



July / 2021

Twitter : @MPSSBlueDevil, @mpsslibrary  
Instagram : @mckinnonparkathletics, @mckinnonparkbluedevels  
@mckinnonparkfootball,  
Facebook : @mckinnonpark  
Website: [www.granderie.ca/schools/mpss](http://www.granderie.ca/schools/mpss)



# MPSS NEWS



## Message from the Principal:

What a year it has been! We have worn our PPE, pivoted and persevered in order to reach this milestone.

I want to express my sincere thanks to the students and their families, as well as the staff at the school, for their patience and diligence as we work through the challenges brought about by the pandemic. Families and staff members have all come together to support our students. I have truly appreciated the support from all in the school community.

Graduates, congratulations and good luck in whatever pathway you follow. You have graduated in a year unlike any other in recent history. The resilience and hard work that you have demonstrated are commendable and will serve you well as you move on to the next step in your life journey.

Parents and guardians, please take the opportunity to share the report card successes with your teen and reflect on the areas where improvements can be made. Setting goals for next year is a positive starting point.

At any time, but especially during these recent times, it is important that we can communicate regularly with parents and guardians. Please call the school with any updates to mailing addresses, email addresses and phone numbers, so that we can keep you up to date. Updates can also be found on our website [www.granderie.ca/schools/mpss](http://www.granderie.ca/schools/mpss), and our Facebook page at McKinnon Park Secondary School. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school at 905-765-4466 or email [s-mck@granderie.ca](mailto:s-mck@granderie.ca).

I wish you all an excellent 2021-2022 school year. Whatever form school will take as we move into the fall, please know that the staff at MPSS are committed to student achievement and well-being. We are preparing for the students return with some building updates. We are getting a new roof on the back part of the school and are looking forward to new flooring and room renovations in some areas of the school. As we move closer to September, we will be communicating our plans for reopening with you according to the recommendations of the Ministry of Education and the local Medical Officer of Health and as always, will do our best to help all students find success.

To all in the MPSS family, have a safe and enjoyable summer vacation and best wishes for the future. It has been my pleasure and honour to have served as your Principal these years. I will be retiring at the end of this school year and am grateful for the support from the students, staff and community. In September, Mr. Rob Malcolm will be the incoming Principal and Mr. Yvan Brochu, will be the Vice Principal. I am sure students, staff and parents alike are all looking forward to a restful and rejuvenating summer and all the renewed hopes and promises it brings. Please take care of yourselves, and each other and thank you.

Mrs. Krueger

Thank you to the staff, students and the entire McKinnon Park school community. It has been a privilege and honour to serve as your vice principal. Enjoy your summer break and best wishes for the 2021-22 school year.

Mr. Steve Burroughs



I am so looking forward to joining the McKinnon Park team next year! As a brief introduction, I come from 25 years of teaching experience at DSS, CSS, HSS and Kuwait, MPSS is the only Haldimand school I haven't before worked at. I most recently was at DSS as the Head of Special Education and LRT for the past three years and the nine years before that, I worked at the DSS Turning Point. We moved to Caledonia in the pandemic last year and have been enjoying getting to know the community. I am excited to both live and work here! I have met with Sarah Cloutier and had a few transition meetings, but if there are any students or concerns that you wish to bring forward, please do not hesitate to contact me. I will check my board email regularly during the summer and plan at being at the orientation / timetable pick up in August.

I hope you all have a wonderful summer and I look forward to meeting everyone in the fall!.

Take good care,

Andrea Calloway, Learning Resource Teacher

## Transportation Services

Did you know that the transportation department is around all summer? If you are moving, changing childcare locations or are in need of transportation information, you can contact their staff by calling 519-751-7532 or by emailing . Students returning from the VLA must complete a student transportation form.



To all our co-op employers, a sincere thank you for your dedication in assisting with the training of Co-op students. Now more than ever students need to be exposed to the ever changing world of work in order to prepare them for their future. Workplace experience assists students in developing skills needed to succeed and prepare for life after high school. This was a year unlike any other. Your time and commitment to students helped provide valuable skills that will help shape their future careers. Thank you and best wishes as I look forward to working with you next year!

