



Principal's Message

Dear Families of McKim!

It's hard to believe February has arrived already! Winter is certainly keeping us guessing this year. It felt like spring was here, and now we are back into the cold. Teachers are encouraged to take their classes outdoors, so please ensure your child is dressed appropriately. Remember, there is no such thing as bad weather, just bad clothing!

This month we began a Positive Behaviour Program where we choose a positive behaviour every two weeks and share examples of these actions on our Monday morning video announcements. Students are recognized each Friday for their positivity, and with this emphasis on positive behaviours, our intent is to improve our school culture.

In the recent announcement from the Ministry of Education, McKim Middle School has changed from following elementary school guidelines to middle school

guidelines, in regards to health and safety practices for students and staff. Many of you had questions about this, wondering why the change. With SD6 having grades 4-7 schools, it created a unique situation when we were categorized as elementary in the summer, as other districts do not have this intermediate age group.

With the age groups being older students, and after seeing success with mask wearing with our age groups at the district 4-7 schools, it was decided that we were best fit to follow middle school provincial guidelines.

We would like to know your thoughts on how we are doing. Please check out the information on the next page about the Ministry of Education's Learning Survey. We appreciate your feedback.

Have a great February Everyone!

Thank you,

Brad Carrier
Principal, McKim Middle School

Calendar of Events

Feb. 15: Family Day (No School)

Feb. 22: Non-Instructional Day for Pro-D (No School)

Feb. 24: Pink Shirt Day

Mar. 9: PAC Meeting

Mar. 19: Intensive French registrations due.

Mar. 22 to Apr. 5: March Break (Classes return Tuesday April 6)

Student Learning Survey 2020/2021

The Provincial Student Learning Survey is unique in its scope, size and usefulness to schools. It gathers information from parents/guardians/caregivers, teachers and students on topics related to school environment, safety, and achievement. The information is used for planning in individual schools and provides a district and provincial perspective.

Early in 2021 the Student Learning Survey will be administered to students in grades four and seven, their parents/guardians/caregivers, and all school staff.

We encourage parents/guardians/caregivers to participate in this survey, as the results are important in identifying and celebrating current strengths, as well as determining where the school needs to focus improvement. The surveys contain standard questions for the Province – in addition, questions from the school and/or district that focus on local conditions or issues may be included.

The survey can be completed electronically and can be accessed at http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey. Any computer with an Internet connection can be used, and access to the e-survey is simple and secure.

The survey can be accessed through the link with or without an anonymous logon code by selecting the school district and school name where your child attends school. Provincial, District and School Reports for previous years can be viewed at the same site under the Results section.

The e-survey site will be open until April 30th.

If you have any questions, please contact us.

**FEB
2021**

Revised COVID Protocols

Last week, the Ministry of Education and the Provincial Health Office announced some enhancements to the [COVID-19 Public Health Guidance for K-12 Schools](#).

McKim has been re-designated as an intermediate school based on our school structure. Key points for McKim are the following:

1. **Masks:** Mask protocols for all staff and middle school students will change. Students and staff at McKim should wear a mask indoors at school except when:
 - Sitting or standing at their seat or workstation in a classroom or learning space,
 - There is a barrier in place,
 - Eating or drinking.
2. **Music Education:** Students within the same cohort should be spaced as far as possible. In middle schools, masks should be worn when singing.

3. **Physical Education:** Activities should be adapted wherever possible to reduce physical contact. There should be no activities that include prolonged physical contact or crowding. For example, activities like tag or touch football are lower-risk, whereas activities like wrestling or partner dancing should be avoided. Physical education and extracurricular exercise and sport activities should occur outside whenever possible. High intensity exercise activities are those that result in significantly increased respiration rates.

If indoors and the activity is stationary, have students spaced 2 metres apart. If the activity involves movement, ensure there is ample space available to reduce the likelihood of physical contact beyond a brief moment.

Masks should be worn indoors by middle and secondary students during low-intensity indoor activities where physical distancing cannot be consistently practiced.

Positive Behaviour Program

In an effort to focus on positive behaviors that grow our school culture, McKim staff have introduced a school-wide system in addition to the systems integrated into each classroom. This system includes a two-week focus on a variety of positive behaviors including: caring, confidence, consideration, cooperation, courage, courtesy, determination, forgiveness, friendliness, helpfulness, honesty, integrity, kindness, patience, perseverance, respect, responsibility, self-discipline, thankfulness, and truthfulness.

