



(Updated 10/09/20) September 2020

Welcome back students!

Another school year is upon us. I want to let our school family know that we have a wonderful staff who are committed to a welcoming, caring, safe and respectful school. We are dedicated to providing the best education for our community.

Learning at MHS will be a little different this year. High school has been cohorted by adopting a quad system where students have only two classes a day. There will be four quarters this year, rather than the traditional two semesters. Junior high has been cohorted by grade.

Some additional changes this year at MHS are the following health measures which everyone must follow:

**Mask wearing**

**Physical distancing**

**Hand washing**

As we intend to keep our school safe and caring we ask each parent to share the same responsibility too. Every parent, or guardian, has been sent a Covid-19 screening questionnaire which must be completed daily. If you do not have one they are available on our MHS website. The purpose of this assessment tool is to detect symptoms of possible Covid-19. If your child is exhibiting the following symptoms they are legally required to isolate for 10 days:

- **Fever; Cough (new or worsening); Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing (new or worsening); Runny Nose; Sore throat**

It is also advised you call 811 should your child exhibit those specific symptoms.

However, should your child have these “other” symptoms, the child should stay home and minimize contact with others until the symptom/s resolve:

- Chills; Painful swallowing; Stuffy nose; Headache; Muscle or Joint pain; feeling unwell, fatigue or severe exhaustion; gastrointestinal symptoms (nausea vomiting, diarrhea, or unexplained loss of appetite)



Please note: Should your child come to school exhibiting, or develop, any symptom/s, you will be notified and the child will be sent home. Depending on the symptom/s follow the above protocol.

We recognize that the pandemic has and continues to be a challenging experience for our families and we know that much collaboration will be needed as we navigate this together as a community.

**Some Reminders:**

**No cell phones during instructional time:** Just a reminder to parents and guardians that there is a “No cell phone” policy at MHS. Students may not use their cell phones during instructional times. Thank you parents and guardians for supporting the school in this regard. We have seen many positive changes as a result.

**Fees:** Please be sure to clear up all outstanding school fee arrears before September 30th, 2020. All accounts must be cleared and in good standing for the 2020-2021 year. All fees for 2020-2021 extra-curricular activities must be paid before commencing in those activities. Please contact the school if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Dafydd Thomas

Principal

\*There are a number of ways for parents and guardians to keep in touch with MHS. Our website, [www.mayerthorpehigh.ca](http://www.mayerthorpehigh.ca) and our Facebook page. We would also like to invite parents to sign up to our Parent Remind account. Through our social media sites and our web page, we send out reminders such as no school, bus cancellations, parent-teacher interviews, etc.