



February / 2018



MPSS NEWS

Message from the Principal:

Wow! Another semester has come to an end. We have enjoyed many successes at MPSS this past semester, both academically and in our extra-curricular activities. Hopefully you will spend some time with your son/daughter reviewing their final semester one report card and together discussing their achievements. It should be a time to celebrate their successes to date, and using feedback from their teachers, develop a plan for further improvement. Very often achievement is correlated with attendance and/or not completing or submitting assignments. Please affirm the importance of attendance with your child and take an active role in their learning by finding out what they are studying and discussing the progress they are making. McKinnon Park Secondary offers many supports to our students to ensure they reach their full potential, whether it be through extra time with their teachers, the After-School Homework Help on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, from our Student Success Teacher or our Learning Resource Teacher. In addition, information and resources can be retrieved from our website at www.granderie.ca/schools/mpss, like us on Facebook at McKinnon Park Secondary School or on our twitter @krueger_cathi. We look forward to our second semester at MPSS with the addition of some new staff, while we say good-bye and good luck to others. Very shortly, our students will be choosing their courses for next year. We want the students to make informed decisions about their courses and pathway choices to set them up for future success and ensure they have the necessary requirements for their intended destination. If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact the school at 905-765-4466.

Snow Days Zone #2

In the event of bad weather, information about school closings will be on the

following stations:

820 CHAM

920 CHML

1150 CKOC

1380 CKPC

107.9 Y 108

106.7 CD

100.3 CKRZ

You can also check the board website:

www.granderie.ca

Look under transportation to see if there are any cancellations. The Board posts information by 6:30 am. Do not check too early!

If school transportation is cancelled then **SCHOOL is CLOSED for the day!!**

Graduation

Students and parents are reminded that graduation is quickly approaching. In order to make graduation happen, there is a \$20 grad fee that is payable at school cash online. This fee covers the cost of the gowns (which students can keep) and other items such as the refreshments and decorations. When students pay their fee, they also are given the opportunity to vote for this year's valedictorian.

Additionally, please make sure that all of the volunteer hour forms are completed and submitted to Guidance as soon as possible. The completion of 40 hours of volunteer service is a graduation requirement.



Dates of Interest

Feb.9 —Report Cards

Feb. 19—Family Day

Mar. 8—Interim Reports

Mar. 12—16—March Break

Mar. 22— Parent Teacher Interviews

Mar. 30—Good Friday

Apr. 2— Easter Monday

Apr.10 — Literacy Test (Grade 10)

Apr. 13—P.D. Day

Apr. 27— Mid-Term Report Cards

May 21—Victoria Day

May 25— Prom

Jun. 15—Awards Assembly

Jun. 22—Exams Begin

Jun. 29—Commencement

Homework Help



Homework help is available to **ALL** students on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays after school until 4:00 pm in Learning Services. This is a great opportunity to catch up on missing work, get extra help and support, study for tests, and get organized!

Learning Services is also open most mornings before school begins and most lunch hours in order for students to use the computers, catch up on work, or to study.

It's not too late. Buy your 2017-2018 yearbook today! School Cash Online: \$30



Students' Council

Students' council had a very busy first semester running multiple successful events and fundraisers. Students' council started off the year with their annual grade 9 day where we held fun games and activities for all the grade nine students and even had guest speaker Ian Tyson help encourage the students to get involved. Following grade nine day we ran our annual QSP magazine campaign. Thank you to all who supported! In October we ran a pumpkin carving contest for all homerooms to compete in. For the month of November we had an intramural volleyball tournament to raise money. Thank you to all who participated and congratulations to this year's winners The Flint Tropics. As December rolled around students' council ran fun events everyday for the annual 12 Days of Christmas. Students were able to buy candy grams, bid on presents, wrap one another in wrapping paper, build gingerbread houses and much more. We ended the year off with a student vs teacher basketball game where the students came out victorious, again! To start off the new year students filled out match-a-matic surveys that will be sold on Valentine's Day to help students find their perfect match. During the week of exams students' council ran events to help students de-stress and relax by showing a movie in the cafeteria, allowing students to play free bingo at lunch and encouraging students to dress comfy leading up to exams. We look forward to a great second semester that is packed with many events and activities like spirit week, dinner theatre with a performance from our drama club and our dodgeball tournament are just a few of our many upcoming events during semester two.

Samuel Richardson

Student Council Prime Minister



We are proud to once again offer a Dual Credit with Fanshawe College. There is no cost to the student, and in one class period they will receive the High School "M" level credit, and a full college credit. This college credit may be transferred to other colleges, and universities in Ontario! We also continue to offer the Specialist High Skills Major component that enables the student to receive industry specific training, certificates, and the opportunity to earn substantial scholarships!

Grow with the Green Industries!



Announcing a new opportunity for our students.
McKinnon Park Secondary School and Empire Communities have formed a partnership that will provide our students the opportunity to earn Co-op credits while working on homes in the new Avalon community of Caledonia. Watch for this new program during the upcoming course selection process for the 2018/19 school year.



