



# Morinville Community High School

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Phone: 1-780-939-6891 Fax: 1-780-939-6896

*Home of the Prairie Wolves!*



Principal.....Mr. V. Pedersen  
Vice Principal (& Grade 10-12 Coordinator).....Mr. L. Pedersen  
Vice Principal (& Grade 9 Coordinator).....Ms. S. Coates

Grade 11 Coordinator ..Ms. S. Christensen Special Education Facilitator ...Ms. A. Nobert-Bennett  
Counsellor ..... Ms. J. Roy Counsellor ..... Ms. C. Wilkes

## February 2008 Newsletter

**Challenge Days are Coming!**



**Challenge Day** is an organization committed to creating a world where every young person feels safe, loved, and celebrated. The award-winning day long experiential workshop and follow-up program are designed to show what's possible by tearing down the walls of separation, inspiring participants to create an environment of compassion, acceptance and respect, and to truly **Be The Change** they wish to see in the world. The program helps shift peer pressure to positive peer support, and reduce the acceptability of teasing, oppression and all forms of violence. Students will shift their energy towards positive influence.

In preparation for these days, a **Be the Change** team of students and staff has been formed. Any students who would like to join this team are most welcomed.

**This is exciting for the MCHS community.** Our two **Challenge Days** are on March 10 and 11, 2008 and 200 of our students will have the opportunity to participate. As well, we need *at least* 25 adults for each of the two days. ***If you, as a parent would like to be a part of this awesome event, call the school and leave your name and contact number.*** If you want to know more about **Challenge Days**, you can visit the website at: [www.challengeday.org](http://www.challengeday.org)

See photographs of school events at <http://www.mchs.gsacrd.ab.ca>

## Keeping You Informed

**Ash Wednesday Service** - Any students wishing to attend the Ash Wednesday service at St. Jean Baptiste parish on Wednesday, February 11th should contact Ms. Coates or leave their name at the office.

**February Dance!**- The next school dance will be on Thursday, February 21st from 7:30-10:30 pm. Any parents wishing to chaperone can leave their name with the school office (939-6891). Chaperones have their names entered to win a prize!

### **No Classes for Students-**

February 7th and 8th - Teacher's Convention

February 15th - Students will be dismissed at 11:20 pm to allow for staff meetings

February 18th- Family Day

**Our First Winner!** Tracy Douglas Blowers was the first winner of \$100 from our Cash Calendar Sales. Tracy's name goes back into the draw box as she is eligible to win again. The calendars are still available at the school office and an additional \$1900 is still left to be drawn. The proceeds of the sale of the calendars goes to support our Student Leadership Conference to be held in May.

### **Help Us Be A Hero!**

The Alberta Association of Students' Councils and Advisors (AASCA) is a volunteer, nonprofit provincial organization with an interest in facilitating the development of effective student leaders for the future. To foster the energy and spirit of leadership students, AASCA runs two Provincial Leadership conferences---a Junior one in the fall (which G. H. Primeau held in 2006) and a Senior one in the spring (held in Nanton in 2007). **Morinville Community High School's Student Council will be hosting the 19th annual AASCA Sr. High conference on May 11 - 13th 2008.** We have chosen the theme "**Be a Hero**". We are hoping to reach full capacity and welcome 500 student delegates and 100 teacher advisors from all over the province! If you would like to help with either a donation (monetary or door-prize) or would like to offer your home to billet some leadership students PLEASE contact Mrs. Tara Pinnell [tpinnell@gsacrd.ab.ca](mailto:tpinnell@gsacrd.ab.ca)

## Helping Our Community

### **Friday Nights always the same? Want to try something new?**

MCHS is holding it's first

#### **FRIDAY NIGHT COMMUNITY DRUM CIRCLE**

in February. Tune in to the next newsletter for the actual date! This is an event for the whole community, parents AND students alike. Come kick start your weekend with an hour

and a half of sheer fun and enjoyment, guaranteed to leave you feeling uplifted and energized! No previous drumming experience is needed at all. All the drums are provided. The cost is \$4 for adults and \$2 for students. All the proceeds are going to our '**Change for Change**' Charity program.

Try something new; give something back to our community. Bring a friend. Everyone is welcome. We'll start at 7 p.m. and finish around 8:30. Doors open at 6:45 for seating.

