



*A News Update From  
MAPLE RIDGE SECONDARY SCHOOL  
ÉCOLE SECONDAIRE DE MAPLE RIDGE  
September 2011  
<http://www.mapleridgesecondary.ca>*

### **A Message From Our Principal - Mrs. Derinzy**

Welcome back! I hope everyone had a great summer vacation; we are looking forward to an exciting new school year. I would like to thank the counselors, clerical and custodial staff for their hard work. It is because of their efforts that the school is organized and in shape for your return.

We have two major goals that we are focusing on for this school year. The first is to foster respect for learning within the school community. Obviously attendance and work completion are an important component of this goal.

Attendance and punctuality are essential components of school success. If your son or daughter must be absent or late please advise the school. If you are going to be absent for a vacation we will make every effort to provide work – either before or after the event. Please understand however, that work sent home is not a substitute for participating in the activities of a class.

The second goal is to improve our students' ability to comprehend course content. This includes teaching reading for information, and utilizing a variety of teaching and assessment strategies.

There are two important parent evenings that I would like to invite and encourage parents to attend. The first is a grade 8 parent evening on September 21 at 7:00 pm. We are very fortunate to have Phil Boyte joining us that evening. He is an inspirational speaker, speaking on topics like having dreams

and creating communities of care. Second is the Grad Parent Evening on September 28th at 7:00 pm. I would encourage all grade 12 parents to plan to attend.



The non-instructional day scheduled for September 23 will remain as set and students will

not be in attendance.

Due to the current job action initiated by members of the British Columbia Teachers' Federation, the Student Conferences scheduled for October 20<sup>th</sup> has tentatively been cancelled and may be rescheduled at a later date. The school day for all students will be a regular day of classes with normal start and end times. Parents are advised that you are welcome to individually contact your child's teacher at any time you wish to have a discussion on matters relating to your child.

Maple Ridge Secondary is an exciting, busy place. There are many great learning and social activities for students to participate in. Announcements are read each morning and posted on the school website that outline how to join the huge variety of activities. Getting involved is a great way to become connected to the school.

I am thrilled to be here and I hope everyone has a dynamic and interesting learning experience.

### **PAC Message**

Becoming a member of our PAC is your opportunity to keep informed so your family can maximize the high school experience.

We have so much to offer and welcome your ideas to make high school more than just a place to go every day. Unlike elementary school, the PAC focus is not fundraising.

PAC meetings are held on the second Monday of each month. Confirm the dates in your student's planner. We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting on October 17 at 7:00 pm.

### **Mission Statement**

At Maple Ridge Secondary we create a caring and safe environment where all students have the opportunity to develop the skills, knowledge, and positive attitudes to contribute to society.

*“Creating Community,  
Providing Opportunity”*

## Canadian Parents for French News

Bonjour and bienvenue to all parents of students at MRSS studying French this year, whether Immersion or Core French classes. Your local SD42 Canadian Parents for French Chapter is pleased to welcome Christine Cavalaris as the new president for CPF RidgeMeadows for 2011/2012. We also have a new MRSS parent, Joy Mooney, serving as secretary for this year and wish to thank MRSS parent, Sam Stewart, for her previous years of service as secretary. Please visit our website at [www.cpf.bc.ca/ridgemeanows](http://www.cpf.bc.ca/ridgemeanows) for continuing updates on local events and activities sponsored by our local CPF.

### **Important Membership News:**

CPF Membership is ongoing throughout the school year, however your local Chapter is pleased to once again offer an incredible full-year price of only \$5 if you join or renew before October 30, 2011! Remember, 80% of your membership fees comes right back to your local Chapter. That means more fun events in schools, more resources for parents, teachers and students, and more extra-curricular activities in French for our kids! Your membership gives CPF a stronger voice to advocate for access to quality FSL education with ministers

and administrators at the national and provincial/territorial levels and with school boards in your community. After October 31 membership cost increases to the very reasonable cost of \$25 per year or \$60 for 3 years. Be sure to include your spouse/partner on your application form. Each family is entitled to two votes!

Renewal before October 31 enters you into a draw where you can win wonderful prizes! Please see page 12 of the current CPF Fall 2011 Newsletter to print of an application form and to see all of the information and prize details: [http://www.cpf.bc.ca/site3/attachments/1544\\_Newsletter.2011.09.pdf](http://www.cpf.bc.ca/site3/attachments/1544_Newsletter.2011.09.pdf) or you can print off an application form from the [www.cpf.ca](http://www.cpf.ca) website and click on *Become a Member*. Please make your \$5 cheques payable to CPF Ridge Meadows or pay \$5 cash and bring it to the MRSS office, Attention: CPF mailbox for pickup by your MRSS CPF Rep. The deadline is Friday, October 28.

