

# THE MEMORIAL MEMO

*THE TORCH HELD HIGH*



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## *PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE*

Dear Memorial Parents,

Welcome to the Memorial newsletter for 2021-2022. We have made it through the first month of school and are glad to see students have settled in well. Our new grade 10s seem like a great crew of kids to join our already wonderful 11s and 12s.

Belonging at Memorial is the big theme that we are undertaking this year. We are responding to societal events and directions to address issues like Truth and Reconciliation, racism, and homophobia to name a few topics. All of our teachers provided lessons on September 29 as part of National Truth and Reconciliation Day. This is an example of the big picture view of belonging but on a smaller scale, we also want all of our students to find their place in their school. The Rotary Interact students hosted the Club Fair on September 22 and 23 which was an opportunity for students to visit with members of the Rotary Interact, Let's Act Now, Anime Club, More than Just a Book Club, and the QSA as examples of groups they could join at Memorial. The growth in club membership was terrific!

We are also continuing our work with the Collaborative Response process which is a system where teachers work together to ensure that they have tools to support the learning of all students in their classes. This work is especially pertinent considering the varied learning experiences students have had over the past two years and the learning loss that has taken place for many. Torch Time is a big part of this process. **I cannot emphasize enough the importance for parents to support their students by staying on top of their performance and checking PowerSchool regularly. This could be followed up by registering their kids in appropriate Torch Time sessions if needed.** Reach out to teachers if you see something on PowerSchool that causes questions.

Finally, Covid is still a thing. I am so appreciative of the huge majority of students who are coming to school and following the expectations regarding masks and other protocols. While we are not fully back to pre-Covid operations we are certainly back to increased expectations with Diploma exams back on the table. If your student finds themselves in the unfortunate situation of being home for isolation it will be imperative that they follow along with google classroom if they are well enough. With the tight timelines of the quarter system, we can make some adjustments but this will be a challenge. Again, please check PowerSchool regularly to ensure your student is on top of their work to avoid too many problems should isolation occur.

2021-2022 is off to a marvelous start! Cross country running, football, and volleyball are all up and running. Apple day was a great way to start the day last week. The Club Fair connected a bunch of students to their like minded peers. Kids are coming to school and taking care of their business. So far so good! We are looking forward to a great school year!

All the best,  
Carolyn Jensen



## AUGUST & SEPTEMBER HAPPENINGS

## OCTOBER KEY DATES

### AUGUST

- 19 - SCHOOL OFFICE OPENS - 8:00 AM
- 25 - GREEN & GOLD MEETING - 6:30 PM
- 30 - GRADE 10 REGISTRATION - ALL DAY
- 30 - 1 VOLLEYBALL TRYOUTS 3:45-5:00
- 31 - GRADE 11 & 12 REGISTRATION

### SEPTEMBER

- 01 - Q1 FIRST DAY OF CLASSES
- 06 - LABOUR DAY - NO SCHOOL
- 08 - X-COUNTRY MEET
- 10 & 11 - JR VB TOURNAMENT
- 15 - X-COUNTRY MEET
- 16 - GREEN & GOLD AGM 6:30 - 8:00
- 20-1 - MURAL PAINTING-LANCE CARDINAL
- 21 - ELAA VIRTUAL CAREER FAIR
- 22 & 23 - CLUB FAIR EVENT - LUNCH
- 22 - GRAD PARENT VIRTUAL EVENT
- 22 - X-COUNTRY MEET
- 23 - ELAA VIRTUAL CAREER FAIR
- 23 - Q1 PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS
- 27 - ELAA VIRTUAL CAREER FAIR
- 27 - SCHOOL COUNCIL AGM
- 29 - ORANGE SHIRT DAY
- 29 - X-COUNTRY MEET
- 29 - PIPE CEREMONY
- 29 - ELAA VIRTUAL CAREER FAIR
- 30 - NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH & RECONCILIATION (NO SCHOOL)