Look forward to meeting you.

*See photographs of school events at <http://www.mchs.gsacrd.ab.ca>*

MCHS students are participating in the **St. Valentine's Day Hair Massa-Cure** for the second year in a row. Last year, MCHS was the FIRST high school to participate and as a group we raised over \$8500! Way to go! Anyone that is interested in participating can pick up a package at the school office or online at [www.hairmassacure.com](http://www.hairmassacure.com) This year our scheduled "shave time" is at 5:00 pm on Wednesday, February 13th. The Massa-Cure is held at West Edmonton Mall on the stage by HMV. Anyone can come and watch and please sponsor a student with PINK hair!

## **Planning for The World of Work**

**Are you a grade 11 student interested in entering a career in the Health Profession after graduation?**

Applications for the Summer Health Internship are now available from student services.

### **What is the Summer Health Internship Program?**

- It is a 6 week paid position during the summer of 2008 in a health profession field in Morinville or St. Albert

Who can apply?

- A grade 11 student taking biology/chemistry that is interested in any of the many diverse careers in the Health Sciences field (ie. M.D., nursing, lab tech., diagnostic tech., radiologist, speech therapist, etc.)

### **Are you interested in working in a Trade?**

Would you like to be a RAP student and start apprenticing this summer?

Information meeting on Thursday February 28th presented by

Careers the NextGeneration Room 103 @ 12:05 pm

**For more information contact Mr. Maslyk @ 939-6891**

### **Heritage Youth Researcher Summer Program**

Any grade 11 student with a mark of 85% or higher in Math 20 Pure, Biology 20 and one other science class, is eligible to apply for the Heritage Youth Researcher Summer Program at the University of Alberta. The program is designed to give students first hand biomedical and health research experience and also introduce them to the many educational and career options in the field. This is a paid position and will run from July 2-August 13. Any students who are interested can see Mrs. Christensen, the grade 11 coordinator, for more information.

### **Physics Opportunity**

Grade 11 students who are interested in attending an all-expense paid trip to Waterloo Ontario from July 22- August 3 to learn more about physics, can contact Mrs. Christensen, the grade 11 coordinator for more information.

*See photographs of school events at <http://www.mchs.gsacrd.ab.ca>*

# CELL PHONE POLICY

The staff at Morinville Community High School recognize the changing face of technology in our society and accept that cell phones are an integral part of our world including personal and business interactions. The use of cell phones during class time however, is disruptive to the learning process and are prohibited in all areas of the school. It is the policy of MCHS that cell phones use is allowed during designated times only;

- Before school, (prior to 8:10 am)
- During Lunchtime, (Mon. 12:05-12:49 pm & Tues. thru Fri. 11:55-12:40 pm)
- After School, (after 3:07 pm)

## CELL PHONE USE IS NOT ALLOWED DURING 10 MINUTE BREAK

Included in the cell phone ban is all secondary uses;

- Text Messaging
- Checking voicemail or incoming text messages
- Checking the time
- Using the calculator function
- Using built in MP3 player

ANY staff member witnessing cell phone use by a student, (INCLUDING STUDENTS ON SPARES,) outside of the designated times will confiscate the phone and bring it to the front office where it is labeled and kept until 3:07. The student may pick up the phone at that time.

Students refusing to surrender their phone will be brought to the front office and are subject to disciplinary action by administration.

Students who violate the policy 3 times will have parents contacted and will arrange to surrender their phones to the office for a predetermined number of days. Students who violate the policy 5 times will be subject to further administrative measures on a case by case basis.

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## MCHS Attendance Incentive Program

### Concept:

There is a correlation between ATTENDANCE and ACHIEVEMENT in school. Typically, students who attend school regularly and punctually have the benefit of instruction and have increased success as a result. Every effort should be made by students to schedule appointments and personal events outside of class time. MCHS staff would like to recognize and reward students who have made a commitment to attendance and punctuality in our school.

### Guidelines:

A student who has no more than 3 absences and lates (combined) in a course will be able to select one of the following assessments be exempted from the calculation of his/her grade in that course:

- one assignment
- one project
- one exam (this does NOT include the midterm exam, final exam/project)

For more information on the Attendance Incentive Program please visit our school web page at <http://www.mchs.gsacrd.ab.ca>.

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