



GRADE 8 WELCOME GUIDE

Grads of 2029

R.A. MCMATH SECONDARY
"TOGETHER WE LEARN"



YOUR SUPPORT TEAM...

Administrators

Mr. J. Johnstone

Principal

jjohnstone@sd38.bc.ca

Mr. L. Banta

Vice-Principal

lbanta@sd38.bc.ca

Ms. A. Naidu

Vice-Principal

anaidu@sd38.bc.ca

Counsellors

Ms. F. Arvanitis

Students: I - U

farvanitis@sd38.bc.ca

Ms. C. Bagnall

Students: A-H & V - Z

cbagnall@sd38.bc.ca





- 1. Orientation**
- 2. Courses**
- 3. Preparation**
- 4. Questions**



SCHOOL PROFILE...

- **Opened in 1997**
- **Approx. 1200 students**
- **Over 80 staff members**
- **French Immersion**
- **McMath Wildcats**
- **McMath P.R.I.D.E.**
- **Excellence**



McMATH P.R.I.D.E.



- **Positive**
- **Respect**
- **Integrity**
- **Diversity**
- **Effort**





WHAT MAKES McMATH UNIQUE?

Great Facility & Location

Large Library

2 Gyms

Art & Music Studios

Workshop

Theatre

Home Economics labs

Science Super Lab

Social Spaces (i.e. Rotunda, etc.)

Cafeteria

Soccer/Rugby Field



CHOICES...

In addition to a full range of academic courses, McMath offers lots of other choices!

- Fine Arts
- French Immersion
- Applied Design Skills Technology
- Core Academic Courses
- Special Education Program
- International Program
- AP & Honours Courses
- Modern Languages
- Career Preparation, Work Experience & Apprenticeships
- Local & International Field Trips
- Extracurricular Opportunities
- Athletic Teams



Athletic Council
BC Fruit & Veg Program
Board games Club
Book Club
Chess Club
Chinese Culture & History Club
Dance Team
Debate Team
Display Club
Duke of Edinburgh Club
Ethics Bowl Club
First Responder Team
Geoguessr Club
Game of Apps Club
Girls Who Code
Grad Committee

Glass Ceiling Club
Guitar Club
Interact Club
Improv Team
Jewish Students Association
Japan Bowl
K-Wave Club
McMath Business Club
McMath Care Club
McMath Drawing Club
McMath Film Club
McMath Math Club
McMath Reconciliation Club
Multicultural Club
Natural Club
Pride Club
Reach for the Top Team

Richmond Hope for Hospitals
Club
Science Club
Ski & Snowboard Club
SPCA Club
STEM Club
String Orchestra Club
Studio Ghibli Club
Table Tennis Club
Ultimate Frisbee Club
Valorant Club
Wildgainz Weightlifting Club

...and more!

**GET INVOLVED:
EXTRACURRICULAR CLUBS!**



FALL SPORTS

Gr. 8-10 Girls'
Volleyball
Senior Girls' Volleyball
Gr. 10 Boys' Volleyball
Senior Boys' Volleyball
Cross-Country
Boys' Soccer
Swimming
Grade 8/9 Boys Rugby

WINTER SPORTS

Grade 8 Boys' Basketball
Grade 9 Boys' Basketball
Grade 10 Boys' Basketball
Senior Boys' Basketball
Grade 8 Girls' Basketball
Grade 9 Girls' Basketball
Grade 10 Girls' Basketball
Senior Girls' Basketball
Table Tennis

SPRING SPORTS

Girls' Soccer
Gr. 8-9 Boys' Volleyball
Track and Field
Junior Badminton
Senior Badminton
Gr. 10-12 Boys Rugby
Tennis
Ultimate
Golf

**GET INVOLVED:
ATHLETICS TEAMS!**



BELL SCHEDULE...

