



Margaret “Ma” Murray
Community School

11504 - 105 Avenue
Fort St. John BC V1J 0R8
236-365-6627



Wednesday, September 1st, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome back to Margaret Ma Murray Community School year four. On behalf of the staff, I would like to say how excited we are to see all our students and families as we start our school year. We have been receiving a number of questions regarding opening day, school supplies and procedures. Hopefully this newsletter will help to address your questions and put you somewhat at ease for start-up.

We understand that families and students may be anxious about coming back to school. Please remember that we have your best interests at heart and our staff are confident that we can restart safely.

Gratitude and kindness will be our virtues for the month of September. We have so much to be grateful for in our school, our community and our province. We are so grateful for the generosity of others. Thank you to the Fort St. John Rotary Club, NorthRiver Midstream Inc., and the Ma Murray P.A.C. for all your hard work and dedication to make our inclusive playground a reality. So many families and community members have been enjoying this beautiful playground. We are grateful for the work of our P.A.C. to ensure that all students have water from water fountains. With their dedication, our school had two water bottle filling stations/fountains installed in the school pods this summer. We are grateful for our garden beds that produced wonderful produce all summer because of the efforts of many families and individuals watering them. And we are so grateful to see of our students, families and staff back in our school.

The staff have been working hard to plan for their classrooms, spirit day activities and back to school activities. If you know of families who have moved in to our catchment area, the school will be registering students at the following times:

- Thursday, September 2nd, 9:00-11:00
- Friday, September 3rd, 9:00-12:00 noon

Setting registration times will optimize our work day at the school so that we can give our new families undivided attention when you come to see us.

First Day Procedures: School will begin for grade 1-grade 6 on **Tuesday, September 7th**. Students who will be arriving by bus will start arriving at 8:10 a.m. Students catching the bus at **Ecole Central** will need to be at the bus area at Central by 8:05 a.m. as the bus leaves at approximately 8:10 a.m. **Masks are mandatory on all school buses**. Upon arrival, students will check in at a table outside by the flagpoles. We will give students a label to identify their classroom teacher. Newly registered students will come to the table assigned for new students, where one of our staff will welcome them and help them find their classroom. This label will be stickered to their shirt to identify which class they will be assigned to. Once the bell rings, we will have the students line up outside in the field by cones labelled with their teacher's name. These cones will be in the same location as last year. All new students will be escorted to the correct entry point.

Classrooms will be brought in once the bell rings and students will settle in with their assigned teacher for the morning. As we are unsure of the configuration of the school at this time (we are not sure which families have moved in or moved away), your child will be assigned to a teacher until Friday. At that time, we may have to do some shuffles if there are fluctuations in registrations. All staff will work together to make your child feel safe, secure and supported.

Dismissal on the first day will be at **10:48 a.m.** Supervision will be provided to all bus students until their bus arrives to pick them up. Please make sure that you use the **Student Daily Health Check** every day to ensure your child/children are healthy. This form is provided at the end of this newsletter.

Kindergarten: Kindergarten students will be on a gradual entry. The kindergarten teachers will be calling all families on **Wednesday, September 8th** to review the schedule for each child. Full day kindergarten begins on **Wednesday, September 15th**. A more specific newsletter was sent to kindergarten families on Monday, August 30th.

Health Protocols/Restart Of School: School District #60 has published these documents on the district website and sent home a letter to all parents. The documents can be found at the following links:

Newsletter for the Superintendent:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/kindergarten-to-grade-12/covid/daily-health-check-english.pdf>

Daily Health Check Form:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/kindergarten-to-grade-12/covid/daily-health-check-english.pdf>

Communicable Disease Plan for School District #60:

<https://www.prn.bc.ca/resources/covid-19/>

The latest information from the Ministry of Education can be found at:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/covid-19-safe-schools#2021-22-plan>

This information is current to Tuesday, August 31st.

School Supplies: As per previous newsletters, we would like to offer school supplies to families at a cost of \$35.00/child and \$40.00/child in kindergarten. This alleviates families from having to search out lists and supplies. We buy our supplies in bulk and as a result we get great prices, which we pass along to our families. It also ensures that students receive the supplies that their specific teacher wants to use.

School Fees: The School Board has approved our school fees for the 2021-2022 year as well as the School bell schedule. We ask that fees be paid by October 1st. Please see the school fee table along with the bell schedule below.

School District 60 is pleased to announce that starting in September 2021 there is the availability to make payments online via MyEducation BC Family Portal.

This is a secure platform to pay for your child's school fees. Payments can be made using Visa, Mastercard, AMEX and Visa Debit and Mastercard Debit.

The parent/guardian user guide is available for download from the school website or at this link: [MyEducationBC Online Payment Parent Guide](https://myedbc.prn.bc.ca/family-portal/) (<https://myedbc.prn.bc.ca/family-portal/>).

We will continue to allow cash for school fees as well should you prefer to pay with cash.

Cultural fees help to offset the cost of all the cultural performances and art residencies that will be held in 2021-2022. Bus fees help to offset the cost for field trips, swimming lessons and skating trips (as they become available). Students who bring their own supplies will be required to pay cultural fees, bussing fees and agenda fee.