- 04 - GREEN & GOLD MEETING 6:30
- 05 - WORLD TEACHERS' DAY
- 06 - X-COUNTRY ZONE CHAMPIONSHIPS
- 08 - PD DAY - NO SCHOOL
- 11 - THANKSGIVING DAY - NO SCHOOL
- 12 - 2020-2021 ACADEMIC AWARDS (VIRTUAL)
- 16 - UOFA OPEN HOUSE 1-4PM
- 16 - KING'S UNIVERSITY OPEN HOUSE
- 16 - CONCORDIA OPEN HOUSE
- 19 - SCHOOL PICTURE RETAKES
- 22-23 SR. VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT
- 25 - SCHOOL COUNCIL MTG - 7PM
- 31 - HALLOWEEN (SUNDAY)

## **MCHS GRADE ADMINISTRATORS**

**GRADE 10 - MS. JEWELL**

**GRADE 11 - MR. COGHILL**

**GRADE 12 - MS. FISK**

## **BELL SCHEDULE FOR 2021-2022**

**Block 1 8:30 – 11:03 am**

**Lunch 11:03 – 12:03 pm**

**Block 2 12:03 – 2:35 pm**

**Torch Time 2:40 – 3:20 pm**



## PowerSchool

This is our parent's primary way to check in on their child's marks/assignments, update contact information, and to pay fees too. Contact the school for your username and access ID at [mchs@psd.ca](mailto:mchs@psd.ca). Activate and sign into your account on the [MCHS website](#) in the Parents tab. Please contact Mrs. Campbell at the office if you need assistance accessing your account.

## School Fees Are Due

Please note that School fees are not visible on the PowerSchool App. Access to all information is only available through the [website](#).

Please log in to your [parent PowerSchool account](#) or come into the school to pay your high school fees. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Miller at the Finance Office.

## Reporting an Absence?

Please email [mchs.absence@psd.ca](mailto:mchs.absence@psd.ca) or call 780-963-2255 and dial 1 anytime to leave a message. Please leave your child's full name, grade, and details of the absence.

## Reaching Your Child At School

Cell phones can be a distraction and a disruption to classroom learning. Our teachers and your kids have worked hard together to come up with routines so that cellphones are not disrupting class. Here are some things for parents to know about communicating with their kids while they are at school.

- During class time, your child has most likely turned off the phone and put it in a pouch on the classroom wall. They may not be able to respond immediately.
- You can contact your child during their designated lunch hour:  
Lunch: 11:03 – 12:03

We appreciate your support in reaching your child directly to minimize disruption to classroom instruction. Of course, we are happy to assist in an emergency.

“

*“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world” - Nelson Mandela.*



# MEMORIAL COMPOSITE HIGH SCHOOL

Please note that MCHS has a new website  
and new email addresses:

[MCHS Website - mchs.psd.ca](http://mchs.psd.ca)

General Email: [mchs@psd.ca](mailto:mchs@psd.ca)

Report a Student Absence: [mchs.absence@psd.ca](mailto:mchs.absence@psd.ca)

## TORCH TIME

### IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

- Torch Time is mandatory on the first day of the week. That will usually be Mondays, but it will be Tuesdays if there is a long weekend. Students will remain in their afternoon classes for their Torch lesson.
- Students and the school are still accountable for the whereabouts of students until the end of the full school day. All students need to be signed up for a Torch Session everyday through PowerSchool. We will sign them up for their Monday/Tuesday session.
- On Tuesday we will be showing your kids how they can sign up using their phones or a computer. As high school students they have a lot of responsibility for their education, so we are giving them the tools to use their time accordingly.
- Parents and teachers can also sign up a student for a Torch Session. Students cannot unenroll from those sessions. There is a video below explaining to parents how they can sign their child up for a session.
- If a student is in good standing (meeting the expectations of their teachers, parents, and themselves) and have all of their assignments submitted to a passing level, they may use that time for a personal interest Torch Session (Open Gym, Fitness Training, etc.) or sign up to be Off Campus With Parent Approval. Students are also encouraged to sign up for academic sessions if they wish to improve their marks.

