

# THE MEMORIAL MEMO

*THE TORCH HELD HIGH*

**HAVE YOU CHECKED  
POWERSCHOOL  
TODAY?**



## **This Issue:**

- Key Dates - P.2
- A Reminder from Transportation P.4
- Torch Time - P.5
- School Council - P.5
- Green & Gold Society- P.5
- Graduation - P.6
- New Student Services Website P.7
- Memorial Business - P.7
- Congrats & Giving Back P.8
- Toothbrushes for Teens P.9
- Kinsmen Christmas Hamper P.10
- MCHS Highlights P.11-14
- Minister's Youth Council - Tacey Robertson P.16
- PSD Resources P.17
- Community Resources P.18

## **Happy Holidays Marauder Parents!**

Memorial would like to wish you and your family a wonderful holiday season together this year! We will be in school right up until the 23rd so we can all have a good, long, restful break following Christmas festivities. We have all learned how powerful connection is over this past year of Covid separations. It is so important for us to be with the people we care about, so hopefully we will all be able to join with the special people in our lives to celebrate this season. Enjoy!

Parents, we could use your help as this quarter ramps up for a very speedy end following the break. Could you please check your student's PowerSchool account fairly frequently? It will be so helpful to our teachers who have been working so hard for so long during this relentless Covid experience. Our teachers do a great job of reminding your kids to ensure their work is on track, however, a parental nudge is often more effective and very helpful. There will only be 11 days of class following break, so please help your child avoid any time crunches by being on top of their progress in PowerSchool now before the break.

Good things continue to happen at Memorial. Congratulations to Mrs. Duncan on winning the Prime Minister's Excellence In Teaching Regional Award for STEM! Her previous school in Medicine Hat nominated her. This is a pretty big deal in the teacher world! Alberta School Athletics Jersey Day was on the 26th, so it was good to see team pride for all sports from our students. The Junior Boys Green Volleyball Team earned a silver medal in Metro League play this season. The staff vs student VB season end game, followed by some pizza, was a great way to end this year's season. And once again, our Remembrance Day Service honoured our veterans and our school with some somber thoughts.

I'd like to personally congratulate my swim team, a combined Memorial/Spruce Grove Comp team. We had a disappointing end to the season as the qualification meet was on the ice day so we couldn't get there. Therefore, we couldn't earn our way to the Championship meet. We had some medal contenders! I had the pleasure of the company of Memorial swimmers Maddie Lee, Nadia Blasko, Tina Denton, Emma Hansen, Reese Pruden, Amanda Rockwell, Kalli Snook, Hayden Theophile and Ryder Chambers at 6:30am at the Tri for practices twice each week through October and November. What a great group of dedicated athletes! I miss them already.

Be well Memorial families. Stay in touch if you need anything.

Ms. Jensen, Principal



## NOVEMBER HAPPENINGS

- 01 - Fabrication Field Trip
- 01 - Q1 Last Day of Classes
- 01 - G&G Exec Meeting - 6:30pm
- 01 - Remembrance Day Ceremony - 10:30
- 02-04 - School Based Exams
- 02 - 10 Diploma Exams
- 05 - High School Turnaround Day
- 06 - MacEwan University Open House
- 08-12 - Fall Break
- 11 - Remembrance Day
- 15 - PD Day - No Classes
- 16 - Q2 First Day of Classes
- 17 - 19 - MCHS Basketball Tryouts
- 19-29 - Toothbrushes & Toiletries for Teens
- 25-27 Jr. Basketball Tournament Holy Trinity
- 25-27 Sr. Basketball Tournament Lillian Osborne
- 29 - School Council Mtg - 7pm
- 29 - Metro Swim Championship Meet

## **BELL SCHEDULE FOR Q2**

### **Mondays:**

**Block 1 8:30 - 11:25 am**

**Lunch 11:25 - 12:25 pm**

**Block 2 12:25 - 3:20 pm**

### **Tuesdays-Fridays:**

**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**

## DECEMBER KEY DATES

- 02-04 - Jr. Basketball Tournament J.P.P.
- 02-04 - Sr. Basketball Tournament Lillian Osborne
- 03 - Field Trip to TLC - LAWS
- 06 - Green & Gold Exec Mtg 6:30
- 07 - Q2 Parent Teacher Interviews 5:00-6:30 pm
- 09-11 Sr. Basketball Tournament Sturgeon Comp.
- 10 - Grad Fees Deadline
- 10 - QSA Movie Night
- 10-11 - Basketball Tournament Archbishop Jordan
- 11 - Robotics Competition
- 24-07 - Christmas Break

## A PEEK INTO JANUARY

- 10 - Return from Christmas Break
- 10 - Green & Gold Executive Meeting - 6:30
- 11 - English Diploma - Part A
- 12 - Social Diploma - Part A
- 14 - Field Trip - Sports Perf - Factory Climbing
- 14 - Field Trip - Legal Studies to UofA Law Building
- 14-15 - Jr. Basketball Tournament Sturgeon Comp.