Grade Level:	Supplies:	Cultural Fee:	Busing Fee:	Agenda:	Total Cost:
Kindergarten	\$40	\$10.00	\$10.00	Not applicable	\$60.00
Grade 1-3	\$35	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$65.00
Grade 4-6	\$35	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$65.00
Other:	<u>Camp Cameron:</u> \$40.00 to offset the cost for the trip	<u>Team Sports:</u> \$20 for teams requiring buses and referees	<u>Field Trips:</u> Up to \$10 for each field trip	<u>Classroom with Technology Fee:</u> Insurance Charge for Grade 6: As per board \$30	

2020-2021 Bell Schedule:

8:25 a.m. Regular Supervision begins	12:15 p.m. Lunch (students come in to eat)
8:40 a.m. Warning Bell	12:35 p.m. Warning Bell
8:43 a.m. Classes Begin	12:39 p.m. Classes begin
10:15 a.m. Recess	2:49 p.m. Dismissal
10:30 a.m. Warning Bell (4 minutes)	3:05 p.m. Playground supervision ends
10:34 a.m. Classes Resume	*students heading home**
11:55 a.m. Bell for going outside time*	

Bus Students: Many of the students will be arriving on buses. We have the tentative arrival schedule but not departure times. This schedule will be set up in early September once transportation knows how many students will be taking the bus. Any new families that require their children to ride the bus (i.e. you have moved in to the area for catchment or your child is in kindergarten and never taken the bus) will need to complete a transportation form. Any family who has had their physical address changed (currently on a bus route but have moved locations and have a new physical address) will also have to fill in a new transportation form. There will be supervision at the school when the students are dropped off and until they are on their bus for their return trip home. Transportation forms can be found at the district website at: <http://www.prn.bc.ca/transportation/>.

School Meals: M.M.M.C.S. will be offering a school meals program starting on September 20th. Menus will be coming home by September 10th, so please watch for them. All directions will be included in the menu paperwork. This is a successful program provided for by the district and we look forward to providing this option for your families.

Wednesday, September 11th will be a full day for students. Students will practice and review safety protocols and become familiar with routines. Please remember to pack a lunch, a water bottle and inside shoes. I encourage all families to place their child's name inside with a permanent marker to help the children keep track of their shoes.

We have included a calendar for September with the dates we know so far as well as the Revised District 2021-2022 Calendar. We look forward to meeting all families as you arrive on the first day of school. I am hoping you are all as excited as we are for the third year at MMMCS. Enjoy your last weeks of summer holidays!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Kathy Scheck
Principal

Mr. Hunter Mackay
Vice Principal

Linda Gibos
Secretary

Margaret Ma Murray Community School





School District No. 60 (Peace River North)
“Revised” Local School Calendar 2021-2022

School Calendar & Non-Instructional Days	District Dates
Days in Session	181
Number of Instructional Days	173
Schools Open	Tuesday, September 7, 2021
Non-Instructional Day (School Planning)	Friday, September 24, 2021
Truth and Reconciliation Day	Thursday, September 30, 2021
Thanksgiving Day	Monday, October 11, 2021
Non-Instruction Day (Pro-D Provincial)	Friday, October 22, 2021
Remembrance Day	Thursday, November 11, 2021
Early Dismissal Day	Wednesday, November 24, 2021
Early Dismissal Day	Thursday, November 25, 2021
Non-Instructional Day (Parent-Teacher Interviews)	Friday, November 26, 2021
Christmas Vacation Period	Monday, December 20, 2021 – Monday, January 3, 2022
Schools reopen after Christmas Vacation	Tuesday, January 4, 2022
Non-Instructional Day Pro-D (District - Semester Turnaround)	Friday, January 28, 2022
Family Day	Monday, February 21, 2022
Non-Instructional Day (Report Writing)	Monday, February 28, 2022
Early Dismissal Day	Wednesday, March 16, 2022
Early Dismissal Day	Thursday, March 17, 2022
Spring Vacation Period/District Closure Days	March 21 – April 1, 2022
Schools Reopen after Spring Vacation /District Closure Days	Monday, April 4, 2022
Good Friday	Friday, April 15, 2022
Easter Monday	Monday, April 18, 2022
Non-Instructional Day Pro-D (Indigenous Learning)	Friday, April 22, 2022
Non-Instructional Day (Pro-D Day)	Friday, May 6, 2022
Victoria Day	Monday, May 23, 2022
Last day for Students	Thursday, June 23, 2022
Administrative Day - Schools Close	Friday, June 24, 2022

Margaret Ma Murray Community School
 Calendar of Events
 September 2021



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1	2	3 
6 Labour Day School Closed 	7 First Day of School School dismissal @ 10:48 a.m.	8	9	10
13	14	15 First Full Day of Kindergarten	16 School Picture Day	17
20	21 First day of 	22	23	24 School Closed Planning Day
27 	28	29	30 School Closed Truth and Reconciliation Day	

