

### **ADMINISTRATION**



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VICE PRINCIPAL
DAVID HURLEY



VICE PRINCIPAL AMY LYN MACDONALD



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@Ecole McTavish High School



@EcoleMcTavish





http://ecole.mctavish.fmpsdschools.ca

# ÉCOLE MCTAVISH SCHOOL LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



FORT MCMURRAY PUBLIC SCHOOL DIVISION ACKNOWLEDGES THAT WE ARE ON TREATY 8 TERRITORY, A TRADITIONAL MEETING GROUNDS, GATHERING PLACE, AND TRAVELING ROUTE TO THE CREE, DËNËSŲŁINË AND MÉTIS.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE ALL THE MANY FIRST NATIONS, MÉTIS AND INUIT WHOSE FOOTSTEPS HAVE MARKED THESE LANDS FOR CENTURIES. WE ARE DEDICATED TO HONOURING THE INTENT AND SPIRIT OF TREATY 8.

# WHAT IS A MARAUDER?



Marauders is a term used for groups of people that go into foreign lands, impose their will on the other groups 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.



# 2023-2024 Calendar



### 2023-2024 **DIVISION CALENDAR**

231 Hardin Street, Fort McMurray, AB T9H 2G2 PH: 780-799-7900



|      | Se | epte | mbe | r 20 | 23 |    |
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| Π | KEY                    |
|---|------------------------|
|   | Important Day-Students |
|   | PLF Staff Only         |
|   | Important Day - Staff  |
|   | School Break All       |
|   | PD Day - Staff Only    |
|   | Stat Holiday - All     |

NOTES

|          | December 2023 |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |  |  |
|----------|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|--|--|--|--|
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| 10       | 11            | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |  |  |  |  |
| 17       | 18            | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |  |  |  |  |
| 24<br>31 | 25            | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |  |  |  |  |
| 31       |               |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |  |  |

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| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |    |

|    | February 2024 |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |  |
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| 11 | 12            | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |  |  |  |
| 18 | 19            | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |  |  |  |
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| April 2024 |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |
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| 14         | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |  |  |
| 21         | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |  |  |
| 28         | 29 | 30 |    | 3  |    |    |  |  |

| May 2024 |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |
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| Su       | M  | Tu | W  | Th | F  | Sa |  |  |
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| 12       | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |  |  |
| 19       | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |  |  |
| 26       | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |  |  |
|          |    |    |    |    |    | 11 |  |  |

| June 2024 |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |
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| 9         | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |  |
| 16        | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |  |
| 23        | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |  |
| 30        |    |    | 1  |    |    |    |  |

| July 2024 |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|--|
| Su        | M  | Tu | W  | Th | F  | Sa |  |
|           | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  |  |
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| 14        | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |  |
| 21        | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |  |
| 28        | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |    |  |

| Semester 1               |
|--------------------------|
| Operational Days: 10     |
| Instructional Days: 87   |
| Semester 2               |
| Operational Days: 94     |
| Instructional Days: 85   |
| Total Operational: 19-   |
| Total Instructional: 172 |

#### August

- Heritage Day Stat Holiday Schools open for registration
- First day for Administrators
- First day for Teachers
- First day, School-Based CUPE
- Orientation Day for Kindergarten, Gr 1 & 7 Only
- 29 First day all grades

#### September

- PLF #1 Staff Only (No school for students)
- Labour Day Stat Holiday (No school)
- PLF #2 Staff Only (No school for students)
- Day in Lieu of National Day of Truth and Reconciliation
  - Stat Holiday National Day of Truth & Reconciliation

- Day in Lieu (No school)
- Thanksaiving Stat Holiday (No school)
- PLF #3 Staff Only (No school for students)
- Institute Day (No school for students)

- PLF #4 Staff Only (No school for students)
- Day in Lieu of Remembrance Day (No school)
- Remembrance Day Stat Holiday
- PLF #5 Staff Only (No school for students)

- PLF #6 Staff Only (No school for students) PLF #7 Staff Only (No school for students)
- Non-operational (No school) Christmas Stat Holiday (No school)
- Day in Lieu Stat Holiday (No school)
- Christmas Break (No school)

- New Years Day Stat Holiday Christmas Break (No school)
- PLF #8 Staff Only (No school for students)
- 31 Semester 2 Begins

