



# Beacon

## Morinville Community High School


Principal: Mr. Vic Pedersen  
 Vice Principal: Mrs. Maureen Pawliuk  
 Counselling/IEP: Mrs. Tracy Delhez  
 Counselling/IEP: Mrs. Janelle Hobbs  
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## March 2005

With Spring just around the corner we'd like to wish everyone a Blessed Easter. With this in mind, Administration would like to extend a welcome to the community to attend our Easter Celebration, which will be held on Wednesday, March 23 at 10:45 am in the gym.



**Rolling out the Welcome Mat**  
 MCHS would like to send out an invitation to students and parents to attend our annual Open House.  
**Wednesday-April 20, 2005**  
**6:30 pm -8:30 pm**  
 Come and see what MCHS has to offer. We promise you an evening filled with exciting sites, sounds, tastes and smells.

**Congratulations .....**  
 Congratulations to Rachael Schlachter for having one of her drawings chosen to be in the 2005 Knights of Columbus "Help Save a Life" Calendar Contest. Rachael won \$100 and has a published piece of work for her portfolio. Way to go Rachael!

**Improved Communication Via E-mail**  
 Any parents that would like to give their e-mail address to the school can phone it in or drop it off at the office. This would eliminate wasted time with missed phone calls and improve communication.

**Important Dates to Remember**  
**Staff Meeting**  
 On **Friday, March 4th** there will be no classes for students due to a staff meeting. Students are urged to take advantage of this day to catch up on reading and homework assignments.

**Spring Break**  
 Wednesday, March 23rd will be the last day of school, classes will resume on Monday-April 4th, 2005. Administration and staff at MCHS would like to wish everyone a Safe and Happy Easter.

**Report Cards**  
 The **4th** report card will be distributed on Friday-March 18, 2005. If your child does not bring his/her report card home please contact the office at 939-6891 and we will be glad to copy you another one.

**Parent Teacher Interviews**  
**Tuesday, March 22**  
**&**  
**Wednesday, March 23**  
**5:30 pm - 8:30 pm**  
 We encourage all parents/guardians to attend these interviews, but if you are unable to attend and would like to meet with a teacher please contact the office at 939-6891 and we will try and arrange an alternate date and time.  
 One last reminder for students and parents that the cut off date for Semester 2 course changes is March 23, 2005.



# Community News & Events

## Safe Grad Meeting

There will be a Safe Grad meeting held at MCHS. Administration would like to remind parents and members of the community that "Safe Grad" or "After Grad" activities are the responsibility of students and their parents and/or guardians. The safe grad committee has scheduled meetings for the following dates.



**Monday, March 14 7:30 PM**

**Monday, April 4 7:30 PM**

**Monday, April 18 7:30 PM**

## Morinville Soccer Association

### The Annual General Meeting for Morinville Soccer Association

**March 9, 15 & 23**

**7:00 pm - 8:30 pm @ G.H. Primeau**

Attend this general meeting and receive a \$20.00 discount coupon (per attending adult) for spring registration. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call Anita Brown at 939-2613 or 413-8383 between 8:30 and 3:00 pm.

## Girls Softball Registration

### Morinville Arena

Tuesday, March 8

&

Thursday, March 10

### Final Registration

Tuesday, March 22

&

Thursday, March 24

6:30 pm - 8:30 pm



## Town of Morinville

### Volunteer of the Year Award

Please see insert for Volunteer nomination form. There are different nomination categories to choose from. Please show your support and complete the form provided. If you have any questions please contact Doreen at 939-4361.

## Mr. Clean Comes to MCHS!

Parents, please join us for a presentation by Mike Ryan, a.k.a. Mr. Clean, on Tuesday, March 15th at 7:00 PM in Room 104/105.

Born and raised in Alberta, Mike Ryan first got in trouble at age 8 with his first youth convictions at 13. During his involvement in the underworld and drug subculture Mike became absorbed in international drug smuggling and traveled extensively to Asia and South America. He continued to lead a life of crime until 1987. His criminal record shows he has spent more than 6 years incarcerated for drug trafficking and armed robbery.

