

# Mission Secondary Newsletter

September 29, 2011

Volume 8, Issue 1

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Dear Parents/Guardians:

Welcome all new students and staff. I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome back those students who attended Mission Secondary last year. To our Grade 7 and 8 students, we extend a warm welcome to you and hope you have a wonderful and exciting year. We also extend a warm welcome to our new staff members:

**EA's** - Susan Bell, Leslie Carvell, Linda Decker, Sandra Kavanagh, Cheryl Laughlin, Mary Ellen Sasiadek and Frauke Wildrich

**Clerical** – Terry Waterson and Marilyn Smith

**Teachers** - Ryan Boulter, Teena Brown, Lois Brown-Evans, Jared Derksen, Amanda Draper, Alison Evans, Marchi Gabriele, Sylvain Gagne, Christine Hart, Elaine Kristiansen, Rachel Marshik, Shawn Martens, Christa McAuley, Dan McAuley, Kate McCargar, Dave McDonald, Jamie McGrath, Andy McKimmon and Debbie Usselman,

**Returning Staff** - John Kapy, Jason Lynn, Michelle Morris and Helen Yannacopoulos

Our kick off to Mission Middle school was fantastic. We had a spirit day which involved our grade 7 and 8 students along with our Grade 9 student leaders it was an amazing day. Our Grad Program school is running well with our students designing their plan for success.

Mission Secondary continues to provide an opportunity for every student to reach their potential. I am honored to be working with such a dedicated staff. We will collectively give our students the best opportunity to achieve excellence in all aspects of their education.

This year our staff will continue to work collaboratively to support our most vulnerable learners. At Mission Secondary we take pride in offering a wide range of strategies to meet the learning needs of all our students and our staff continues to work hard in implementing new strategies. Last year the instructional team leaders worked on goals for this year and our major focus will be that no student will choose to fail and that ALL work must be completed. We will provide interventions to every student who needs more support in their learning.

Starting the school year on a positive note is extremely important. September is a critical month for establishing study routines and home study habits for the year. Teachers expect homework and assignments to be done on time. I encourage everyone to consistently work hard and have a successful year.

Sincerely,

Jim Pearce  
Principal



## School Hours

8:44 am – Warning Bell  
8:47 – 10:04 – First period  
10:10–11:27 – Second period  
11:27-12:10 – Lunch  
12:10pm – Warning Bell  
12:16 – 1:33 – Third period  
1:39 – 2:55 – Fourth period

Following the final bell of the day, school busses are loaded very promptly at the bus loop on the east side of the building.

## Mission Middle Minute

Mission Middle School is up and running on all cylinders. On Friday, September 16<sup>th</sup> all grade 7 and 8 students were involved in their first house building spirit day. Over the two periods students and staff were housed into their teams and given challenges that included designing a team banner, logo and a house cheer. They were also given an opportunity to go head to head in some challenges organized by our strong, grade 9 mentorship team. The day was a huge success and helped establish the true culture of Mission Middle for these students that are new to our building. We look forward to a great year full of fun, spirit filled, team building activities.

D. Cyr  
Vice Principal  
Mission Middle Secondary School





## Lates

Students are expected to be in class when the bell rings. First class begins at 8:47am. Please encourage your children to arrive to class on time as tardiness demonstrates a lack of consideration for teachers and fellow students. It is also an important life skill for students to arrive on time to help prepare them for the world of work.

## After School Pick Up

Parents are asked not to pick up their children from the west side of the building. Please use the bus loop on the east side instead. Thank you.



## Bullying

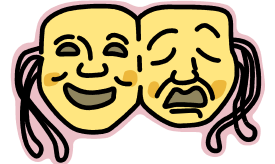
Intimidation and harassment of students is not part of school life and will not be condoned. Students involved in harassing or bullying other students are subject to strict disciplinary action.

## Grade 7 and 8 Supervision at Lunch

Grade 7 and 8 students are not allowed to leave the school grounds during the lunch hour unless they are going home for lunch. Written permission may be used by parents from time to time to excuse students as necessary, but the school's expectation is that the Grade 7 and 8 students are to be on school grounds.