[Video - How to sign up for Torch Time using a phone](#)

[Video - How to sign up for Torch Time on PowerSchool Website](#)

# MEMORIAL COMPOSITE HIGH SCHOOL

**Next School Council Meeting:  
Monday, October 25 - 7:00 pm**

**Next Green & Gold Athletics Meeting  
Monday, October 4 - 6:30pm  
To join virtually by Google Meet click [HERE](#)**

## MCHS 2020-21 AWARDS

We would like to share that the hard work and efforts of our students and staff during the 2020 - 2021 school year will be acknowledged at our Awards Ceremony which will be held on Tuesday, October 12, 2021. Due to the current restrictions and guidelines, the ceremony will be live streamed for families to view.

The ceremony will take place during Torch Time.

Date: Tuesday, October 12, 2021

Time: 2:40 pm - 3:20 pm

Youtube link: [MCHS 2020-2021 Awards](#)

*Major Award winners and Subject area award winners will participate in the live-streamed ceremony in the common area.*

*Honors awards will be presented in classrooms during Torch Time.*

*2020-21 Graduates will receive their certificates in the mail or be contacted to pick up an award that cannot be mailed.*

## Have you set up your MyPass Account Yet?

myPass is the self-service website for the education documentation of Alberta students. It is very important that all students set up their myPass account while in high school, but it is particularly important for Grade 12 students. This is the only way that Grade 12 students will find out their diploma exams marks.

Go to <https://mypass.alberta.ca> and "Sign in With an Education Account". Students require their Alberta Student Number (which can be found on PowerSchool) and a personal email address. Do not use your psdblogs account because it will be deactivated when you graduate. Please stop by Student Services if you have questions or require assistance.

# MEMORIAL COMPOSITE HIGH SCHOOL

Grade 12 is an important and exciting year for your students. We are excited to work with you to make this a memorable and meaningful year for them all!

Due to AHS regulations, our Grad Parent Night is now virtual. We have created 3 separate short videos to share with you key information regarding:

[Video 1 Ms. Fisk & Ms. Mazereeuw \(5 min\)](#)

Diploma Exams  
Supporting Your Grad  
Graduation Ceremony 2022

[Video 2 Mrs. Nuijens \(3:54 min\)](#)  
Program Requirements  
MyPass

[Video 3 Ms. Cox \(5 min\)](#)  
Career Planning & Post-Secondary Planning  
Scholarships

Check the MCHS Website Often

If you would like a personal call back for any questions not answered in the videos, please complete this form. [Grad 2022 Parent Questions](#)

## Graduation 2022 Ceremony

- ✓ Saturday June 25, 2022 Edmonton Convention Center. Time TBD (as per AHS guidelines at that time)
- ✓ Virtual Grad Assembly will be held in October
- ✓ Must be in line and in good standing to graduate,
- ✓ Final Grad List June 1, 2022.
  - ▶ Credits & Required courses
  - ▶ Passing Grades
- ✓ Check [mchs.psd.ca](http://mchs.psd.ca) regularly for updates

## Indigenous Cultural Graduation Celebration

- ✓ Mid June evening-invitations will follow

# **MEMORIAL COMPOSITE HIGH SCHOOL**

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## **Post-Secondary Partnerships**

**Memorial students in Grade 12 have the opportunity to start their post-secondary journey early this year. Agreements have been made with several post-secondary institutions to take courses at no cost or minimal cost to students and their families. Students can take a large variety of courses in almost any area of study. The Institutions that are currently available are Olds College, Northern Lakes College, Athabasca University, Portage College, and Lakeland College. Other Institutions may come available later in the school year.**

**There are some pre-requisite requirements for these courses and it is important to set up a meeting with a counselor/grade coordinator to find out if a student is eligible. You can also set up a meeting with Mike Partington, the division coordinator who is at Memorial on Tuesdays. Check in with Mrs. Sorenson in Student Services to find out when you can book an appointment. If you are looking for an added challenge or just want to get a head start on your post-secondary learning, this might be the opportunity for you!**

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# Welcome Back

Grade 10  
Welcome  
BBQ  
and MCHS  
T-shirts  
for  
everyone!