## Student Timetables

Student Timetable pick up, providing COVID restrictions from the public health, will be as follows

Grade 9 - August 31st

Grade 10—12—September 1st

More Information will be communicated during August.

**\*\*Please note, if your student cannot make timetable pick up, Homerooms will be posted on the first day of school in the Cafeteria and the teacher will have the students timetable. Please do not call the school for timetables.**

## 2021 Graduation

Commencement 2021 is tentatively booked for Thursday, October 7th at 6:30 pm.



Congratulations to all Graduates !!

The MPSS Guidance staff would like to congratulate all students on their efforts this past year – be proud of your accomplishments. We wish you all a safe & restful summer. Please visit our MPSS website

<https://www.granderie.ca/schools/mpss> , Facebook page and Guidance Brightspace throughout the summer for updates regarding timetable pickup as we await direction from the Ministry & GEDSB.

Please send any general inquiries to the [s-mck@granderie.ca](mailto:s-mck@granderie.ca)

Please contact GELA for Summer School inquiries or Transcript Requests:

SUMMER SCHOOL 2021: JULY 6 – 30, 2021

[www.granderie.ca/schools/gela](http://www.granderie.ca/schools/gela) (519) 753-6079

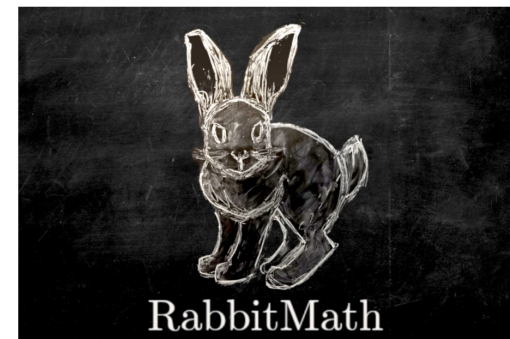
TRANSCRIPT REQUESTS: (519)753-6079

The Math and Stats Department at Queen's University is running an online summer math program for students entering grades 9 - 12 called **Rabbit Math**.

Rabbit Math is free for everyone. This series of summer math workshops will give high school students a chance to play with the ideas and activities that Queen's University have been developing for high school classrooms. Students will work through a variety of different problems which the students will have a chance to explore, and Queen's will get some ideas on how well the problems work. The students will be using 'activities' that are not generally found in the classroom and that can work for a wide variety of student abilities.

This free program will begin on Saturday July 3, and continue until mid-August, running Saturday mornings from 10:00 to 12:00 EDT. The program is open to all students grades 9-12.

To register, please visit: <https://www.rabbitmath.ca/>



## ATTENTION ALL BLUE DEVIL BALLERS!!!!

Hello Everyone! I know this year was difficult without any basketball at school. However, we can continue to do our best to stay prepared for whenever the time comes to return to play safely.

The summer is the PERFECT time to work on your skills and add new aspects to your game!

If you want to work on your skills over the summer and are looking for some ideas, the following website can be a great resource for your summer practice plan.

<https://www.breakthroughbasketball.com/training/workouts.html>

It has a variety of different drills and ideas to help you practice while having fun at the same time!

Hopefully we can be back on the court next year!

Have a great summer!