## Drama Department News

Once again Mission Theatre students and the student body in general were treated to a field trip to Vancouver's fabulous Bard on the Beach to catch a performance of 'The Merchant of Venice' the very same play performed at our own spring production. We set out on a sunny Friday, Sept 16 with students representing every grade in the school. It was a mesmerizing performance and a very satisfying educational opportunity.



Also in Drama News, we have selected our play for this year's fall production, a 3 act comedy by Moss Hart and George Kaufman entitled 'You Can't Take It With You'. Interested parties met on Tuesday Sept 20th and the cast list should be ready by next week when we will begin rehearsals. The play will go on Dec 8, 9 & 10th for school and community in the evenings beginning at 7pm. This year we look forward to working with grades 7 through 12. In order to be part of this endeavour students should be sure to sign up with their counsellors for the accredited Theatre Production class. We meet after school on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 3-6pm.

In other news, there is a new club being established at MSS for gay and lesbian students. It's called GAB as in gift of the gab and will be a place to come together and chat. All interested students are invited to meet every Day 2 at lunch in the Drama Portable.

## Photos

Student photos were taken on **Thursday, September 29<sup>th</sup>**. Photo retakes will be done on Wednesday, **October 19<sup>th</sup>**. Students who missed the photo day in September need to get an order envelope from the front office if you wish to have photos taken. If you are retaking photos, the first set of pictures must be returned to the photographer on retake day.



## School Dress Code

Common sense is the key to student dress code and grooming at Mission Secondary. We expect students to dress appropriately while at school. Clothing that is offensive and/or distracts others from learning is not acceptable.

- Clothing must not promote profanity, sex, drugs or alcohol.

- Clothes which are clearly revealing/distracting such as low-cut shirts/tank tops, halter tops, muscle shirts, crop tops showing bare midriffs, short shorts or rips/tears in the seats of pants/jeans are not acceptable.

Students who come to school dressed inappropriately will be asked to cover up. Repeated violations will result in parents being contacted and the student being sent home.

We believe this dress code is fair and meets acceptable standards for our school as an educational institution which is preparing our students for the world of work.

## Textbooks

Please look to see if you have textbooks around the house that are not currently being used for current courses, and return them to the school as we are short on textbooks for some classes. Books can be handed in to the front office. This applies to library books as well.



## Yearbooks

Yearbooks are on sale now until the end of December for just \$50.00. After December they will be \$55.00 each. Due to high demand, the 2011/2012 yearbook will not be available in June so this is your only chance. The Yearbook class is working hard to produce another great edition.

# Grade 12 Parent/Guardian/Student Information Meeting October 4, 2011, 6:30PM



## Dry Grad Fundraiser

There will be a bottle drive on Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup>. Please meet in the bus loop at 9:00 a.m. Come on out and support this year's dry grad!!

### Scholarship Information:

Ms. Lea Francis is the Scholarship coordinator for Mission Graduation Program's gr12 students. I can be reached at Mission Secondary at 604-826-8431 or email [lea.francis@mpsd.ca](mailto:lea.francis@mpsd.ca). Currently there are 2 major scholarships open for application: TD and Loran. Both require a high GPA and community involvement and applications can be found online or from myself directly. Parents and students should check the following websites often for miscellaneous scholarship information: [studentawards.com](http://studentawards.com) and [scholarshipscanada.com](http://scholarshipscanada.com).

The following is a very brief summary of what scholarships are available to MSS grade 12s

**Passport to Education:** Requires no written application but can be earned throughout your student's gr 10, 11 & 12 years if marks are in the top 30% among his/her peers. Up to \$1000

**Provincial Scholarships:** Requires no written application form but requires a standing of at least 86% in 3 provincial exams and at least a "B" in the English 12 provincial exam in particular. \$1000 - \$2000

**District Scholarsips:** Applications available in March 2012 Requires completion of application, a skills presentation, satisfactory attendance & marks and a plan to enter either Fine Arts, Applied Skills, Fitness, or Languages. \$1000

**Mission Foundation Scholarships:** Applications available in December 2011 Requires completion of application, satisfactory-to-high marks and an interview. \$1000 - \$2000

**School and Community Scholarships & Bursaries:** Applications available in April 2012 Requires completion of application and satisfactory marks. \$200 to \$1000.