#### February

- PD Day (No school)
- PLF #9 Staff Only (No school for students)
- Family Day Stat Holiday
- Teachers' Convention (No school)
- Teachers' Convention (ATA Staff Only)

#### March

- Teachers' Convention (No school for students)
  - PLF # 10 Staff Only (No school for students)

- Easter Monday Day in Lieu (No school) PLF #11 Staff Only (No school for students)
- Spring Break (No school)
- - PTI Day in Lieu (No school)

#### PLF #12 Staff Only (No school for students)

- Victoria Day Stat Holiday (No school)

- PLF #13 Staff Only (No school for students)
- 26 Last Day Students
- Last Day Staff

- 29 Good Friday Stat Holiday (No school)



#### Canada Day Stat Holiday

# BELL TIMES

Junior

Block 1: 8:33-9:29

Break: 9:29-9:34

Block 2: 9:34-10:30

Break: 10:30-10:35

Block 3: 10:35-11:31

Lunch: 11:31-12:29

Block 4: 12:29-1:25

Break: 1:25-1:30

Block 5: 1:30-2:25

Break: 2:25-2:30

Block 6: 2:30-3:25

High School

Block 1: 8:33-10:01

Break: 10:01-10:06

Block 2: 10:06-11:34

Lunch: 11:34-12:24

Block 3: 12:24-1:52

Break: 1:52-1:57

Block 4: 1:57-3:25



### **LOCKERS**

Lockers at École McTavish High School are the property of the school. Students choose a locker, with the help of a teacher. For the sake of security, students are required to use the lock provided by the school. Students are encouraged to leave valuables at home. Students do not have the right to deface lockers. In accordance with the locker procedure, if the lockers are returned in a condition that is deemed unsatisfactory, locker privileges may be revoked, by administration, for the following school year. In addition, a fee of up to \$50.00 will be charged in order to refurbish the locker to an acceptable condition. École McTavish High School will not be held responsible for items lost or stolen from lockers.

### **VALUABLES AND PERSONAL PROPERTY**

École McTavish will not be responsible for personal property or valuables that are lost or stolen at school or during any school events. Students are expected to safeguard valuables and personal property or to have the necessary insurance for valuables such as band equipment.

Most issues with theft happen during PE time. Students need to ensure to have all valuables locked up in their locker or keep them at home.

### **BUS PASSES**

Bus Passes are available before and after school, during breaks and lunch for purchase/pick up from the main office for the first ten days of each month. Bus Passes are not given out during instructional time. Bus Passes not picked up are returned to Division Office every month. If a Bus Pass is lost or stolen, it can be replaced at the school for a cost of \$51.00.





# EVERY MINUTE COUNTS



| WHEN YOUR CHILD<br>MISSES JUST | THAT EQUALS                       | WHICH IS                       | AND THEREFORE,<br>FROM KINDER TO<br>GRADE 12, THAT IS |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| 10 MINUTES A DAY               | 50 MINUTES OF<br>LEARNING A WEEK  | NEARLY 11/2<br>WEEKS PER YEAR  | NEARLY 1/2 YEAR OF<br>SCHOOL                          |
| 20 MINUTES A DAY               | 1 HOUR AND 40<br>MINUTES A WEEK   | NEARLY 2 1/2<br>WEEKS PER YEAR | NEARLY A YEAR OF<br>SCHOOL                            |
| 1/2 HOUR A DAY                 | 1/2 DAY OF<br>LEARNING A WEEK     | 4 WEEKS A YEAR                 | NEARLY 11/2 YEARS<br>OF LEARNING                      |
| 1 HOUR EACH DAY                | 1 WHOLE DAY OF<br>LEARNING A WEEK | 8 WEEKS PER YEAR               | OVER 2 1/2 YEARS OF<br>LEARNING                       |

Your child's best learning time is at the beginning of the day

LATE!

### ATTENDANCE POLICY



The staff of École McTavish High School are committed to working in partnership with parents to ensure that students have every opportunity for academic success. We believe, and statistics show, that regular and punctual attendance is essential to learning. Teachers and Administrators expect all students to attend classes regularly and on time.

Section 7 of the Education Act, states that Compulsory Education is

- (1) Every person who
- (a) is a resident of Alberta and has a parent who is a resident of Canada,
- (b) at September 1 in a year is 6 years of age or older, and
- (c) subject to subsection (2), is younger than 16 years of page "Shall attend school".

