

**École McTavish High School  
Grade 7-9 Information Package  
2021-2022**



## Welcome to McTavish!

École McTavish High School is a grade 7-12 school that develops well-rounded, socially conscious, 21st Century learners who are focused on their achievement and personal success.

This school offers a unique combination of programs that blend ground breaking technology, environmental consciousness, performing arts, athletic/health development and local industries.

École McTavish, its students and staff, are a community that gives back to those in the city of Fort McMurray and around the world through our volunteer work.

Our cross cultural and extra-curricular programs are second to none. Over the nine years that McTavish has been open we have won over 90 city athletics championships.



## Connect with Administration:

**Principal:**

**Scott Barr**



[Scott.Barr@fmprd.ab.ca](mailto:Scott.Barr@fmprd.ab.ca)

**Vice Principals:**

**David Hurley**



[David.Hurley@fmprd.ab.ca](mailto:David.Hurley@fmprd.ab.ca)

**Thomas Andrews**



[Thomas.Andrews@fmprd.ab.ca](mailto:Thomas.Andrews@fmprd.ab.ca)

**Daniel Baseley**



[Daniel.Baseley@fmprd.ab.ca](mailto:Daniel.Baseley@fmprd.ab.ca)

**Meet our Staff and check out our school website with daily updates!**

<https://ecolemctavish.fmprdschools.ca/view.php?action=staff-directory&header=Staff%20Directory>



## **Why École McTavish?**

### **Academics:**

In the last three years, nearly 50% of our students (that's over 400 students) are on the honour roll. We know how to program for honours students in both junior and senior high.

Our Grade 9 students do very well on the Provincial Achievement Test compared to the Province and are often one of the top results for the city for that grade.

### **Safe and Welcoming Environment:**

98% of parents and 84% of students feel that the school has a safe and orderly environment.

96% of parents felt their child's teacher cared about their child.

Homeroom classes group students together for core courses.

98% of parents said they feel welcomed when they visit the school and 93% indicated that their child enjoys attending the school.





### **Performing Arts:**

Our amazing theatre seats over 240 people and has a state of the art rear-projection screen, sound system, and lighting system. We have put on such plays/productions as Into the Woods, Matilda, The Wiz, Beauty and the Beast, Seussical Jr., Annie Jr., Aladdin Jr. and a Broadway Showcase!

The Band program travels to Edmonton each year, and every other year the senior band travels internationally. Past trips have included New York City, Ottawa, Montreal, and Disneyland!

### **Athletics:**

Our Sports teams include: Golf, Cross Country Running, Volleyball (6 teams), Basketball (8 Teams), Badminton, Curling and Track and Field.

Our school has been very successful and we are proud of winning well over 85% of all junior high city championships over the last nine years.

The Peak Athletic Academy also offers the following programs at Ecole McTavish: Hockey,



Soccer, Dance, Basketball, Volleyball, and Flex (figure skating, swimming, gymnastics)

**Contact Us**

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PEAK Athletic Academy Office  
352 Parsons Creek Drive  
Fort McMurray AB T9K 0C8  
780-790-1100

For more information on the academy, please call or email Krista Butz at the PEAK office.  
[krista.butz@fmprsd.ab.ca](mailto:krista.butz@fmprsd.ab.ca)

Website  
<http://peak.fmprsdschools.ca>



**Passion – Excellence – Attitude – Knowledge**

**The PEAK Athletic Academy prides itself on the strong connection to Academics, Athletics & Leadership.**

**PEAK student athletes are held at a high standard to ensure:**

- classroom work is complete
  - behavior is respectful
  - attitudes are positive both in sport and in school.
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## **McTavish Gives Back!**

Our students give back locally and around the world with many Fundraising initiatives such as:

Project Cambodia, Food Bank, Snow Angels, Chicks for Humanity, Fort McMurray SPCA, Centre of Hope, and many more!

## **So... What is a Marauder?**

“Marauders” is a term used for groups of people (teams) that go into foreign lands (other schools), impose their will on the other groups (opposing teams) and leave with a well-earned victory or reward! They are feared for their loyalty to each other and their determination to never give up.