Coach Rowntree



## 2020 -2021 Yearbooks

The 2020—2021 Yearbooks will arrive in the fall





# STUDENTS' COUNCIL

It's hard to believe that this school year has already come to an end. However, despite the gloom of this school year ending, we are humbled to recap the amazing events that Students' Council was able to promote this school year. Throughout the limited school year, the amazing group of student leaders were able to come together through Microsoft Teams calls and many social platform interactions to lift the school spirits at McKinnon Park. Students' Council held an amazing 12 Days of Christmas event, which significantly spread loads of Christmas cheer throughout the school. This event involved several days of different Christmas events, including, Red and Green Day, Snowman Decorating, Holiday Character Day, Guess the Mystery Teacher Caroler, and much more. On Valentine's Day, Students' Council hosted a Red and Pink Day as well as fun Valentine's Day poll games held on the McKinnon Park Instagram page. Additionally, in the second week of April, we promoted the International Day of Pink in support of anti-bullying throughout Grand Erie schools. Students' Council also hosted a *Holiday's at Home* Spirit Week, where kids who were either attending school on-line or in class could participate. The spirit week consisted of several different themed days, such as, Tourist Day, Back 2 The Future Day, and Staycation Day! Additionally, the Student Body was lucky enough to host The Family Game Challenge Competition, which involved a full week where students, parents, and staff were encouraged to send in pictures of the games you played with your household to be featured on the MPSS Instagram page! Some featured days included, Board Game Day, Puzzles Day, and Card Games Day! Finally, in late May, Students' Council decided to hold an online Pets Day as a way to make others smile and spread some positivity. We would like to give a big congratulations to all the Blue Devils this year and we wish everyone a safe, happy, and healthy summer!

To MPSS students & families:

I have enjoyed working with you all for the last two years, and I am so sad to be leaving such an awesome school!

I have accepted a position at Six Nations Polytechnic, so hopefully I'll see some of our students in the years to come.

I wish you all the best on your future endeavors and can't wait to see all that you accomplish!

Hailey Thomas Wilson , Cultural Mentor



## Congratulations Student Trustees!!

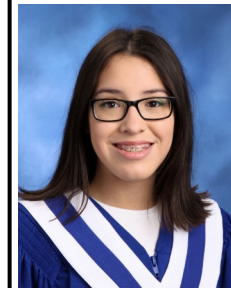


This past school year, McKinnon Park was fortunate enough to have two of our own students represent all students across the Grand Erie District School Board as Student



Trustees. A big thank you to Ava Burtis (SouthTrustee) and la'teieká:nereh Doxtador-Swamp (Indigenous Trustee) for representing McKinnon Park and the rest of the school board, and on a job well done!

Next year, we are proud to announce that Sierra



Green will be representing McKinnon Park and the rest of the school board as the Indigenous Trustee. Congratulations to Sierra on being selected to represent students from across the board for the upcoming 2021-2022 school year.





# Grand Erie District School Board

Education Centre: 349 Erie Avenue, Brantford, Ontario N3T 5V3  
(519) 756-6301 | [granderie.ca](http://granderie.ca) | [info@granderie.ca](mailto:info@granderie.ca)

## Student Accident Insurance

The Grand Erie District School Board does not provide accident insurance coverage for student injuries that occur on school property or during school activities, including extracurricular sports. If a student is injured, parent(s) / guardian(s) are responsible for any costs not covered by their Government Health Insurance Plan or their employer's health care plan. The Board encourages all parents/guardians to review this or other available Student Accident Insurance plans, especially those with a child(ren) participating in medium to high-impact physical activities (both during school and outside of school hours). For higher risk field trips or excursions, students will be required to confirm that they have insurance or will purchase student accident insurance in advance of the trip/excursion. Schools will notify parents/guardians when accident insurance is mandatory.

The insuremykids® student accident insurance program offers three plans with a variety of benefits and affordable rates. Their most affordable plan is available for as little as \$17 per year. All plans provide 24/7 coverage. For more information or to purchase insurance, please visit- [www.insuremykids.com](http://www.insuremykids.com) or call 1-800-463-5437. The 2021-22 Student Accident Insurance Program is available for purchase beginning August 1, 2021.

New Feature: Effective August 1, 2021, in previous years plans could be purchased at any time, but expired September 30th the following year (or for multi-year plans, the September 30th of the following 3 or 5 years). Now if you purchase a single year plan, the expiration date will be 365 days +one month from no matter what date you purchased. (Example: purchase 1-year policy on November 1, 2021, plan will expire on November 30, 2021. The expiration of the multi-year plans will be either a full 3 or 5 years from the date of purchase. (Example: purchase 3-year plan on November 21st, plan will expire on October 31st, 2024) This new features for all plans allow families the flexibility to purchase whenever.