### REPORTING ABSENCES

1. Parents/Guardians are required to notify the school by telephone, email, or in writing stating the reason when the student is excusably absent or late.

Documentation is required to excuse a student when the student has nine or more absences. This applies to all students, regardless of age.

For the purpose of this policy, an absence is considered excused for the following reasons:

- 1. Illness or injury.
- 2. Medical, dental, optometric or chiropractic services that cannot be scheduled outside of school hours.
- 3. Death in the family
- 4. Participation in religious observances
- 5. School related activity or program
- 6. Suspension from school

Any absence for reasons other than those listed above is considered an unexcused absence. Some samples of unexcused absences are:

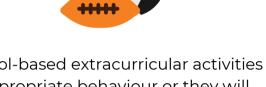
- 1. Any personal business that could be handled on personal time.
- 2. Working for an employer.
- 3. Oversleeping
- 4. Missing the bus
- 5.Car trouble
- 6. Studying for a test

# ATTENDANCE POLICY

According to Alberta Education policy, vacations or trips scheduled during school time are not excusable. However, it is the school's belief that the loss of instructional time can never be regained. Any drop in grade due to this absence is solely the responsibility of the student. It is also the student's responsibility to get the required work, with ample time, from the teacher or to make up the work upon returning from the vacation or trip:

- 1. The office staff will record all phone calls and notes in the daily attendance log.
- 2. Students who are inexcusably absent from school are not permitted:
- 1.to be on school property, or
- 2.to attend and/or participate in extracurricular activities.

#### EXTRA CURRICULAR



Students participating in or representing École McTavish at school-based extracurricular activities and school sports teams must have excellent attendance and appropriate behaviour or they will not be permitted to participate.

#### **LATES**

Punctuality is important at École McTavish High School. Consequences for tardiness (repeated lates) may include detentions, parent contact for remediation, forfeiting the right to attend class for one day and/or referral to administration. In the eyes of the attendance board, 3 lates is considered an absence.

### ATTENDANCE PROTOCOL

The attendance protocol at École McTavish is as follows:

- The automatic dialer will call the parent/guardian when a student has I unexcused absence or late in a class and this is recorded in PowerSchool.
- After three unexcused absences in one class, teachers will contact parents and refer students to administration.
- If the issue continues, Parents will be contacted to meet with the school to come up with a plan to help improve attendance.

Students who skip classes will receive consequences that may include the following:

- after-school and lunchtime detention issued by course teachers and/or administration;
- in-school suspensions (which go until 3:25 for each day);
- removal from extracurricular teams
- banning from school events (Dances, sports events, etc.)
- referral to Attendance Board for students under the age of 16

## ATTENDANCE POLICY



#### **EXAMS**

Part of the student evaluation is the writing of major examinations. At semester end (Senior) and year end (Senior and Junior) students will write major examinations.

Some regulations concerning exams are:

- Students will be required to produce a medical certificate justifying absence.
- School must be notified by parents and provided with the reason for the absence.
- Students and/or parents must make alternate arrangements for writing missed exams.
- Students leaving early at the end of the year will be given the mark they have achieved in that term as their third term mark. It will be combined with the previous three terms. In some cases, administration may organize early writing for exams for students with the exception of Grade 9 and 12 as Provincial Achievement Tests are set in partnership with Alberta Education.

Students who are absent with no explanation may be given a zero on missed exams.

## **ELECTRONICS POLICY**



Cell phones and other non-educational devices can be a strong supporter of learning in a school environment. At École McTavish, we embrace the use of technology by students when it is under the direction of a staff member. We strive to teach students how to use their electronics in appropriate ways that enhances their learning. The school also understands that students do not always follow the set guidelines at the school and will have to have their electronics taken away for inappropriate use. Parents <u>are not</u> to phone or text their children during the day. Please contact the office to get a hold of your child, we are happy to assist.

Students are also solely responsible for their electronics at the school. Enormous amounts of time each year are spent trying to find stolen or lost cell phones and other electronic devices. Students are expected to keep their electronics locked up in their lockers and thus safely put away.