# Clubs & Organizations



- Gay-Straight Alliance
- Jazz Band
- Musical Theatre
- Technical Theatre
- Improve
- Student Council
- WE Team
- Art Club
- Green Scene
- Dungeons and Dragons
- Robotics
- One Acts
- Creative Writing
- Book Club

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**Timetable for the 2021-2022 School Year:**



# ÉCOLE MCTAVISH 2021-2022 TIMETABLE

## JUNIOR HIGH

**BLOCK 1: 8:33-9:29**

**LOCKER BREAK: 9:29-9:35**

**BLOCK 2: 9:35-10:30**

**LOCKER BREAK: 10:30-10:36**

**BLOCK 3: 10:36-11:31**

**LUNCH: 11:31-12:27**

**BLOCK 4: 12:27-1:23**

**LOCKER BREAK: 1:23-1:29**

**BLOCK 5: 1:29-2:24**

**LOCKER BREAK: 2:24-2:30**

**BLOCK 6: 2:30-3:25**

## HIGH SCHOOL

**BLOCK 1: 8:33-10:01**

**LOCKER BREAK: 10:01-10:07**

**BLOCK 2: 10:07-11:34**

**LUNCH 11:34-12:24**

**BLOCK 3: 12:24-1:52**

**LOCKER BREAK: 1:52-1:58**

**BLOCK 4: 1:58-3:25**



## Junior High

### Grade 7:

Welcome to our McTavish Family! We are genuinely excited to have you here. Students in grade 7 English programming take six required subjects: English Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science, Health and Physical Education. The other two courses are electives of their choice! French Immersion students also take French Language Arts, so that leaves them with one elective to take each term. Refer to the pages on Electives.

### Grade 8:

Not the youngest at the school anymore! It's time to start thinking about your passions and future goals. Students in grade 8 English programming take six required subjects: English Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science, Health and Physical Education. The other two courses are electives of their choice. You are encouraged to try some new things! French Immersion students also take French Language Arts, so that leaves them with one elective to take each term. Refer to the pages on Electives.



### Grade 9:

You did it! The last year of Junior High! It's time to start considering your path for high school. Please refer to our Course Handbook and review the Guidelines for academics. Students in grade 9 English programming take six required subjects: English Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science, Health and Physical Education. The other two courses are electives of their choice. You are encouraged to try some new things! French Immersion students also take French Language Arts, so that leaves them with one elective to take each term. Refer to the pages on Electives.

## **Electives:**

Junior High Students will get up to 8 different electives over the course of a year in regular programming. We are developing new electives all the time, with input from both staff and students.

**BAND:** This course introduces the students to the world of instrumental music. Students may begin the year on flute, clarinet, alto/tenor saxophone, trumpet, French horn, euphonium trombone, or tuba, with auditions for oboe, bass clarinet, baritone saxophone, and percussion occurring in late December. Students will learn to play their instruments, read musical notation and develop their aural skills. Different styles of music will be explored and performances in a variety of band settings will be available.

**FRENCH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE:** This course concentrates on a basic understanding of the French language. Students learn basic grammar as well as specific vocabulary themes throughout the year. Listening comprehension, speaking, reading and writing are stressed as well.

**ART:** The goal for this course is to make you a better artist. Whether you are an advanced student or a complete beginner, every artist can learn something new!

**SPORTS PERFORMANCE:** The aim of Sports Performance is to provide students more time to work on their personal fitness and skill with regards to different sports. Both team and individual games will be played as well as working on their fitness through a variety of different workouts. Students who enjoy Physical Education will love Recreation Fitness.

**DRAMA:** This class encompasses many of the facets of dramatic art: movement, voice, improvisation and so on. The overall goal of drama is to foster an awareness of yourself – physically, emotionally, socially, creatively, and spiritually.

**FASHION STUDIES:** Knowledge of Sewing Machine technology and fabric preparation will be applied to hand and machine-sewn projects.

**WOODSHOP:** This course begins with a strong safety emphasis and with a tool recognition unit. The students will learn how to use hand tools and four of the power tools (scroll saw, band saw, drill press and sander).

**MEDICAL SCIENCE:** Students will complete modules about health services, body systems including digestive and cardiovascular and a module on infection and immunity. This course is intended for students who are interested in the health service or medical field.