**Miscellaneous Scholarships and Bursaries:** Application forms arrive as early as October (of gr 12 year) to as late as the July after graduation. Students are encouraged to check the scholarship board in the gr 12 locker hallway every 2 weeks. Also check the following website periodically for more scholarships and bursaries: [studentawards.com](http://studentawards.com) and [scholarshipscanada.com](http://scholarshipscanada.com)

Parents are also encouraged to check with their bank, credit union, workplace union office, church, Legion, and other affiliations within the community to see if there are scholarships or bursaries available to the children of employees, members, or clients. I am happy to assist you and your student in any way necessary with the application, presentation or interview process as needed.

Sincerely,  
L. Francis.



Learn competitive swimming  
Keep healthy while having  
fun

**Register for Fall  
Maintenance  
(September 19 – December  
8)**

For more info contact:

Lorna Kienas

[stewartandlorna@shaw.ca](mailto:stewartandlorna@shaw.ca)

or Tamara Weibe

[rweibe64@telus.net](mailto:rweibe64@telus.net)

## Message from MSS PAC

PAC Meetings are held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the school library. Communication is a key factor in helping your child succeed in high school, and one of the goals of PAC is to share school events, issues and ideas with parents. If you would like to receive the minutes of PAC meetings and other information via email, please sign up at our first meeting.

Although receiving information via the electronic highway is great, attending PAC meetings in person is a fabulous way to connect with other parents at the school. At MSS, I have found the school administration to be very open to ideas and issues brought to their attention by parents at the meetings. Positive changes do happen with parental involvement. Our next PAC meeting is Wednesday, Oct 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at 7 p.m. We hope to see you there!

# WELCOME

## International Program

Mission Public Schools International Program is currently looking for quality home stay families to provide room and board for elementary or secondary international students. These paid positions are a wonderful opportunity to learn more about another culture.

For more details please  
contact

**Terri Szlovicsak at  
604.826.6286 ext 3322**

Information also available  
online at [www.mpsd.ca](http://www.mpsd.ca)

**Mission Secondary School**

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Mission, BC  
V2V 2C5

PHONE:  
Business:604-826-7191  
Grad 604-826-8431  
Middle 604-826-6487  
FAX:  
604-826-8187



We're on the Web!

See us at:

<http://missionsecondary.mpsd.ca>

**RCMP Youth Academy 2012**

Are you interested in an RCMP career? Are you in Gr. 11 or 12 and up for a challenge? If so, the RCMP Youth Academy is for you. This year's academy, located at Camp Stillwood, and runs for 9 days during spring break. Students participate in Forensic Identification workshops, simulated driving infractions, dog squad demonstrations, early morning physical training, tactical training, team building sports, and the Doug Lewis run. Students also spend one day at the RCMP Pacific Regional Training Facility in Chilliwack where they have an opportunity to get hands on experiences in Police training. This unique opportunity is offered to MSS Work Experience students who wish to explore a career in policing. Applications are available from Mr. Schell in the Grad Office.



**2011 – 2012 Year at a Glance**

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 Be
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 Assessme
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

**Counselling Corner:** If you are looking for some helpful tips on ADHD or ADD please e-mail Ms. Francis. Make sure that your subject line includes the area of interest: "ADD/ADHD" she will email you back some brief and helpful information. Email = [lea.francis@mpsd.ca](mailto:lea.francis@mpsd.ca)

**THE FALL SPORTS PROGRAMS ARE UP AND RUNNING AT MISSION SECONDARY – THEY INCLUDE THE AQUATIC TEAM, THE CROSS COUNTRY TEAM, GIRLS VOLLEYBALL AT ALL GRADE LEVELS AND THE FOOTBALL TEAM FOR ALL GRADE LEVELS. KEEP YOUR EARS OPEN FOR INFORMATION ON UPCOMING HOME GAMES**



**Ski/Snowboarding**

The ski and snowboarding team will be starting up again this year! Watch for posters and announcements in October.



**Are Your Kids Driving You Crazy?**

Mission DPAC presents  
Managing Conflict with Your Child's Brain in Mind  
Presented by: Raj Dhasi  
**Thursday, October 13<sup>th</sup> 7 pm Clarke Theatre**

Come hear her explain how a child's and teenagers brain develops and why they can drive us to the edge of insanity. She will explain skills and strategies to help you set boundaries, build your connection with your child and keep your sanity. It is a free workshop open to all parents in the Mission School District.