These tools are very useful to aid our students' learning, but it also can be a distraction if used inappropriately. If the item is taken away from the student for inappropriate use, these consequences will be imposed:

- 1. First offence: Confiscation of the device to be returned to the student at the end of the class by the teacher.
- 2. Second offence: Confiscation of the device to be returned to the student at the end of the class and contact with parent or quardian by the teacher;
- 3.Third offence: Confiscation of the device to be returned to the student at the end of the class, student sent to administration to discuss electronics use. The student's use of technology within the school will be discussed with the student, their parent/guardian and a plan will be put forth for the rest of the year. Further offences will result in a call home to parent/guardian and possible In School Suspension.

Refusal to hand over a non-educational electronic device to a staff member will automatically result in a referral to administration.

# ACADEMIC INTEGRITY



### WHAT IS INTEGRITY?

"Adherence to moral and ethical principles; soundness of moral character; honesty."

### WHAT IS ACADEMIC INTEGRITY?

'The moral code or ethical policy of education. Includes values such as **avoidance of cheating and plagiarism**; maintenance of academic standards; honesty and rigour in research."

### WHAT IS ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT?

"Academic misconduct is any action or attempted action that may result in creating an unfair academic advantage for any other member or members of the academic community".

### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**



### **EXAMPLES OF ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:**

- 1. **Plagiarism** Using someone elses's words, ideas, or creations (their intellectual property) without acknowledgement; passing off someone else's work as your own. \*Most likely to be done unintentionally.
  - Directly copying portions of text written by others into your own work
  - Rewording, using, or explaining someone elses's work
  - Handing in work written by someone else as your own; copying artwork
- 2. Falsifying information- Providing false information, data, citations, etc.
  - Making up research or results
  - Fabricating citations (perhaps if you didn't initially note your sources)
- 3. **Unauthorised or excessive collaboration** Copying others' work or letting them copy yours; dividing up an assignment and only completing pieces when you do not have permission to do so
  - Copying assignments or homework
  - Handing in the same assignment (printed off a google doc)
  - Dividing up assignments intended to be completed individually and swapping answers
- 4. **Cheating**-Using dishonest means to achieve an unfair advantage in an academic evaluation
  - "Wandering eyes" during exams
  - Taking and posting photos of tests
  - Use of devices during an assessment
  - Stealing tests; memorizing answer keys
  - Entering test questions in calculators, not clearing them.

### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**



#### **CONSEQUENCES:**

The supervisor or teacher in conjunction with school administration will impose the following sanctions on first offence:

- 1. Parent/Teacher-student conference will be held.
- 2. Parents/guardians of student are notified, on the day of the discovery of the incident, and the academic misconduct is recorded in PowerSchool.
- 3. The student will be required to do another assignment/exam submitting their own original work for grading purposes, within 3 days of discovery of the incident.
- 4. Probation- the probation period will last the remainder of the school year. If a student is discovered cheating and/or plagiarizing a second time during this period further sanctions will be applied.
- 5. The student must complete the assignment/exam on his or her own time. (after school)
- 6.In the case of cheating on a final exam, repeat offence sanctions will be administered.

If a repeat offence occurs, the supervisor or teacher in conjunction with school administration will impose one or more of the following sanctions:

- 1. All extracurricular involvement will be suspended until this sanction is lifted.
- 2.A zero will be administered. Parents are informed that the zero is administered as a punishment for academic dishonesty and does not represent a true assessment of the student's ability.
- 3. In addition to the above sanctions, school administration has the authority to impose a further sanction of a suspension.
- 4. Students will be ineligible for academic awards for that school year.
- 5. Teachers and Administrators will be unable to write any reference letters for students who break academic integrity policies.

### **APPEAL PROCESS:**

Any student has the right to appeal the charges and/or sanctions determined by the teacher and school administration within 3 school days. The student will meet with the Appeal Board Committee, which will consist of the Principal, the subject Department MRP (Most Responsible Person), a counselor, the subject teacher in whose class the cheating occurred, and, if requested, the student's parents. The student must fill out the appropriate form. The parents will be informed.

### **DRESS CODE**

Students are expected to wear clothes that are **appropriate** to the workplace. The school and district believe that good grooming is valued by employers and coworkers. Such clothing should respect basic standards of modesty and good taste. If clothing does not meet a workplace standard, a student may be asked to find alternate clothing. Decisions will be arbitrated by the Administration in consultation with the student's parents or guardian. Generally, bare feet are not permitted in the school building.