**COSMETOLOGY:** Students taking this course will get basic knowledge in giving manicures, pedicures, braiding hair and coloring/cutting hair. Also aspects of skin care, facial treatments, cosmetic make-up services, and hair removal are covered.

**PHOTOGRAPHY:** This course provides a series of experiences using advanced equipment, camera techniques, as well as mounting and presentation techniques.

**ROBOTICS:** Students will build LEGO robots and have their robots compete with their classmates' robots. Programming and building skills will be developed.

**MYTHBUSTING SCIENCE:** What do alien abductions, ghost hunting, philosophy, history, water witching and phone book friction have in common? Science of course! Myth-busting Science makes the normal every day, and not so normal, scientific. Come and discover what Myth-busting Science is, what it can be, and what it can offer your school and your students.

**COMPUTER SCIENCE/STEM:** This option works through the Scientific Method and the Engineering Design Process to solve problems and create prototypes for given situations and scenarios. Depending on the problem presented this can be done through computer animated design, 3D printing or construction of 3D prototypes.

**DANCE/CHEER:** In this option, students are introduced to various types of dance. They learn barre technique and various steps, as well as apply their learning through choreography. In cheerleading, they will be introduced to motions, basic stunting techniques and how to perform them safely.

**GLEE:** Glee is offered in Grades 7-9 for students who love to sing! There is lots of flexibility for students to sing in groups with one another, or challenge themselves to sing alone. There are weekly in-class performances, as well as public performance opportunities such as Open Mic Nights, concerts, assemblies, and performances in the community. Students can stay in Glee for more than one term in the school year if they wish!



**IMPROV:** Improvisation is a fun and effective way for students to learn how to listen, interpret body language cues, take stress and ‘butterflies’ and turn it into excitement, and learn how to be flexible when the unexpected happens. You do not need to be an actor to take this class. Just be ready to say ‘Yes’ and have some fun!

**NEWSCASTING:** In Newscasting, students learn to produce, film, and edit the morning announcements. They also come up with different segments that include such things as weather reports, public service announcements, favorite teacher shoutouts, learning new words from different languages, and jokes of the day.

**YOGA:** Come learn yoga in an accepting and relaxed environment. This class is suitable for students at all levels and is geared towards improving the self rather than competing with others. We start with the basics and then explore a variety of styles of yoga like: flow, deep stretching, partner yoga, and restorative yoga. You’ll learn techniques that will help you achieve calm, improve your sleep, and gain strength and flexibility. Mats, cushions, and all other props are provided, just bring your positive attitude!

**OUTDOOR EDUCATION:** This course gives students the opportunity to learn about the great outdoors. Whether finding a route with a map and compass, exploring the trails around the school or trying to do some bicycle maintenance to keep your wheels turning, students will be given many opportunities to be active outside the classroom!

**FITNESS:** Students are given the opportunity to be physically active both inside and outside the school. Each class begins with a stretching routine followed by exercises to get your body moving. Weight training as well as various sports are some common themes for this class. No pain, no gain is the motto!

**GUITAR:** Students of all abilities are invited to join Guitar class! We have plenty of guitars for students to use during class time, or you are welcome to bring your own! Students will learn strumming patterns and chords, and are free to learn their favourite songs and work in their preferred genre of music.

Other Electives that have been offered include: Mindfulness, Film Studies, Songwriting, Strategic Gaming, Music Production, and Creative Writing.

## Inclusive Programming

Our philosophy is to ensure that all students with special needs have opportunities to be in the regular classrooms whenever possible.

Please contact [Andrea.Organ@fm-psd.ab.ca](mailto:Andrea.Organ@fm-psd.ab.ca) (Grades 7-8) or [Samantha.Stone@fm-psd.ab.ca](mailto:Samantha.Stone@fm-psd.ab.ca) (Grades 9-12) for more information.



The flyer features a circular graphic with three overlapping images: a group of students in a classroom, a student writing at a desk, and a student using a laptop. The text is arranged around these images.