Note: In order for your child to be eligible for the annual Gr. 12 SD42 CPF \$500 Scholarship you must be a CPF Member since your student's grade 10 year! Congratulations to last year's CPF Scholarship recipients, Dayna Schoeppe (MRSS) and Lorelei Archibald (PMSS).



### **Other news:**

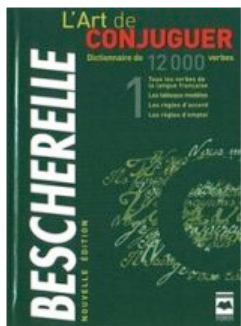
Merci beaucoup to MRSS FI students Mary Stewart, Derek Maroney and Annie Russell for their enthusiasm working with all the children attending our Chapter's CPF's Annual Summer Camp held July 25 - 29. This year's theme was "Fairy Tales" and all activities, crafts & songs were conducted in French. Bravo!

Mark your calendar. BC & Yukon AGM is Friday, November 4 to Sunday, November 6, 2011. Come to our Annual General Meeting and Conference this fall. Join other parents who are working to advocate for strong and sustainable French programs in BC and Yukon. Attend informative seminars (this year's conference theme is membership building: recruitment and retention) engage in lively discussions, and have fun! This event will be held in Metro Vancouver at Radisson Richmond Hotel, conveniently located on the Canada Line. This year, subsidies are available to all Chapters wishing to bring an additional delegate. Visit [www.cpf.bc.ca](http://www.cpf.bc.ca) throughout the fall for more event information.



### **France: Spring Break 2012 Update:**

There is still room for any SD42 students wishing to go to France for an exciting trip during Spring Break 2012. The group is getting together soon to discuss fundraising and trip details. Please contact Trevor Randle, Chef Instructor, at MRSS for further information.



Our next local CPF meeting for all interested parents will be on Tuesday, October 11 @ 7pm at Eric Langton Elementary School in the library. Please come meet your hard-working executive and bring your ideas, suggestions and concerns. We have a small quantity of Bescherelle verb/grammar books for sale, member price only \$15. Please contact your MRSS rep asap if you wish to purchase one for your student.

Please remember to regularly visit the MRSS CPF/French Information page at <http://www.mapleridgesecondary.ca> for continuing updates and information. Thank you/Merci for supporting your student's French Language Studies at MRSS this year.

Linda Maroney, MRSS CPF Rep, [lmaroney@shaw.ca](mailto:lmaroney@shaw.ca)



## Accident Insurance

Information and application packages for student accident insurance for interested families are available from the brochure display outside the school office. This optional insurance provides excellent coverage for students in the event of an accident.



## Attendance

Parents are asked to contact the school (604 463-4175) before 8:30 a.m. if your student is going to be absent. MRSS has a 24 hour voice messaging service so you can leave details of absence outside of regular hours.

Notes that include the dates and reason for absence are required. Notes are to be presented to all subject teachers and to the attendance clerk in the office.

### Lateness

Students who arrive to school late are required to sign in at the office. Please note that “sleeping in” is not an acceptable excuse.

### Sign Out

Students who must leave the school for any reason during the school day are to report to the office to sign out. Students should present a note from a parent or guardian granting permission to leave. If a student does not have a note or if they become ill, a staff member will contact a parent or guardian.

## School Improvement Goals

Goal 1: To foster respect for learning with the school community.

Goal 2: To improve students' ability to comprehend course content.

## School Community

We would like to remind parents and students to be considerate of our neighbours by obeying parking regulations and speed limits on our neighbouring streets when coming to the school to drop off or collect students. Do not block driveways or park in no parking or handicapped parking zones.

## Dress Sense

Students are reminded of the expectation that they are properly attired in clothing suitable for the school environment. Our dress code is directed to both male and female students.

Students who are not dressed in appropriate school attire, could be sent home to change their clothes. We hope that reasonable judgment can be used by students in terms of wearing comfortable clothing.

Specifically this means:

- \* Tops must cover the majority of the upper body; the back and chest must be sufficiently covered.
- \* No exposed midriffs are permitted.
- \* Undergarments must not be exposed.
- \* Transparent or see-through clothing is not acceptable school attire.
- \* Hats are not permitted except on special theme days such as 'Hat Day' or Halloween.
- \* Spikes and chains are also not considered acceptable school attire.
- \* Clothing that promotes or advertises alcohol, drugs, violence or gang affiliations is not permitted.



## Today at Ridge

The *Today at Ridge* page on our website is a great reference for students and parents alike, giving a snapshot of activities, meetings, team events, etc. for each day and information about ongoing events. The page is updated each morning and is usually posted by mid-morning for your reference.

If you haven't looked at our site lately, we invite you to take another look at [www.mapleridgesecundary.ca](http://www.mapleridgesecundary.ca)