- Dress code restrictions may be waived for special days.
- Teachers reserve the right to establish classroom rules governing the wearing of hats and hoodies.

### **Descriptors of Unacceptable Student Dress for all Students**

- Any clothing that does not adequately conceal underwear, e.g. Loose coveralls that reveal underwear.
- Jeans with tears which reveal underwear or cut-offs that reveal buttocks.
- Any clothing with print or graphics expressing profanity, rudeness, racial or ethnic slurs, or sexually suggestive images or messages.

### **ACADEMIC AWARDS**



Academic Awards from the previous school year are presented to students in the fall of the year. Parents/Guardians are encouraged to attend.

**Criteria for Honour Roll - Honour Roll**: 79.5-89.4%

**Honour Roll with Distinction**: 89.5-100%

Honour Awards will be given for students with over 80% average in their core subjects - LA, SS, SC, Math (5 core for French Immersion Students, FLA is included) Honours with distinction is awarded to students who have a 90% average.

The Grade 12 Valedictorian is awarded to the student who possesses the highest academic average prior to graduation. The average will include core subjects only.

### **ATHLETIC AWARDS**

Athletic Awards Ceremony will take place in June.

**Most Valuable Player Most Sportsmanlike Player Most Improved Player Junior High Athlete of the Year** JH Marauder Spirit Award JH Coaches Player Award **JH Indigenous Athlete of the Year** JH Student Athlete of the Year **Varsity Athlete of the Year Varsity Rookie Athlete of the Year** Varsity Marauder Spirit Award **Varsity Coaches Player Award** Varsity Indigenous Athlete of the Year Varsity Student Athlete of the Year



### **VANDALISM**

According to The Education Act:

257 (1) If property of a board is destroyed, damaged, lost or converted by the intentional or negligent act:

- (a) of one student, the student and the student's parents are jointly and severally liable to the board in respect of the act of the student, or
- (b) of 2 or more students acting together, the students and their parents are jointly and severally liable to the board in respect of the act of the students.

### **TRESPASSING**

256: No person shall

(a) loiter or trespass in a school building or on property owned by a board

### **Penalty:**

**258**: Any person who contravenes section 256 is guilty of an offence and liable to a fine of not more than \$1000.00.

#### CONTRABAND

Contraband items such as pornography, weapons\*, tobacco, energy drinks, vapes, juuls, chewing tobacco, drugs or alcohol are not permitted on school grounds.

• \*A weapon is defined as anything that is used in a threatening manner.

In regards to **vaping**, students caught vaping on school premises will have their vape confiscated, parents/guardians will be contacted, and they will receive (at minimum) 2 lunch detentions. Repeat offenders can receive an in-school suspension on top of their lunch detentions; however, context will play a role in determining the exact consequence: location of offence, inside vs. outside; age of student, grade 7 student vs. 18 year old grade 12.

Students who are found to be in **possession** of a vape—regardless of their reason ("found it on the ground," "holding it for a friend")—will receive (at minimum) I lunch detention. Parents and guardians will also be contacted. Repeat offenders will have escalated consequences.

In November 1998, the Supreme Court of Canada handed down a judgement giving teachers and principals the authority to conduct searches of students in appropriate circumstances. There must be reasonable grounds and searches must be carried out reasonably, in a sensitive manner and be minimally intrusive. Warrants are not required to conduct searches by school authorities.

### **Alcohol/Drug Use**

Intoxication from or possession of drugs or alcohol by students on the school premises—at any time—is strictly forbidden.

 This includes school-sponsored activities in the evening and activities that take place away from the school.

Violation of this regulation will result in an immediate referral to administration.

Students found to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs will be suspended from school.

Students who are unfit for school are a safety concern and liability to themselves and others.

Additionally. the length of the suspension will be determined by the severity of the offence.

- Students suspected by staff of having consumed alcohol while at a school dance or function will have their parents contacted and they will be asked to leave the function.
- Students found to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs at school-sponsored activities
  may receive up to a three-day suspension from school and will be suspended from the
  activity for a specified length of time.

