

Principal's Report School Council September 14, 2011



1. Upcoming Events

- Sept. 14 **School Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.**
- Sept. 15 Seaman's class to fire hall in a.m. (9:15-11:00 a.m.)
- Sept. 19 Fallwell's classes to fire hall (9:15-11:00 a.m./1:15-3:00 p.m.)
- Sept. 20 Morton's classes to fire hall 9:15-11:00 a.m./1:15-3:00 p.m.
- Sept. 22 School Photos by Life Touch
- Sept. 23 Terry Fox Walk to Nicholas Sheran Lake
- Sept. 28 **Magazine Subscription fundraiser assembly**
- Sept. 30 Chinook High School Media Centre Grand Opening (12:00- 2:00 p.m.)

- October **October is "International Walk to School Month"!**
- October 4 After School Skating begins at Nicholas Sheran Arena (3:30-4:30 p.m.)
- October 5 World Teachers' Day
- October 6 Kindergarten Skating at NS Arena
- October 7 Grade 5 classes to Corn Maze 8:45-11:15 a.m.
- October 10 Thanksgiving Holiday – no school
- October 11 After School Skating at Nicholas Sheran Arena (3:30-4:30 p.m.)
- October 12 **School Council Meeting (7:00 p.m. in the staff room)**
- October 13 Kindergarten Skating
- October 13-14 Scholastic Book Fair!
- October 18 After School Skating at Nicholas Sheran Arena (3:30-4:30 p.m.)
- October 20-21 Staff Learning Days: No school for students

2. Welcome to New and Returning Council Members

- Co-Chair Corinne Steele
- Co- Chair Heather Petherick
- Secretary Treena Trechka
- Treasurer: Teresa Servano

- Fundraising: Shannon Storey

- Hot Lunch;
 - i. Teresa Van Ee
 - ii. Jennifer Flexhaug
 - iii. Sheila Thibault

- Room Representatives: to be determined!



3. Purpose of Our School Council and How It Operates



Purpose

- The purpose of our school council is to provide a structure through which all stakeholders come together to talk about the education of our community's children.
- Support the school's efforts in providing the best of experiences for your children!
- We appreciate your input! The role of class representatives are crucial to:
 - i. Collect input and disseminate information to parents
 - ii. Encourage the active involvement of our parent community in a variety of ways throughout the school year.

How It Works

- We meet once a month for a maximum of two hours to discuss a variety of school topics.
- There is an elected executive as well as one parent representative for each classroom. The classroom rep's role will evolve throughout the year.
- We also have one "community rep" who does not have a child in our school.
- We have an ad hoc committee in charge of fundraising. The funds raised will be used towards priorities previously identified by the School Council.

What's the difference between the MMH School Council and the "Friends of MMH Society"?

- School Council:
 - i. parent representation from all grade levels, staff and community
 - ii. This group brings initiatives forward to enhance the student experience at MMH
 - iii. The School Council may have various "sub-committees" for various reasons (i.e. playground, hot lunch, etc.)
- Friends of Mike Mountain Horse Society
 - i. The primary responsibility of this group is to raise funds to support initiatives from either school staff or the MMH School Council
 - ii. This group is able to apply for various grants because of their "society status"
 - iii. This group meets a minimum of once a year and has an elected Board of Directors.
 - iv. All parents or guardians of students attending Mike Mountain Horse are "active members". The

4. Enrollment and Staffing at MMH

- Kindergarten: Morning Programs: 20,19,21: Afternoon Programs: 17,18 (**Total: 95**)
- Grade One: 19,21,20,20 (**Total: 80**)
- Grade Two: 25,25,24,24 (**Total: 98**)
- Grade Three: 25,24,24,24 (**Total: 97**)
- Grade Four: 21,21,21,19 (**Total: 82**)
- Grade Five: 22,22,21 (**Total: 65**)
- Totals: **517 (K-5)**
- Preschool: 36 students
- **Grand Total: 553**



