Exams
June 28, 2012	Report Cards Available noon - 4:00 p.m.
June 29, 2012	Report Cards Available noon - 4:00 p.m.
June 29, 2012	Administrative Day

**Enjoy your summer vacation.  
Keep safe.  
See you September 6<sup>th</sup>.**