*Have you  
checked your  
PowerSchool  
account  
today?*

## **MCHS GRADE ADMINISTRATORS**

**GRADE 10 - MS. JEWELL**

**GRADE 11 - MR. COGHILL**

**GRADE 12 - MS. FISK**



GOOD  
TIMES!



## PowerSchool

This is our parents' 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.

Activate and sign into your account on the [MCHS website](#) in the Quick Links 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:

Mondays: 11:25 - 12:25

Tues-Fri: 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.

“

*“An investment in knowledge pays the best interest”*

*- Benjamin Franklin*



MCHS LAWS Class

# A Reminder from Transportation

## CARRY-ON ITEMS

Carry-on items are permitted on school buses; however, space is at a premium and safety is top priority. The maximum allowable dimensions for approved carry-on items is 33 x 33 x 59 centimetres (13x13x23 inches) and items must be able to fit on the lap of the student. All loose items must be in a sealed bag/case. Items blocking aisles or emergency exits on a school bus are in violation of Alberta Transportation regulations and are not permitted.



Larger items that cannot be adequately secured and stored are considered to be hazardous, as they could seriously harm someone in the event of sudden acceleration or a collision.

According to Alberta Transportation and the National Safety Code Standard 10, large unsecured items are not permitted and must be transported in a separate vehicle.

**Yes!**

### Carry-on items that are allowed on the bus

- Skates (skate guards on, inside a sealed bag which meets the above allowable dimensions)
- Small musical instrument (meets allowable dimensions—flute, clarinet, alto sax, trumpet)
- A certified and registered guide animal

**No!**

### Carry-on items that are not allowed on the bus

- Hockey or ringette sticks, golf clubs, snowboards, toboggans, scooters, longboard skateboards, or any other large item that may interfere with the safety and comfort of any student on the school bus
- Large musical instrument (tuba, tenor saxophone, guitar, drums, French horn or trombone)
- Any kind of animals other than a certified and registered guide animal

## A Message from Parkland School Division Regarding Travel During the Holidays

### International Travel

For those considering or making plans for International Travel during the upcoming Holiday season, the best advice we can give families is to frequently check the rules here:

<https://travel.gc.ca/travel-covid/travel-restrictions/covid-vaccinated-travellers-entering-canada#children>

These are always subject to change and could even change mid-trip so check back often. The link above clearly indicates requirements and/or exemptions available for vaccinated, partially vaccinated or unvaccinated children or dependents.

# MEMORIAL COMPOSITE HIGH SCHOOL

Have you  
checked your  
PowerSchool  
account  
today?

**Next School Council Meeting:**

**Monday, January 24, 2022 - 7:00 pm**

**Join by Google Meet**

**For more information visit our [website](#)**

**Next Green & Gold Athletics Meetings: [G&G Website](#)**

**Monday, December 6 - 6:30pm**

**Join by Google Meet**

**Monday, January 10 - 6:30pm**

**Join by Google Meet**

## **TORCH TIME - \*\*UPDATE\*\***

### **IMPORTANT REMINDERS:**

- Starting in Quarter 2, Monday Torch Time is integrated into class time and therefore, Mondays will run on a full day bell schedule with dismissal continuing to be at 3:20 pm. This changes lunch time on Mondays to 11:25 am - 12:25 pm.**
- Tuesdays to Fridays will continue to have Torch Time scheduled from 2:40 - 3:20 pm and lunch will run from 11:03 am - 12:03 pm.**
- 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 every Tuesday to Friday through PowerSchool.**
- 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

## Graduation

Graduation Fees

Due date: December 10, 2021 Graduation Photos & Grad Fee

Photo appointment reservations open on **December 17, 2021**, and can be booked with the Lifetouch Appointment Plus online scheduling system.

Graduation Photos - January 25-29, 2022

Graduation Photo Retakes - March 1-4, 2022

Class of 2022 Graduation Ceremony

Saturday, June 25, 2022

Have you  
checked your  
PowerSchool  
account  
today?



### 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

New!

Parents - please check out our NEW Student Services Google Site. You will find information on counsellors, scholarships, tutoring & more!