Mike Ryan's story is one of recovery and change from a life of crime, violence, punishment and addiction. His interactive sessions allow for a frank question and answer period about how he turned his life around. Mike talks about cognitive, emotional and behavioral issues and how they affect a person's potential to become a successful and personally aware adult. The issues being dealt with will be habits, attitudes, beliefs and expectations, how we develop them and how they affect our future.

Mike is a Rotarian and past Director of Community Service for his club; he was keynote speaker at the 1997 "Let's Talk" Provincial Student Conference. He has spoken to Grade 5 - 12 school audiences from all over North America, teacher PD seminars, parent groups as well as many other conferences and Rotary Clubs.

In addition to Mike's parent presentation on March 15th, Mike will speak to MCHS students in an assembly on March 17th. Thank-you to the Morinville Rotary Club for sponsoring Mike Ryan's parent and student presentations.

## Morinville Lions Club Citizen of the Year Award

The Morinville Lions Club is now accepting nominations for Citizen of the Year. Your letter of recommendation is due no later than March 27, 2005. All nominations are confidential and are judged by three Lions club members and the previous Citizen of the Year.

# MCHS Student News

## Important Information for Grads

With Graduation just around the corner here are a few reminders for both parents and graduates. Once again graduation will be held at Northlands Agricom. Graduation Ceremonies commence at **4:15 pm**. All graduates are asked to be at the agricom by **3:00 pm**.

*Graduation 2005*  
*Friday-April 29, 2005*  
*Northlands Agricom*  
*7300-116 Ave*

*Edmonton, Alberta*  
*\*\*Free Parking\*\**

*Please mention "MCHS Grad"*  
*to the parking attendant.*

Grad tickets are still available in the front office, the cost is \$45.00 per person and seating is available on a first come, first serve basis. Please see Mrs. Jackson or Ms. Gibbons for further details or call 939-6891.

**Last call for pictures....** Mrs. Whittal-Williams will be collecting (in room 206) 3-4 baby pictures to be used in the historian's video and the tribute poster. We ask that you write your FULL name in INK on the back of EACH picture. Pictures will be returned to the graduates' tables on Graduation Night.

Student Council thanks everyone for participating in February's activities. Congratulations to Tiffany Maslyk for winning 2 movie passes for dressing up in "80's style".

Please stay tuned for more exciting Student Council events in March! Just a reminder for all students who may have ideas for future Student Activities.....your Student Council members work for YOU! Any concerns, complaints, comments or compliments will be gladly taken by any SC member.

Parents and Students are Encouraged to attend

**M.C.H.S. / Trades**  
**&**  
**RAP Information Night**  
**Thursday, April 21 @ 7:30 PM**  
**Room 102**

## The 14th Annual Roger Champagne Bike Trip (May 18th-21st)

Spring is in the air and once again the call goes out to any adventurous Grade 10-12 students who are interested in biking through the Canadian Rockies. Consisting of 220 kilometres of highway touring from Lake Louise to Jasper, the trip has become a tradition at MCHS. Students stay in rustic hostels and are responsible for supplying and cooking their own meals. An information meeting will be held on Thursday, March 3rd in Room 103. The first of seven mandatory training rides is scheduled for Sunday, March 20th (weather permitting). For more information contact Mr. Henderson or Mr. Boutestein.



## Quest Of Excellence 2005 School Bursary Program

Opportunity for Grade 12 students to enter an essay based on their interest and passion for a selected subject. There are five subjects that students can choose from: Leadership, Sports, Technology and Trades, Performing Arts, Fine Arts and Community Service.

There will be 20 individual bursaries of \$500.00 given to Western Canadian students. Application deadline March 11, 2005. For more information go to

[www.remax.ca](http://www.remax.ca)

Then go to *Western Canada* and click on *Quest* for Excellence 2005 logo.

Please encourage your child to take advantage of this opportunity.

# *MCHS Student News*

## *Butt Out - Laws about Smoking*

It is our goal to encourage all students & staff to pursue healthy life styles.

Schools have a responsibility to help prevent tobacco use for the sake of the students and staff members health and the well being of their families'. Research conclusively proves that:

- \* Regular use of tobacco is ultimately harmful to every user's health, directly causing cancer, respiratory and cardiovascular diseases, and adverse pregnancy outcomes.
- \* Second hand smoke is a threat to the personal health of everyone, especially persons with asthma and other respiratory problems.
- \* Nicotine is a powerfully addictive substance.
- \* Long term tobacco use often begins during childhood or adolescence.
- \* The purchase and possession of tobacco is illegal for persons under age 18.
- \* Use of tobacco interferes with a student's attendance and learning.
- \* Smoking is a fire safety issue for schools.