**LAC- Learning Assistance**  
**Mrs. Organ and Mrs. Stone**

**What do we offer?**

- EA Support in our classrooms
- Jr. High and Sr. High Resource Rooms
- Peer Tutoring (Day1/3 @lunch)
- Math Help after school
- Inclusive clubs and sports opportunities
- Small class size in our highschool K&E program
- Individual Support and planning with LACs
- Quiet Spaces when you need it
- Accommodations to meet student needs
- Assistive Technology
- Assistance in communicating with your teachers about your needs
- Help navigating your IPP

**We're your voice.**

## First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education



Alberta Education is committed to improving education outcomes for First Nations, Métis and Inuit (FNMI) students and to closing the gap in education achievement between Indigenous students and other provincial students. We work with First Nations and Métis leaders and communities to engage Indigenous parents and families to support student success through collaborative partnerships with schools and by developing culturally relevant programs, resources and student supports. Students volunteer in the community and create community

partnerships. Students are also exposed to many things about their culture via hands-on-activities and visits with elders and community members.

## Mental Health Supports

Mental Health supports in schools are integrated with services provided through government (Alberta Health, Child & Family Services) and through community agencies. School counselors across the district provide both individual and group interventions that focus on identifying core problem areas and supporting classroom learning. Please contact [Kristel.Rensmaag@fm-psd.ab.ca](mailto:Kristel.Rensmaag@fm-psd.ab.ca) for more information.

A poster titled "Mental Health and Well-being at Ecole McTavish". It lists the School Counselor as Kristel Rensmaag, who sees all students, and the Mental Health Therapist as Tracy Walsh, with referrals via school counselor. The poster features a large, stylized graphic of a brain on the right side, composed of white outlines and a pink-to-blue gradient with a halftone dot pattern. Various mental health issues are listed in white text on a dark background: Stress, Anxiety, Depression, Grief + Loss, Self-harm, Worry, Bullying, Suicidal Ideation, Self-esteem, Sexuality, Divorce or Separation, Substance abuse, Bad Day, and Conflict with Peers. A small copyright notice "Made with PosterMyWall.com" is visible at the bottom left.

## Performing and Fine Arts

École McTavish has many opportunities for students interested in the arts. Elective courses that are offered at our school include: Glee, Band, Drama, and Art. There are also extra-curricular offerings: Theatre Production, Set Design, and Jazz Band.

For more information about performing arts, visit our Music Website at <https://sites.google.com/fmpsd.ab.ca/mctavishmusic/>



**Special Events**

Our Music Department has three major concerts annually: our Holiday Concert in December, a Pops Concert in February featuring popular music, and our Year End Concert in June. We also have an annual Fine Arts Awards Night to recognize the achievements of our hard-working student artists.



**REACH US AT**

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352 Parsons Creek Drive  
(780) 790-1100  
ecolemctavish.fmpsdschools.ca

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**FINE ARTS PROGRAMS**

ÉCOLE MCTAVISH HIGH SCHOOL



**THE ARTS AT MCTAVISH**

École McTavish is proud to offer a wide variety of option classes for students in all grades, including many courses with a Fine Arts focus. An average of 1 in every 4 McTavish students is involved in Fine Arts in some capacity, and this dedication truly enhances the social climate of our school.

**JUNIOR HIGH OPTIONS**

- Visual Arts
- Concert Band
- Drama
- Glee
- Guitar
- Digital Photography
- Fashion Studies
- Dance/Cheer
- Interior Design
- Jazz Band\*
- Musical Theatre\*
- Set Design\*

\* = extra curricular

**HIGH SCHOOL OPTIONS**

- Instrumental Music (Band)
- Instrumental Jazz
- Glee (General Music)
- Visual Arts
- Musical Theatre
- Guitar (General Music)
- Interior Design
- Technical Theatre
- Drama

**THEATRE PRODUCTIONS**

École McTavish is proud to house our very own theatre space with state-of-the-art lighting and sound. Each year we stage a large-scale show. Past productions have included Annie Jr., Beauty and the Beast Jr., Seussical Jr., The Wiz, Aladdin Jr., Into the Woods, and Matilda.



## Follow us on Social Media



[ecolemctavish.fmpsdschools.ca](http://ecolemctavish.fmpsdschools.ca)



@EcoleMcTavish



Ecole McTavish High School



@mctavishmarauder



Ecole McTavish Public High School