5. Staff

- Kindergarten: Mrs. Angie Fallwell, Mrs. Marnie Morton, Mrs. Krista Seaman
- Grade One: Miss Kristin Uilly (Mrs. Jacquie Fleming), Mrs. Sarah Neeve, Mrs. Rita Johnston, Mrs. Linda Payne
- Grade Two: Mrs. Lori Nelson, Miss Kelly-Jo Craddock, Miss Anna Tsentouros (Mrs. Megan McMillan), Mrs. Lois Van Roon
- Grade Three: Mrs. Jennifer Burke, Mrs. Lisa Prawdzik, Miss Corrina Pickett, Mr. Gary Pickering
- Grade Four: Ms. Erin Horvey/ Miss Erin MacDonald/, Mrs. Angie Kubik, Mrs. Marla Bloudoff, Mr. Mike Wevers
- Grade Five: Mrs. Karen Bourassa, Mrs. Sheanne Cox, Miss Megan Peeke-Vout
- Learning Support: Mrs. Nicole Baker
- Early Literacy: Ms. Elizabeth Nevels
- Music (Gr. 1-3): Ms. Elizabeth Nevels
- Preschool: Mrs. Kim Wikenheiser, Mrs. Lila Hoffman, Mrs. Allison Smith, Mrs. Dorita Friesen
- Library: Mrs. Sarah Renner
- Technology: Mr. Marco DeMusso
- Assistants: Mrs. Chris Blackshaw, Mrs. Shirley Fleming, Mrs. Judy Legge, Mrs. Anouschka VanShaik, Mrs. Kathy McMullin, Mrs. Alana McClain, Mrs. Lori Murray, Mrs. Janice Atkins, Mrs. Cathy Burke, Mrs. Delaine Taylor

6. Alberta Initiative for School Improvement (AISI)

- This is the 12th year Alberta Education has funded the *Alberta Initiative for School Improvement* (AISI).
- Our district's focus is all about enhancing great teaching, specifically zeroing in on three cornerstones: 1) differentiated instruction; 2) assessment for learning; and 3) using technology in a 21st century classroom.
- Our school's focus, or context, in which we will examine the three pillars will be "character education".
 - i. The first of 5 mini-themes will be "The Bucket Philosophy" --- searching for ways that we can all, fill one another's buckets in numerous ways.

7. School Website

- Our school website (mmh.lethsd.ab.ca) continues to evolve. It's our intent to really promote our website and use it as an effective communication tool between home and school.
- Our school's newsletter will be posted on-line in an effort to be a bit more "green".
- We are trying something new! Rather than just posting our newsletters on the school website, we are e-mailing it right to people's inboxes if they have provided an e-mail address as part of the registration process.
- If you have suggestions of items to be included on our website, please let Mr. Bryant know!
- The Alberta Learning website is a great resource for parents. Check it out at: http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/parent.asp



8. School Newsletter

- Mrs. Kerr will be in charge of the newsletter this year. She welcomes your input! This will be done electronically and posted on our school website, as well as e-mailed to parents in order to save paper!
- If you have an item, it needs to be submitted to her at least two work days before the end of every month (as we try to have it posted on the first day of each month).

9. Provincial Achievement Tests

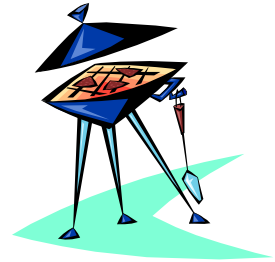
- Each spring our grade three students write Provincial Achievement Tests (PAT's). We are very pleased with last year's results. This is due to the hard work of students, staff and parents, working together as a team! The results will be shared with the School Council at the October meeting. At this time though, we can say that we are extremely proud of our students and staff!

10. Mike Mountain Horse Leadership Team

- Approximately 50 grade five students have volunteered to become part of the MMH Leadership Team. They will perform a variety of tasks throughout the year ranging from acting as tour guides, to giving special announcements, to emceeing assemblies. We sure appreciated their help during the "Welcome Back BBQ"!

11. Welcome Back BBQ

- On September 8th, our school served approximately 820 burgers in about 50 minutes! The "Welcome Back BBQ" was tremendously successful --- lots of smiles and optimism for a great school year!



12. Terry Fox Celebration

- Our school will participate in this event by walking to and around Nicholas Sheran Lake on Friday, September 23rd. Students will also be collecting pledges to be forwarded to the Terry Fox Foundation to help find a cure for cancer.



13. Communication Flow

- We need your assistance in this area.
- Generally, this is the communication flow we would like to follow:



- Also, we request that if photocopying, typing, etc. is required from the office, we need to have a minimum of one week's notice. Our office is a busy place! As well, if you have requests from our caretaking staff, that you go through the principal.

14. Thank You!

- Thanks for coming to the “Welcome Back BBQ”! We served a lot of burgers!
- Playground!!!! Wow! What more can I say! What an amazing project and experience. Thanks to all who contributed in any way, and a big thanks to **Tracy Hawkins, Stacy Deys** and **Dean Hawkins** for their tremendous leadership to create something fantastic for our children!
- Thank you all for taking time out of your busy schedules to assist with our School Council as well as other committees such as Hot Lunch and Fundraising! You are a HUGE part of our school community!