### **Bullying/CyberBullying**

Despite our efforts to educate our students about bullying behaviour and how to best stand up to it as a group, it does still occur. When these situations happen, whether it is face to face or online via social media or email/texts, we will ensure to investigate and set a plan to move forward. Each situation is different and will be dealt with through counseling, administrative and parent involvement, as well as with those in the bullying situation. We take a holistic approach to working with the students and parents to ensure we have the students involved understand the impact they are having on the bullied student. We also work with the bullied students on how to deal with the issues if they come up again. The most important piece is open communication between the students involved, the teachers and administrators so we know what is going on. Students, and parents, can email/call one of the administrators at any time about an issue. With over 1480 students this year, École McTavish is an incredibly busy school, which is why it is important for the involved students to report these issues to their teachers and/or administrators to ensure they have all the necessary information needed to investigate. While we encourage parents to email/call (at any time) about an issue, we appreciate the complexity of many circumstances, which is why it is beneficial to first talk with the students in the building.

### **Threats of Violence**

Students and staff have the right to feel safe at school and school related activities. Students and staff are asked to report threats of violence. Students who make threats to harm others or the school community will be taken seriously and will be subject to the process of a Violent Threat Assessment through a problem-solving approach, as conducted by Ecole McTavish's trained threat assessment team. Disciplinary action and consequences will be determined by the seriousness of the threatening behaviour. Each case will be considered individually to determine the threat and what stimulated the threat. A threat assessment may include some form of a mental health assessment. There may be discplinary action taken as a result of making the threat, with graduated discplinary action taken as deemed appropriate. Various community agencies will also be involved as needed (Police, Alberta Health Services, etc.)

#### **FIGHTING**

All students have a right to personal safety on school property or while attending a school-sponsored function. All physical fights will result in a minimum of a 3 day Out of School Suspension, but may be longer depending on the situation.

The administration will discipline any student who violates this right to safety. Those students who fight through mutual agreement will face serious consequences that may include school suspensions, fines and criminal charges. Students deemed to be the aggressor in a fight will receive a more severe consequence than students deemed to be the victim in a fight.

Students going to watch a fight, or videoing a fight and sharing it on social media, are considered to be part of the problem as well. Students attending a fight will be warned not to do so again, and if they do, they will be suspended as well. In addition, sending a video of a fight will result in a parent meeting and possible suspension as well.

#### Harassment

All students have the right to move about the school without being verbally or physically harassed or intimidated. Students must not harass other students in any way. Administration considers harassment and intimidation to be extremely serious violations of our code of conduct. When such incidents are brought to our attention, a thorough investigation will occur, parents will be notified and suspension may be imposed. Extreme cases may result in a recommendation for expulsion.

#### **Intimate Contact**

It must be recognized that there are certain general limits beyond which physical contact between students is not acceptable within the school environment. Anything beyond handholding is considered inappropriate.

### **Laser Pointers, Nuisance Novelties**

Any items or novelties that threaten the safety of others, create safety hazards or disrupt the learning environment are not permitted at École McTavish and will be confiscated. E.g.: laser pointers; snap or pop bombs; lighters; stink bombs; firecrackers; etc.

### Loitering

Students must not loiter inside or outside the building during class time or after the school day ends. Students are expected to leave the school by 3:45 p.m. unless they have an organized and supervised activity after school. Students are expected to be in class, in the library, in the atrium or off school property during class time. Wandering the halls and/or hanging out in the washroom is not acceptable behaviour. Students will be given a verbal warning if this becomes an ongoing issue, which will be followed by a call home and a detention. If necessary, students will have their "hall pass" privileges limited—possibly revoked (with parent consultation)—if these behaviours continue.

### **Washroom Use**

Students are never to enter a washroom stall with another person at anytime—especially members of the opposite sex. While students may say they are looking for a quiet space, just talking, or in some cases, exchanging feminine hygiene products, it is imperative that they understand this is prohibited and can be a safety concern in some situations. Unfortunately, we often have vandalism and vaping issues when multiple people are in a stall together. We have many wonderful staff members who open their door (during lunch) for students to have a quiet space. Additionally, the Office and Student Services offer a multitude of hygiene products for our students to grab discreetly, when needed.

This is communicated to our students throughout the first week of school, so they should be aware that this is not permitted. As a result, students may receive one detention for violating this rule. Of course, we always look at the context of the scenario, the end result of the situation, and if students have been spoken to about this before (given a warning).