## MCHS Student Services



As a part of the Legal Studies class, students get to participate in a mock trial where students take on roles in the courtroom and complete a criminal trial from start to finish. The Legal Studies class has been given permission by the University of Alberta to use the Moot Courtroom in the Law Building for a mock trial on January 14, 2021. It is the first time we have been able to return since the COVID outbreak. Thanks to Student Legal Services for providing their assistance and access to the courtroom.

Students who are participating in the Business Competition Club continue to learn the case method so they can "crack" a business case. It is our hope that they will be able to participate in some competitions next semester. Students who are interested in joining can come to room 1068 during Torch Time to find out more.



# CONGRATULATIONS

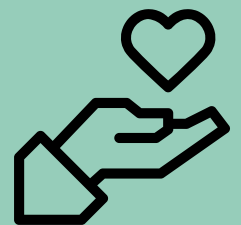
**Congratulations Mrs. Duncan on winning a Prime Ministers Excellence in Teaching Award for Alberta in Teaching STEM. Thank you @chhs\_vikings\_mh for nominating! #memorialcomp is super lucky she joined us this year!**

## GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY

**MCHS Knits**

**Warmth for the Homeless**

**Thank you to student volunteers who are knitting toques and scarves for those experiencing homelessness this winter.**





# Toothbrushes and Toiletries for Teens

From November 19 - November 29 the Social 20-4 class, as part of their social activism component, collected toothbrushes and other new toiletries such as deodorant, toothpaste, shampoo, etc for houseless youth being supported by the Youth Empowerment and Support Services. Thank you to all in the MCHS community who donated to support this project. Over 350 items were donated!





## **Kinsmen Christmas Hamper**

**It is that time of year again where our school has been asked to help support the local Stony Plain Kinsmen. Our Interact students will be delivering boxes to every class with the hope that students and staff will donate new toys (unwrapped), gift cards or monetary donations for the Kinsmen Christmas Hampers. The local Stony Plain Kinsmen will be picking up the items collected from our school in the morning on December 13th. If you have any monetary donations we will have a jar placed in the main office.**

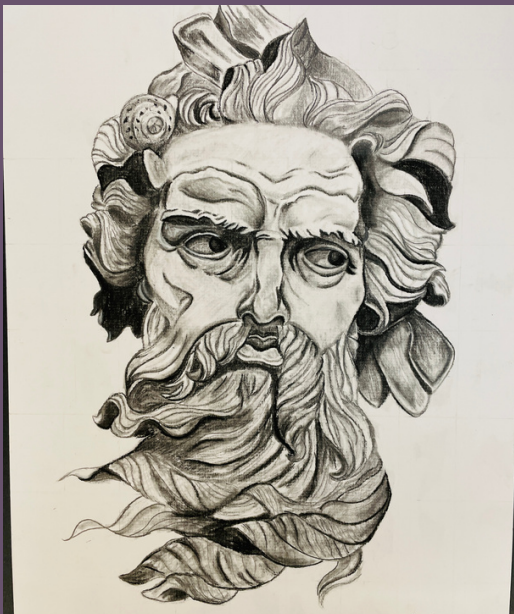
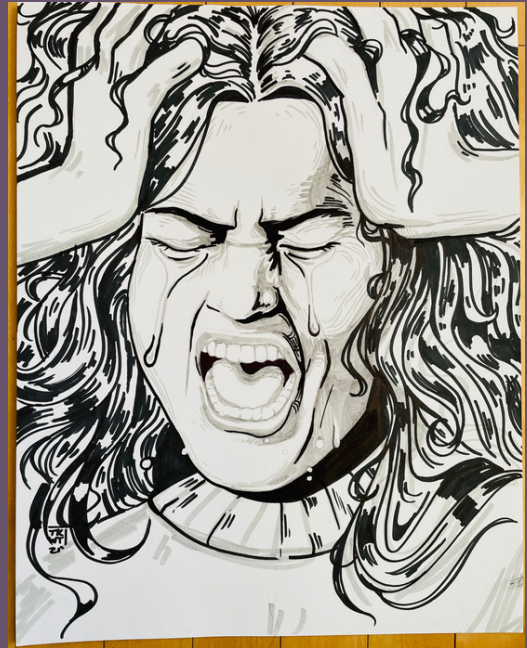
**Every class will receive a prize this year for filling up their box located in the classroom. Classes can fill their box more than once and still receive additional prizes.**

