

MISSION MIDDLE SECONDARY NEWSLETTER

August, 2014

Volume 1, Issue 1

Administrators

Mr. B. Tucker, Principal

Mr. M. Gabriele, Vice Principal
Middle School
(Grades 7 to 9)

Mrs. H. Grewal, Vice Principal
Grad Program
(Grades 10 to 12)

604-826-7191

Counsellors

Mr. C. Love

All Grade 11 and 12 Students and
International Students

Ms. L. Francis

All Grade 9 and 10 Students

Mrs. J. Shaw

All Grade 8 Students and Grade 7
to 12 Aboriginal Students

Ms. K. Bostock

All Grade 7 Students

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

Welcome to our new students and welcome back to all of our returning students.

"Begin with the end in mind" is an important habit for success in almost any endeavour. For students, the end in mind should be graduation. To achieve this end, we encourage all students to focus on three things:

- 1. Attendance:**
 - Attend all classes unless ill
 - Arrive to class on time
- 2. Achievement:**
 - Come to class prepared (books, materials, homework)
 - Work on assignments in class, complete assignment (in class and homework)
- 3. Behaviour:**
 - Show respect, responsibility and safety, as per school conduct expectations and Roadrunner Pride

This year, we are excited to present our new "Roadrunner Pride" posters, developed with student input during the past school year. These expectations will be reviewed at student assemblies and posted throughout the school. A sample poster is attached to this newsletter.

We encourage open communication between home and school. Please contact the school through the counsellors or administrators if you have any concerns about any aspect of school life, or if there are special circumstances about your child that we need to know in order to best support his/her achievement.

I look forward to working with each and every one of you during the 2014-2015 school year.

Sincerely,



Mr. B. Tucker
Principal

School Start Up for September 2014

Tuesday, September 2nd (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. 3rd

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. 4th

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

Friday, Sept. 5th

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. 8th

Day 4 – Periods 4, 3, 2, 1
No Homerooms

English and Mathematics Course Placements 2014-2015

Students have been placed in English and Mathematics courses based on their selection and/or recommendation by the teacher as indicated on the June, 2014 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 BC'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 start-up of the second semester is **NOT** an opportunity to make course changes to the second semester.

Counsellor Appointment Times in August, 2014

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 MMSS are encouraged to make an appointment with a counsellor in August prior to school start-up 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 15th to set up an appointment with a counsellor.

August 2014 ONLY Appointments as Follows:

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

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

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

Ms. Bostock - Grade 7 student/parents, and NEW Grade 7 student registrations.

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.

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

Athletic Contract (members of athletic teams only) – Grade 7 - \$35.00, Grade 8 - \$75.00, Grades 9 - 12 \$125.00

Band Instrument rental (this is from an outside agency)

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

Tourism Certificates (optional) - \$20.00

Yearbook (optional) - \$50.00 or \$55.00 after January 31, 2015

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 at the main office of the school.

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 were 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. Parking is not allowed in the bus loop. Violators will be towed at their expense.

Roadrunner Package

Roadrunner Packages cost \$25.00 and will be available from homeroom teachers the first day students attend and up to Friday, September 5th. 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 Middle 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 "Vibrant Photos" - Monday, September 29th

Student photo packages range in cost from \$23 to \$36. Package information and payment envelopes will be given to students approximately two weeks prior to photo day. To purchase portrait packages, please bring the full payment with you to the photographer. You can pay by cash or cheque made payable to **Vibrant Photos**. Please include Student Name, School Name, Grade and Phone Number on the back of your cheque. Vibrant Photos will **NOT** accept postdated cheques. Retakes are October 28th.

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 the office or 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.

Conduct Expectations

Respect, Responsibility, Safety

Mission Middle Secondary students are expected to:

- Think safety first
- Attend all classes
- Arrive on time
- Complete all work to a high standard
- Be prepared for all classes
- Care for school property and equipment
- Respect yourself, others, learning and the environment
- Demonstrate positive attitudes and behaviours

Part of showing respect for yourself, others, learning and the environment includes dressing appropriately for school. 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. Specifically, clothing worn at school should not:

- Reveal underwear, bare backs or midriffs
- Include logos, words, or symbols which are discriminatory based on ethnicity, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, colour or physical or mental disability
- Include logos, words or symbols which promote alcohol, tobacco, drugs, gang, terrorism, violence or death

Students must wear shoes at all times. Hoods may not be worn in the building. Students may wear hats in hallways, but not in classrooms unless permitted by the teacher. Hats may not be worn in the office or at assemblies.

FAILURE TO MEET EXPECTATIONS WILL RESULT IN PROGRESSIVE DISCIPLINE

including, but not limited to, warnings, parent conferences and suspension.

Enjoy your summer vacation.

Keep safe.

See you September 2nd.

2014 – 2015 Year at a Glance

September 2, 2014	First day of School, dismissal at 11:30 am
September 19, 2014	Non Instructional Day, No Classes
September 29, 2014	Student Photo Day
October 13, 2014	Thanksgiving Day, No Classes
October 24, 2014	Provincial Pro-D Day, No Classes
October 28, 2014	Photo Retakes
November 7, 2014	End of Term 1
November 10, 2014	Term 2 Begins
November 11, 2014	Remembrance Day, No Classes
November 14, 2014	½ Day Assessment 11:30am Dismissal
November 24- 28, 2014	Grad Photos
November 27 2014	Parent Teacher Interviews (3:30 - 6:00 and 6:30 - 9:00 pm) Report Cards Available for Pick-Up
November 28, 2014	Non Instructional Day, No Classes
December 19, 2014	Last Day before Winter Break
Dec. 22, 2014 - Jan. 2, 2015	Winter Break
January 5, 2015	School Re-opens
January 19 - 22, 2015	Provincial Exams
January 23, 2015	End of Term 2 Turn-A-Round Day, No Classes
January 26, 2015	Term 3 Begins
February 2 & 3, 2015	Grad Photo Retakes
February 9, 2015	Family Day, No Classes
February 12, 2015	Report Cards Available for Pick-Up
February 13, 2015	District Pro-D Day, No Classes
March 13 2015	Last Day Before Spring Break
March 16 - 20, 2015	Spring Break
March 23, 2015	School Re-opens
April 3, 2015	Good Friday, No Classes
April 6, 2015	Easter Monday, No Classes
April 10, 2015	End of Term 3
April 13, 2015	Term 4 Begins
April 17, 2015	½ Day Assessment 11:30am Dismissal
April 30, 2015	Parent Teacher Interviews (3:30 - 6:00 and 6:30 - 9:00 pm) Report Cards Available for Pick-Up
May 1, 2015	Non-Instructional Day, No Classes
May 15, 2015	Non-Instructional Day, No Classes
May 18, 2015	Victoria Day, No Classes
May 22, 2015	Prom & Dry Grad
June 11, 2015	Commencement
June 18, 2015	Last Day of Formal Classes
June 18- 25, 2015	Provincial Exams
June 22 - 24, 2015	School Exams
June 25, 2015	Report Cards Available Noon - 3:30pm
June 26, 2015	Administrative Day



Roadrunner Pride



Roadrunner's show...

RESPECT

- By respecting the individuality of others
- By respecting the environment of our school
- By making decisions that benefit their bodies, health and self-esteem

RESPONSIBILITY

- By taking pride in our school
- By valuing and making the most of their education
- By being true to themselves and others

SAFETY

- By thinking before they act
- By acting in a mature manner in the hallway
- By creating an accepting and welcoming school environment