### **Profanity**

Use of profanity (religious connotations) and obscenity (sexual or vulgar connotations) are both offensive and unacceptable at École McTavish High School. We see the school as the student's place of business and expect them to treat it that way.

### Refusal to follow teacher's directions (Defiance)

Students who refuse to do what teachers ask them to do are considered to be defiant, whether the incident occurs in the classroom, the hallways, the cafeteria, or in any other location where teachers are supervising. It is up to the teacher to determine when a student has been defiant. In classroom situations, teachers may suspend students from class for one class period or assign a class detention. Students who do not show up for assigned detentions will be subject to suspension for defiance.

When school administrators become involved, parents will be contacted and students may be suspended from school for up to five days depending on the degree of defiance displayed.

### Inappropriate rudeness, language and or gestures to Staff

Students may be suspended from an activity, a class, or from school, depending on the severity of the incident.

### **DISCIPLINARY INTERVENTIONS**

#### **Minor Misconduct**

- conduct which disrupts the orderly process of classroom instruction or school program
- conduct which is inappropriate but not injurious to the safety and/or dignity of students or staff.

#### **Examples of Minor Misconduct:**

- leaving the classroom without permission
- running in the halls
- loitering
- initiating or participating in physical contact that disrupts, interrupts or is otherwise unsuitable to a school setting
- habitual tardiness
- leaving personal belongings throughout the school (eg. backpack)

#### **Procedures:**

- Minor misconduct will be handled "on the spot" by a staff member. Students will be told what was poor judgement on their part and will be encouraged to use more acceptable alternatives in the future. In most cases, intervention will occur quickly.
- Interventions will focus on resolving the immediate problem with a minimum of disruption to student learning.
- The goal is to help the student understand what happened and to facilitate better communication between the student and the teacher.

Note: repeated occurrences of minor misconduct issues will lead to a major misconduct interventions such as detention(s) or suspension(s).

### **Major Misconduct:**

- · conduct which interferes with or threatens the orderly functioning of the school
- conduct injurious to the safety and/or dignity of students or staff

### **Examples of major misconduct:**

- alcohol or drug-related infractions
- physical and/or mental abuse of others
- open opposition to authority defiance
- willful damage to school or other's property vandalism
- damage to property resulting from carelessness or "fooling around"
- fighting or threats to others
- bullying/cyber bullying (on and off school property)
- stealing
- cheating

### **DISCIPLINARY INTERVENTIONS**

- derogatory comments and/or threats to others about race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, gender, body image.
- continuous disruptive behaviour over a prolonged period with no attempt to change the behaviour

#### **Procedures:**

Major misconduct will not necessarily be handled in the same manner in every case because there are almost always mitigating circumstances involved in every discipline infraction of this type. Mitigating circumstances shall include, but are not limited to the following factors:

- age, health, and maturity of student;
- pattern of misconduct;
- attitude of student:
- cooperation of parents/guardians;
- willingness to make restitution;
- seriousness of offence and need to protect other students from threat of imminent harm

#### **Consequences for Acts of Misconduct: School Actions**

Students will experience consequences for their behaviour in direct proportion to the seriousness of the offence.

- **Teacher-Student Conference** -Most acts of minor misconduct will be handled in this manner.
- Detention/Admin referral
- In-School Suspension -The student remains at school. All privileges are suspended and regular classes are <u>not</u> attended. While on an in-school suspension, the student will be provided with materials and assignments that are relevant, realistic and appropriate, and will be responsible for completion of these assignments. Students will not have access to their phones/electronics in ISS. Parent contact made in all cases.
- Out-of-School Suspension Out of school suspension may be imposed for <u>any</u> act of major misconduct. The length of the suspension, by law, may vary from 1 to 5 days depending on the category of misconduct. Parent contact made in all cases. All Out of School suspensions will also result in possible removal of extra-curricular events for the year.
- Police Notification/Arrest Police will be notified when deemed appropriate. Such
  notification may be given by administration, teachers, students or parents. Police make
  determination as to whether charges and/or arrest are warranted. Parents/guardians will be
  informed of the incident.
- Expulsion Expulsion is an action that can be taken only by the Board of Trustees. A
  student may be expelled from one or more specific schools or all schools in the District, and
  for a specified period of time or indefinitely.