## Goodbyes

Happy retirement to Cathi Krueger, John McIntosh, Darryl Collin and Tracy Robertson. We also say goodbye to our Vice-Principal Steve Burroughs, who is moving to a Vice-Principal position at Brantford Collegiate Institute, to Hailey Thomas Wilson, our Cultural Mentor for Indigenous students, who has supported students and staff as we work to learn more about Indigenous culture and how we can work towards Truth and Reconciliation, and to Sarah Cloutier, our Learning Resource Teacher and Department Head, who has been promoted to Vice Principal and will be moving to Mapleview Elementary school in Dunnville. You will be missed at MPSS, but the Blue Devil family wishes you all the best in the next stage of your life journey. To Mr. Avey, Ms. Burrows-Dadson, Mr. Brenn, Ms. Conning, Ms. S. Curtis, Mr. Costa, Mr. Furlong, Mr. Gal-ka, Ms. Hynes, Ms. Johnson, Ms. Livings, Mr. Khan, Dr. Maslikowski, Mr. Nicassio, Ms. Sawyer, Mr. Tirone, Mr. Urie, Mr. Wallman, Ms. Wine-gard, and Mr. Wortley best wishes in your next education assignment, wherever that may be. Keep the 'Blue Devil' spirit alive in you. We appreciated everything that you have done for our students.



# 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

## BRANT | BRANTFORD | HALDIMAND SECONDARY

REVISED  
EDITION

	1st Week					2nd Week					3rd Week					4th Week					5th Week				
	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
September			1	2	3	6	7	8	9	10	13	14	15	16	17	20	21	22	23	24	27	28	29	30	
			B	P	B	H																			
October					1	4	5	6	7	8	11	12	13	14	15	18	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28	29
										P	H														
November	1	2	3	4	5	8	9	10	11	12	15	16	17	18	19	22	23	24	25	26	29	30			
								E	E	P															
December			1	2	3	6	7	8	9	10	13	14	15	16	17	20	21	22	23	24	27	28	29	30	31
																B	B	B	B	H	H	B	B	B	B
January	3	4	5	6	7	10	11	12	13	14	17	18	19	20	21	24	25	26	27	28	31				
																				E	E				
February		1	2	3	4	7	8	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18	21	22	23	24	25	28				
		E	P	P												H									
March		1	2	3	4	7	8	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18	21	22	23	24	25	28	29	30	31	
											B	B	B	B	B										
April					1	4	5	6	7	8	11	12	13	14	15	18	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28	29
															H	H		E	E	P					
May	2	3	4	5	6	9	10	11	12	13	16	17	18	19	20	23	24	25	26	27	30	31			
																H									
June			1	2	3	6	7	8	9	10	13	14	15	16	17	20	21	22	23	24	27	28	29	30	
																					E	E	E	P	



School Holiday



Professional Activity Day



Examinations



Board Designated Holiday

The 2021-22 School Year Calendar provided a total of 187 Instructional and 7 Professional Development Days. The first day of school for all students will be September 7, 2021.

Sept. 2, 2021: Health and Safety Protocols/Anti-Racism Training  
 Oct. 8, 2021: School Improvement Planning for Well-Being  
 Nov. 12, 2021: Improving Student Achievement  
 Feb. 2, 2022: Reporting and Program Planning

Feb. 3, 2022: Reporting and Program Planning  
 April 22, 2022: Improving Student Achievement  
 June 30, 2022: Staff Professional Development

*SUCCESS* for Every Student



## #EveryChildMatters

Our hearts go out to everyone affected by the recent announcements coming out across the nation.

### Six Nations Crisis Line

If you are in need of support please reach out.

519-445-2204

1-866-445-2204

### National Indian Residential School Crisis Line

Provides support for former students and those affected. Access emotional and crisis referral services by calling the 24-hour national crisis line.

1-866-925-4419

### Kids Help Phone

Get confidential support across Canada from a trained, volunteer crisis responder by calling or texting.

Phone: 1-800-668-6868

Text "Connect" to 686868