Thanks to  
our  
student  
volunteers!



Digital Scavenger  
Hunt Winners:

**1st Place:**

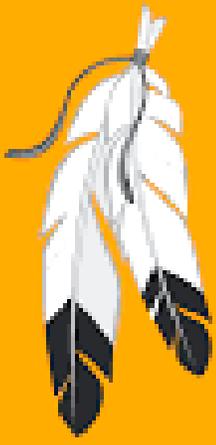
Kaitlyn Suter  
Gavin Smith

**2nd Place:**

Anneke Allen  
Khalid Zaranda  
Nadia Blasko  
Rayne Rowly

**3rd Place:**

LAWS students



# National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

September 30

On September 29th students and staff observed and participated in a Peace Pipe Ceremony.

This ceremony of peace and healing is an opportunity to reflect on and participate in the spirit of seeking Truth and Reconciliation. It began with introductions and a Smudge. Elders Violet Poitras and Emil Durocher led the ceremony, which was followed by their teachings and a healing jingle dance performed by Brisa Lewis, one of our MCHS students. Thank you to those who joined this special ceremony as a step in recognizing the importance of this day and to be a part of the collective lift...



# MCHS HIGHLIGHTS

## ART



FAB 30

# Rocket Stoves



# TORCH TIME BRAIN TEASER WINNERS



Torch Time Brain Teaser winners received MCHS sunglasses! Winning classes were:

Miss Hertz-Kleptow, Mr. Normand, Mr. Olsen, Mrs. Onysko, Mrs. Ropert & Mr. Stuckey



# ATHLETICS

## Cross-Country



## MCHS Jr. Volleyball Tournament



# ATHLETICS

## MCHS Jr. Volleyball Tournament



## Spruce Grove Volleyball Tournament

**Jr. Boys Green  
was undefeated  
in the MCHS and  
Spruce Grove  
Volleyball  
Tournaments!  
Congratulations!**





*MCHS Staff spend several days together before school starts planning and collaborating to ensure our students have a great year!*

*We wish every student a fun and successful 2021-22 school year!*

# Other News

## Previous MCHS Student selected for summit

CITY

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2021



Amanda Hardman, 19, is taking part in Bayer's 2021 Youth Ag Summit. She studies sustainable agriculture at the U of A. LARRY WONG

## U of A student selected for summit

Stony Plain teen one of two from Canada chosen to take part in ag conference

**KELLEN TANIGUCHI**

A Stony Plain teen is one of just two Canadians participating in the 2021 Bayer's Youth Ag Summit (YAS).

The summit welcomes 100 delegates, aged 18-25, every two years and this year's delegates come from more than 44 different countries.

Amanda Hardman, 19, is entering her second year at the University of Alberta and is studying sustainable agriculture. She said she knows her studies address a real-world problem and it's something that affects everyone. She said she's excited to learn more at YAS when the delegates first meet this November.

"It's going to be an amazing learning experience and I'm ready to soak it all in and take away as much as possible," Hardman told Postmedia.

Hardman said a lot of her projects have focused on improving the food system and limiting waste, so when she heard about the summit she knew it was a good fit for her and submitted an application immediately.

More than 2,000 youth from nearly 100 countries applied for the Bayer's summit.

Bayer Spokesperson Komie Hossini said applicants answer questions about their experience and motivation for why they want to attend the summit and submit a three-minute video pitch explaining their project idea fitting the summit's theme of "Feeding a Hungry Planet."

Hossini said each country has its own jury that goes through applicants and grades them on a provided criteria which leads to the delegate selections.

Emily Robb from Brandon, Man., is the second Canadian taking part

in the summit.

Hardman's project focused on finding an alternative to plastic clamshell packaging. The product she was working on used lettuce, she said, although other produce such as tomatoes could be used as well.

