

June, 2017 Mackenzie Middle Years Update

Middle Years Professional Development Field Trips Were HUGE successes!

Teachers and administration travelled to Tumbler Senior Secondary, and teachers/administration/parent and two students travelled to Nechako Valley High School to view their Middle Years Programs. These trips were incredibly rich and informative. We saw the Middle Years Programs in action and learned about best practices when implementing the strategies that best meet the needs of students in this age group. We also spent two days with Nancy Doda, a Middle Years expert, who is guiding us as we shape Mackenzie's Middle Years Program.

Past AND Upcoming MSS Transition Dates

Grade six and seven students have completed their first Transition blocks at the High School. On the days of May 23, 25 and 26, three different grade 6-7 groups spent the morning visiting classes, (Art, Science, Woodworking and Foods), and touring the Middle Years wing. Over the next few weeks, we will continue to take groups of grade six and seven students to the High School for the following events:

Dates

Event

June 6, 8, 13 9:30– 12:00

Gym Block

June 6 – Schroder/Hyde June 8 – Russo June 13 – Dyer

June 14, 15, 16 8:45 – 10:00

Small Group Visits

If your child is attending this small group visit, you will be receiving a notice soon.

June 16 9:30 – 12:00

Recognition Assembly

All grade 6/7 students attend.

June 22 10:00 – 2:30

All Day Transition Day

All grade 6/7 students attend. Stay tuned for the consent form for this event.

***Please note that we also have an OPEN HOUSE planned June 22, 5:30-6:30, for PARENTS and STUDENTS to come and get more information, and take a tour of the Mackenzie Middle Years Wing.**

Renovations 😊

If you get a chance to pop into the High School, ask for a tour of the Middle Years Wing! A wall has been taken out of a classroom to open up this space for the Student Common Area. Bathrooms are being renovated floor to ceiling with new fixtures. Couches, computers and outlets for charging devices will be placed in this area over the summer. Note the floor...it's so shiny! Many of the walls have been updated with paint, and are just waiting for our Middle Years teachers and students to move in and decorate, making this wing their own.

Frequently Asked Questions and Answers 😊

Q - What will be the composition of the Middle Years classes and who will be teaching?

A - There will be two grade seven classes and two grade eight classes. The grade seven teachers will be Morfee's own Evan Wilson and Danielle Hyde. The grade eight teachers will be Justin Hawkins, (returning to Mackenzie after a year away), and Heather Peeters, (new to our school district).

Q - Will the students have a different teacher for each course?

A - The Middle Years teachers will be partner teaching. The grade seven teachers will partner, as will the grade eight teachers. In each partnership, one teacher will instruct the humanities, (Social Studies and English), and the other Science and Math. Students will be attached to one of those teachers for all the other core subjects, (French, Physical and Health Education, Career Education). Students will also be working with other teachers in the High School during Exploration blocks. During these times, students will explore Art, Foods, Outdoor Education and Tech Ed.

Q – Will it be a closed campus for grade 7/8 students?

A – There will be supervision provided for students wishing to remain on campus during lunch. Please discuss your expectations with your child as to whether or not you would like them to stay on site during lunch, as we will not be monitoring those who have permission and those who don't.

Staying Connected

Please check both school websites and the live binder for updated information:

<https://www.sd57.bc.ca/school/morf/>

<https://www.sd57.bc.ca/school/macs/>

<http://www.livebinders.com/play/play?id=2170066>

(Password: Mackenzie)

Or please call:

Morfee Elementary: (250) 997-6340 (Michele Walters, VP Morfee)

Mackenzie Secondary: (250) 997-6510 (Martin Dugan, Principal MSS)