**Please help promote this local initiative - there are over 650 families in need of support this year.**



# MCHS HIGHLIGHTS

## ART

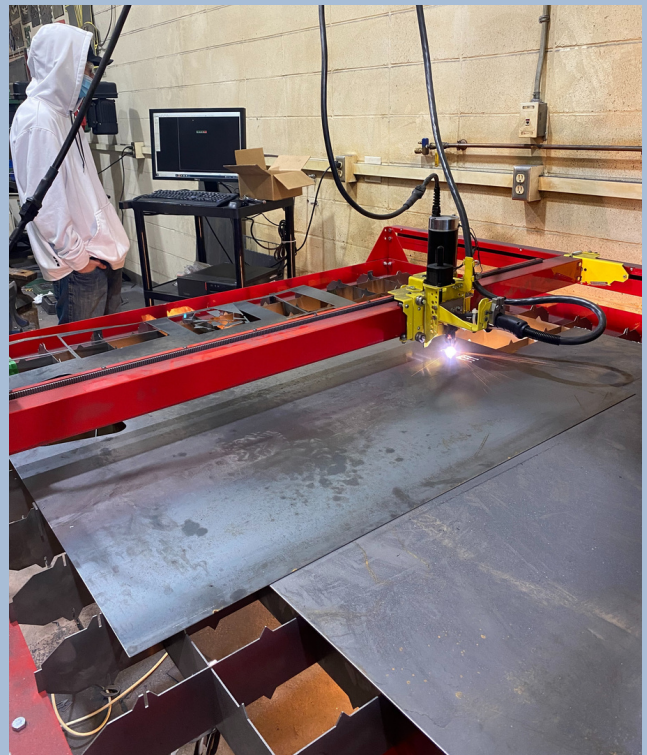


# CONSTRUCTION



# FABRICATION

The Fabrication students would like to thank school administration for the new CNC plasma cutter! The Fabrication students will now have the opportunity to create new and exciting projects!



# MUSIC

Choral Music has resumed at MCHS! This quarter, singers are preparing for an "in-house" holiday concert on December 21. They are also looking forward to a field trip to a private screening of West Side Story, and an exciting music video recording project in the new year.



# MCHS FOODS



# Memorial's Tacey Robertson has the Ear of the Alberta Government



Last week Parkland School Division Trustees acknowledged MCHS Grade 12 student Tacey Robertson at their Board meeting on November 30, 2021. This is the second year that Tacey has been serving on the Alberta Minister's Youth Council advising Minister Adrianna LaGrange on a variety of issues related to education. Tacey gave a short articulate presentation to the Board who, in turn, congratulated her on taking on this "prestigious role" and representing PSD very well.

This year there were 352 applicants for the 41 member Council with only 5 returning from previous years and Tacey made the cut for a second time! Tacey describes her Council student colleagues as "an inspiring group dedicated to improving education. They are an empowering and empathetic group." She is in touch with them frequently in between meetings.

Tacey is impressed with the diversity of the Youth Minister's Team as it reflects Alberta's diversity with students participating who live in extreme rural areas to downtown Edmonton. She has enjoyed hearing their different perspectives.

The Council meets three times a year for a three day virtual meeting. Perhaps in May they will be able to meet in person. There is homework in advance of the meetings which is useful and reasonable in Tacey's estimation. There are readings and videos to review in preparation for the items on the agenda. "It's very interesting and I take tons of notes during the meetings" which are lengthy, three days from 8am to 9pm.

Diploma exams were a hot topic at the October meeting. There was a request in to the Ministry for them to be optional again this year in response to the learning interruption from Covid. Tacey along with some of her Council members felt the exams were important and should remain in place and suggested the reduction in weighting. At the end of each meeting, each Council member writes directly to Minister LaGrange. When the announcement about the Diploma exam weighting reduction was made, some of Tacey's quotes were included. "This shows the impact of the Council. Our voices are heard!"

Members of the Youth Council also are free to bring up their own topics. There are small student-led group discussions to bring up topics and build on each others' ideas. As well, Council members are free to bring up ideas in their individual writings to the Minister at the conclusion of each meeting.

Through her time on the Council, Tacey has met with a number of notable figures including Minister LaGrange, the Chief Medical Officer of Health, the Premier, Sheldon Kennedy and other Ministers who access the Youth Council for their feedback.

Tacey's interest in government became clear during a grade 9 trip with Encounters With Canada to Ottawa. During that trip she met students on the Council and she was further encouraged by her teachers to apply. With her interest in politics and government fuelled, Tacey is now participating in Parkland School Division's Dual Credit program and completing introductory political science courses from Athabasca University for both high school and university credit.

Well done Tacey!



# Parkland School Division Resources

Have you  
checked your  
PowerSchool  
account  
today?

[Click here for the latest \*Stronger Together\* Newsletter from  
Parkland School Division](#)



Strong Families - December Sessions  
Please **register early** to reserve your spot!



[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](#) - contains the Caregiver Education Team Newsletter

[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.