MPSS Drama
Club Presents
*She Wrote, Died,
Then Wrote Some
More*

Presented by **TheatreFolk**

Wednesday, February 21st, 2018

Doors Open – 5:45pm Dinner – 6:00pm

Play – 6:30pm

Catered by **Collabria Café**



**Tickets must be purchased in advance by
February 16, 2018.**

Breakfast Nutrition Program

Studies show that students who do not eat a proper breakfast before school struggle with attention, focus, and even fine motor skills. McKinnon Park's breakfast program is now in its second year and is looking to expand in the next few months.

Our nutrition program provides healthy "grab-and-go" breakfasts to any students who need them before first period classes. This food is provided to the students for free through the Children's Nutrition Network and in conjunction with local sponsors.

The program runs from 8:15–8:35 a.m. (Tues., Wed., Thurs. & Fri.) in the main hall and will provide one milk product, one fruit and one grain product to anyone who needs/ wants them. Monetary donations or donations of fresh fruit, Nutrigrain bars, or whole wheat products would be greatly appreciated.

Absent Students

Please call the school at 905 765 4466 if your son/ daughter will be absent from school. All absences should be accounted for on the day of or, at the latest, on the day that follows the absence. All students must sign in and out at the main office.

If your son/daughter is signing out during the day, please have them come to the office prior to announcements to get a sign out slip to minimize classroom disruptions.

Over 18 Students

By law, any student who is 18 years of age or older must give consent for information to be released to parents or guardians. There is a "Release of Information Form" that must be signed

COURSE SELECTION 2017-18

Grade specific workshops: Mon FEB. 12th thru FRI. FEB 21rd online using **CareerCruising**.

After workshops: Students to **complete course selections at home with parents** if possible or on own at school ASAP. Students requiring extra help are welcome to request an appointment in guidance.

LOGIN: CareerCruising Link @

<https://www2.careercruising.com/default/cplogin/ERIE>

2018 – 2019 COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Select... **McKinnon Park**



***DUE DATE** (equal consideration date) for **SIGN-OFF SHEETS: Tues.FEB.28th.**

***Note:** Students submitting sign-off sheets complete with parental signatures by the deadline will be considered 1st for oversubscribed classes.

Education Quality and
Accountability Office



The Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test is scheduled for April 10, 2018. If your son or daughter needs to write this test, please refrain from booking appointments or scheduling trips on this date if possible. The test will not be offered again until the 2018-2019 school year.

More information about the test will be communicated as it approaches.

Recreational Badminton

Recreational badminton runs most Fridays after school until 4:30. All students are welcome. The only requirements are gym clothes and signed permission forms. All levels of play are available and coaching is available upon request. The badminton team will begin tryouts and practices in late February.



Come Exercise your Blue Devil!

A busy life provides lots of excuses for skipping daily fitness activities, but mornings are usually free and clear for those willing to get out of bed for the sake of their health and wellness. The McKinnon Park Exercise Room is now open every morning at 7:45 for those looking to squeeze a workout in before school. Interested students should pick up a consent form in the gym and find a workout buddy in order to take advantage of this opportunity. See Mr. Lucier in the gym office for more information.



Time for some fun in the snow! On February 14th, the French department is taking a group of 20 students a trip to St-Donat, Quebec with Perspectives. We will be participating in an awesome French cultural program for 5 days. Students will engage in a variety of fantastique outdoor and cultural activities - tout en français!



Did you know that the GEDSB offers senior French students the opportunity to earn a certificate of bilingualism? The DELF or the **Diplôme d'études en langue française** (Diploma in French Language Studies) is a certification of French language skills awarded by the French Ministry of Education. It is to prove the abilities of non-French candidates. DELF certificates are valid for life and do not expire. These certificates will look amazing on a resume! Good luck to the grade 12 French students who will be completing this test later this year!

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SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

School Cash Online is McKinnon Park Secondary's preferred method of payment for all school fees as well as everything from field trips to yearbooks.

School Cash Online allows parents to pay school related fees safely, quickly and easily. By using School Cash Online, you help increase efficiency and security at schools. Teachers and secretaries are then able to focus their time on helping students, and not on counting cash.

School Cash Online shows all of the school fees that are applicable to your student online for purchase. You can then choose to pay these fees online. You can also stay informed of upcoming events and keep track of which school fees require your attention.

Register today – a simple task that takes less than two minutes – by visiting granderie.schoolcashionline.com and navigating your way to the School Cash Online page. You will need your child's student number (found on report card), last name and date of birth to register. Should you encounter any difficulties, you can use the parent help desk at 1(866) 961-1803 or visit schoolcashionline.com/Home/Support.



Make online payments with
SchoolCashOnline

- ✓ Field trips
- ✓ Sports Events
- ✓ Activity Fees

Register at granderie.schoolcashionline.com

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