Each week starts with a Monday morning announcement to set the intention for the week and share resources for classroom teams to share with students. Through the week, two students are nominated from each class for demonstrating the weekly positive behaviour. During the Friday morning announcements, a student from each grade is drawn for a small prize to increase student uptake with this initiative.

We look forward to creating opportunities to celebrate positive aspects of our school culture!

McKim School Store

Facebook

You are encouraged to follow our Facebook page to get regular updates for activities and events at McKim. We will be working to provide insight into the learning opportunities in classrooms, our school spirit events, and important updates as they come out.

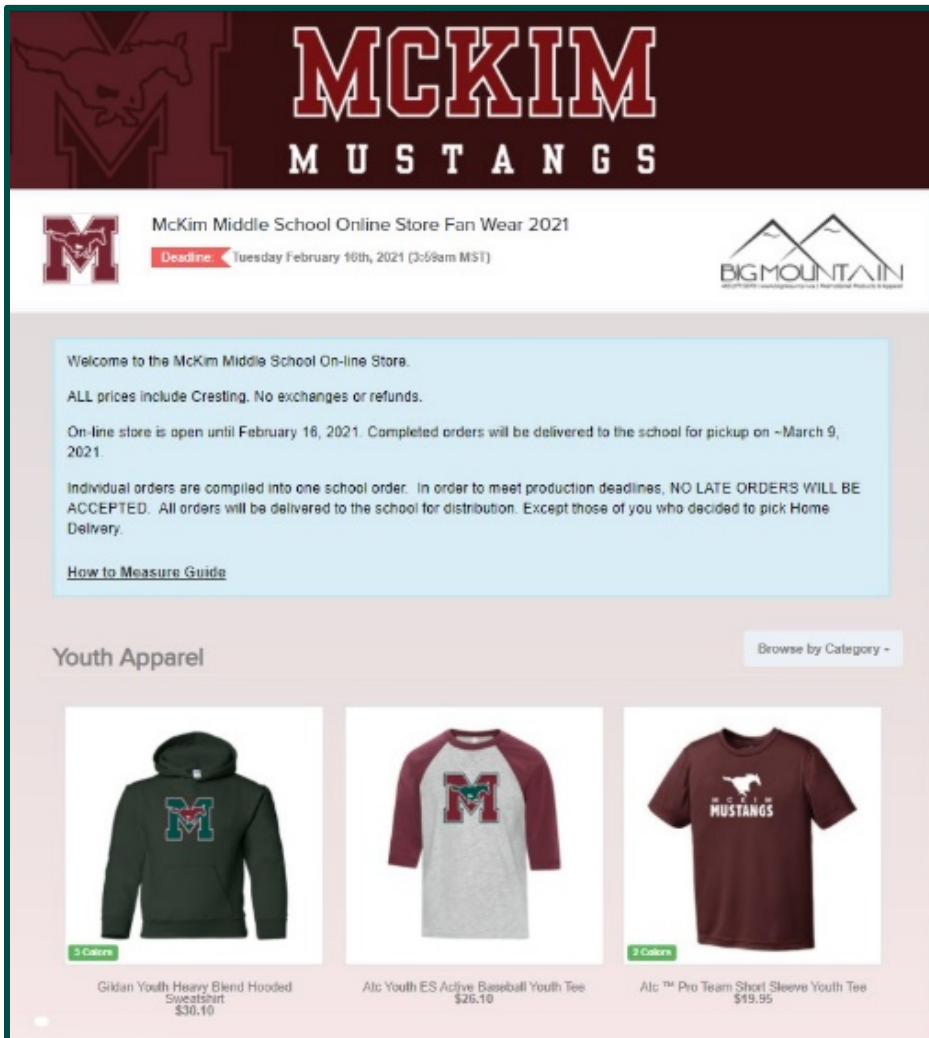
Link:

<https://www.facebook.com/mckimschool>

Website

More information is also available on our school website at:

[http://www.sd6.bc.ca/school/mms/Pages/default.aspx#/="](http://www.sd6.bc.ca/school/mms/Pages/default.aspx#/=)



McKim has its very own website where you can view and purchase what is available for spirit wear. You can have items shipped directly to your house for \$8.00 shipping, or shipped to the school for free where your child can pick it up individually wrapped with his or her name on it.

The store will be open **until February 16th**. At that time, the company puts the items together and ships them. We expect to see the arrival of the clothes three weeks after the Feb.16th date. Check out the fresh new look!

Link: <https://mckim-middleschool.itemorder.com/sale>

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