"Going through grocery stores, there's a lot of plastic packaging and a lot of it is needless," said Hardman. "Plastic clamshells are getting banned in places, so people are trying to come up with other types of food packaging and it's not really effective. So my whole thing was if I can improve this, make it a little more sustainable, then I want to do that."

Hardman said her project used a prototype made of sugarcane fibre sprayed with cellular nano crystals coming from wood pulp.

### **VIRTUAL SUMMIT**

The pandemic forced YAS to go virtual for the first time this year and it will also be the first summit with YAS University — a program that allows delegates to complete weekly assignments that help with

their individual project concept for 10 weeks following the summit beginning in January.

"It's going to be interesting, we're going to be learning a lot from industry professionals from across the world, so I am really looking forward to that," said Hardman.

Hossini said delegates would usually spend a week together working side-by-side on professional development and hear from speakers.

Bayer recognizes the importance of getting youth involved in agriculture careers, he added.

"This is a massive global problem where youth coming in at this age in the Youth Ag Summit, they're the ones that have the opportunity to tackle it and in all honesty, in 2050 they're going to be the ones tackling that problem," said Hossini.

"There are opportunities in ag and there will be far more jobs than we can possibly fill, so I want youth to take a look at agriculture for their future."

[ktaniguchi@postmedia.com](mailto:ktaniguchi@postmedia.com)  
[twitter.com/kellentaniguchi](https://twitter.com/kellentaniguchi)

[Click here to read the Edmonton Journal Article](#)

# Other News

## Hunter Niles: MCHS Bold Eagle Graduate

While many students stuck close to home this summer doing the things they usually do, Hunter went on a deeply personal adventure. He spent six weeks at CAF Camp Wainwright experiencing both cultural teachings and developing career skills. He is a proud graduate of the [CAF Bold Eagle Program](#).

The first week of Bold Eagle was culturally based under the guidance of elders. There was daily ceremony and prayer. Hunter was gifted his second spirit name *Cetan Maza* which means Iron Hawk. His first spirit name is Cree, *Kihiw Napew*, meaning Eagle Man given to him by his elders. Clearly Hunter has strength and vision. He is confident in the spirits watching over him and as a result of his experience with the elders this summer feels a deeper family connection.

The Armed Forces training became the focus in week two. Hunter's first comment is that it was stressful. They were up at 5am every morning and didn't get to bed until at least 11pm every evening. There was at least three hours of daily PT (physical training). Hunter very much enjoyed the rifle handling. The instructors were very strict throughout the program but kind after the work was done.

He loved the Bold Eagle Program and Hunter is planning on joining the infantry upon completion of high school in January.



# Parkland School Division

## Resources

Strong Families - October Sessions

Please **register early** to reserve your spot!



**Strong Families:**  
*Nourishing Your ADHD Child's*  
**Full Potential**

*Presented by Parkland School Division in partnership with Alberta Parenting For The Future*



**Strong Families:**  
**Social Skills**

*Presented by Parkland School Division in partnership with Alberta Parenting For The Future*

[PSD News](#)

[PSD Covid-19 Information](#)

# Community Resources

[Stony Plain Library](#)

[Stony Plain Youth Centre](#)

[The Town of Stony Plain FCSS Programs](#) - Programs for Everyone include:

- Webinars
- Neighbourhood Connect
- Grief Support
- Support Groups (Living with Loss to Suicide, BILY - Because I Love You, Caring Friends Bereavement Group)

[AHS Caregiver Information for the Edmonton Zone](#)

[The Green Book](#) - community resource directory for the City of Spruce Grove, Town of Stony Plain and Parkland County

[Alberta Health Services](#) -all the information you need regarding Covid-19 and can also help you:

- Find a doctor
- Find programs and services
- Find information and news about a range of health topics
- Stay informed about what is happening in your community

Don't forget that the 811 Health Link can provide you with health advice from a registered nurse 24/7. Remember, in a medical emergency, always call 911 or visit the nearest emergency department.