No students, staff members or school visitors are permitted to smoke tobacco at any time, including non-school hours:

- \* In any building, facility or vehicle owned, leased or rented by Morinville Community High School.
- \* On the school grounds, athletic grounds or parking lots.
- \* At any school sponsored event off school property.

All staff, along with our school Resource Officer, will be strictly enforcing this policy effective September 1, 2005. Should you be caught violating this policy and you are under the age of 18 you will be issued a violation ticket under the prevention of the Youth Tobacco Use Act. The penalty for violating this act is a \$115.00 fine and an out of school suspension. If you are over the age of 18 you will be dealt with as an adult smoking in a non-designated area, as well as receiving an out of school suspension.

Morinville Community High School, in conjunction with AADAC, will be offering tobacco cessation programs for students wishing to voluntary participate in such programs.

Should you have any questions regarding the No Smoking School Policy you may contact the school at 939-6891.

# MCHS Student News

## ***“Late” Information***

The staff at MCHS believe that it is important for students to attend classes regularly and punctually. It is also the LAW:

**Section 12 of The School Act states** that it is a student’s responsibility to attend school “regularly and punctually.”

In an effort to help students improve their punctuality, MCHS staff will be focusing on BEING ON TIME!

### **What does it mean to be on time?**

Being on time is being in your classroom within approximately 3 minutes of when the bell rings. After the bell rings, teachers may close and lock the doors to their classrooms, at which time, students not inside the classroom will be considered late. Once the bell has rung, there should be no standing/talking in the hallways, bathrooms, centre court, CTS, or anywhere in the school. If students have a free period, they are expected to be seated/working in the library, CTS, centre court by 3 minutes after the bell. Students must be in transit or within the classroom when they hear the bell.

### **What should students do if they are late?**

If a student is late, he/she should go to the office, fill out a late slip, slide the late slip under the door and wait quietly for admittance to the classroom. When the teacher admits the student to the class, the student should move quietly to his/her seat. The student should attempt to become active in the learning without disrupting the learning of other students. The student is responsible for missed learning.

### **What if a student is coming to school late from a medical appointment?**

If a student is coming to school late from an appointment, it is important to sign in at the office. Upon arriving at school from an appointment, students must go to the office and inform the office staff. The office staff will call the teacher in the classroom and let the teacher know a student is arriving late from an appointment.

### **What should a parent do if he/she is aware that their child is coming to school late?**

Parents should call the office staff and let them know that their child is coming to school late. Parents should instruct their children to come to the office upon returning from an appointment so that the office staff can notify the classroom teacher that the student is arriving late from an appointment.

### **How will teachers respond when students are late?**

Teachers may close and lock their doors after the bell to begin their teaching lesson/ conducting quizzes or tests.

Teachers will admit late students to classes at the first available opportunity.

### **What are the consequences for being late?**

Teachers will review their late slips on a regular basis

Teachers will call parents regarding students with late problems

Teachers will ask students to “make up the time” they have lost in their tardiness

Severe/chronic cases will be brought to the attention of the school administration

# March 2005

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	Staff Meeting-No Classes	5
6	7	Band Parent Meeting @ GHP at 7:00 pm	9	10	11	12
13	14	Clean Scene Presentation for Parents @ 7:00 pm Parent Advisory Council Meeting 7:00 pm	16	17	Clean Scene Presentation for students Fourth Report Card Distributed	19
20	21	Parent Teacher Interviews 5:30-8:30 pm	Parent Teacher Interviews 5:30-8:30 pm Last Day of classes before Spring Break Cut off for Semester 2-Course Changes	No School-Day Off for Parent Teacher Interviews	Good Friday-No Classes	Spring Break
27	28	29	30	31		
Easter Sunday Trip of a Lifetime	Easter Monday Spring Break Trip of a Lifetime	Spring Break Trip of a Lifetime	Spring Break Trip of a Lifetime	Spring Break Trip of a Lifetime		