

Welcome to Semester 2! The senior high students have started a new set of courses in their high school diploma pursuit and our junior high students have begun a new set of options. After a debrief of our first semester, teachers have identified some academic skills that they will be reinforcing with students to strengthen their skills. These include, assessment completion, review and reflection, and preparation for assessments through effective study skills. We will also be working on some foundational math and reading skills with students.

Our focus continues to be promoting student success and students have been given some tools and lessons on how to foster their learning.

- **Be Prepared and On Time**
- **Attendance Matters** - Attendance is a key factor to student success. During consistent attendance, students receive instruction and guided practice for lessons and are able to participate in valuable classroom activities and discussions to support learning. The classroom time can not be duplicated through notes and assignments. Encourage and support regular and consistent attendance to maximize the learning opportunities for your student.
- **Work Hard** - Study, study, study

On our website, mayerthorpehigh.ca, under the students and parents tab, you will find our student agenda in a pdf form. Students have also been given an agenda to help them keep track of assignments, due dates and has our rules and policies in it. We have reviewed these with our students over the first two weeks, but please feel free to review them as well. Students were also given a paper and a magnet that has our calendar dates listed for important days.

We look forward to working with you through this educational adventure.

Report Cards and Parent Teacher Interviews

The semester one report cards will be mailed out this week. Marks can also be accessed on the PowerSchool app/website. If you have any questions please contact the teacher through email, or by calling the school. Parent Teacher Interviews will be held Tuesday March 5, 2024 and Wednesday March 6, 2023 from 4 - 7:30 pm each night. No appointments are necessary.

PowerSchool Parent Portal

The parent portal access is the perfect way to keep up-to-date with student assessment and attendance. If you do not have access to the portal for your students please contact the office.

Ski Trip Date

The annual ski trip to Marmot Basin, Jasper will be held Thursday March 7, 2024. The ski trip forms will go home at the beginning of next week and the trip will be first come first paid/qualified. Students must be in good standing with the school to participate - fees paid, no behavioral concerns, and have all course work completed to an acceptable standard.

Senior High Citadel Trip

The senior high students will have the opportunity to attend the Citadel Theatre in Edmonton to see "The Sound of Music" on Wednesday March 13, 2024. The forms will go home at the beginning of next week and the trip will be first come first paid/qualified. Students must be in good standing with the school to participate - fees paid, no behavioral concerns, and have all course work completed to an acceptable standard.

Dinner Theatre

Dinner Theatre rehearsals have begun! Rehearsals will be every Monday and Thursday from 3:30 to 5 pm.. This year the dinner theatre team will be performing "Camelot and Camelittle". We will see the adventures of Ruth, a young girl who dreams of being a knight. When the knights of the round table laugh at her, she goes on a quest filled with magical creatures in order to start her own queendom. Performances will be held on Thursday April 25 and Friday April 26 at MHS. More information about times and tickets will be available in the March newsletter.

School Council - Parent Advisory Group

We will continue to meet as a parent advisory group for this year. The next meeting will be held Tuesday February 27, 2024 at 7 pm.

Post-Secondary Information

The application deadline for most post-secondary institutes is March 1, 2024.. Students have worked on getting accounts for Apply Alberta and have created their profiles. After the release of diploma results in February, students may be required to update marks with the post-secondary institutes. Correspondence will only be done with the student through emails, so encourage your student to check the email and any on-line accounts they have for to-do list items. Any student who requires more assistance can make an appointment to see Mrs. Jager.

Scholarships

The school website has links to a number of scholarships. This is the time for students to begin gathering applications, reviewing requirements, writing essays and requesting reference letters as needed. We will be detailing a number of scholarships with the students and reviewing application package requirements in the coming months.

Breakfast Club

Each morning students have access to complimentary breakfast items. The menu varies daily and is always nutritious, delicious and served with a smile. We serve about 60 students daily. Thank you to Breakfast Club of Canada, Pembina Pipelines and Pembina West Co-op for their donations to our program. If you would like to help support the program, juice boxes and cereal are always appreciated.

Sports

Junior and Senior Basketball have begun and will be competing through to March. Our junior high home tournament will be held on February 16 & 17, 2024. Archery has also begun with a scheduled competition in March. Soon after, Badminton and Handball teams will begin their seasons. Good Luck to all our athletes and thank you to the coaches and volunteers that make these happen.

Summer Career Exposure Boot Camps

NGPS will be running career exposure summer boot camps once again. This program is held in two separate week long sessions from July 1 - 5 and July 8 - 12. Students in grade 9 -12 can register to attend career and skill development focused learning weeks with the potential to earn high school credits. Last year our students engaged in learning about welding, automotives, baking, cooking, forensic sciences, cosmetology, fashion studies and industrial safety. Keep an eye out for session and registration information.

Always Looking For...

The foods lab is always in search of plastic containers and metal cutlery.

The IA shop is always in search of old horseshoes for welding projects.

Thank you,

Beth Jager

Principal