REGULAR (M/W/F)

8:25am.....Welcoming Bell
8:30 - 9:50am.....Period 1
9:55 - 11:15am.....Period 2
11:15 - 11:25am....Break
11:30- 12:50pm....Period 3
12:50 - 1:35pm.....Lunch
1:40 - 3:00pm.....Period 4

*Different teachers for every class!

PLT DAYS (T/TH)

8:25am.....Welcoming Bell
8:30 - 9:25am.....PLT
9:30 - 10:35amPeriod 1
10:40 - 11:45am...Period 2
11:45 - 11:55am...Break
12.00 - 1:05pm.....Period 3
1:05 - 1:50pm.....Lunch
1: 55 - 3:00pm.....Period 4

WHAT IS PLT (PERSONAL LEARNING TIME)?

PLT happens twice per week (Tuesdays and Thursdays), for 55 minutes. It's designed so that students can get assistance from teachers and work in classes they may be struggling with, and/or use the time to catch up on homework.





GR. 8: ENGLISH PROGRAM

1. Humanities 8 English (or ELL)
2. Humanities 8 Social St. 8 (or ELL)
3. Mathematics 8/Mathematics 8/9
4. Science 8
5. Physical Health Education 8
6. French 8
7. Applied Design Skills Technology (ADST) 8
 - Business Education 8
 - Home Economics 8
 - Technology Education 8
8. Fine Arts Elective (*choose one from the list below*)
 - Art-Drama 8
 - Band 8
 - Choral Music (Choir) 8





GR. 8: FRENCH IMMERSION PROGRAM

1. Humanités 8 - *Français Langue*
2. Humanités 8 - *Sciences Humaines*
3. Sciences Naturelles 8
4. English 8
5. Math 8 or Math 8/9
6. Éducation Physique et Santé 8
7. Applied Design Skills & Technology (ADST)
 - *Business Education 8*
 - *Home Economics 8*
 - *Technology Education 8*
8. Fine Arts Elective (*choose one from the list below*)
 - Art-Drama 8
 - Band 8
 - Choral Music (Choir) 8



COUNSELLORS...

Here EVERYDAY to Support YOU!

Personal:

- Social & Emotional (friends, family, mental health) Support

School:

- Courses & Graduation

Future:

- Post-Secondary Schooling & Career Education Information

*Most students come to see their counsellor at PLT, break, lunchtime, and/or after school, but if something is really bothering you, just come to see us in the Counselling Center right away.





HOW TO PREPARE...

- **Health**
 - sleep, screens & social
- **Organization**
 - courses & life
- **Grade 7**
 - finish well!



IMPORTANT DATES...

- **Program Planning Forms:** Feb. 20
 - Hand-in to your Grade 7 teacher earlier
- **Math 8/9 Placement Exam:** *(at McMath)*
 - Feb. 27 (Byng, Diefenbaker, Dixon, Steves)
 - Feb. 28 (Gilmore, Homma, Westwind, other)
 - Enter through front doors @3:30pm
- **“Grade 7 Day”:** May. 31 *(at McMath)*
- **Incoming Grade 8 Visit (optional):** Aug. 30
 - An opportunity to have an early look at your timetable and navigate the rooms for your semester one classes



École Secondaire R.A. McMath Secondary School

the Wildcats

News Our Staff Information ▾ Students ▾ Parents ▾ Extra-Curricular ▾ Library School Calendar Our School Story Support

Media



Twitter block

Posts from @RAMcMath

RA McMath
@RAMcMath · 17m

Posted a photo

instagram.com
McMath Secondary School ...

RA McMath Retweeted

Latest News

Family WAAG: Jan 23 - 27

Attached is the Family WAAG and Bell Schedule for January 23 - 27, 2023.

[Read more](#)



Semester 2 Student Schedules on MyEd Portal

As we near the end of Semester 1, we want to reflect on our students' progress and achievement. We are proud of the hard work...

[Read more](#)




Search

Quicklinks



Monday, January 23rd, 2023

A piece of torn, light yellow paper with a hole punch on the left and a paperclip on the top right. The paper is layered over a light blue background.

FAQS

Frequently Asked Questions



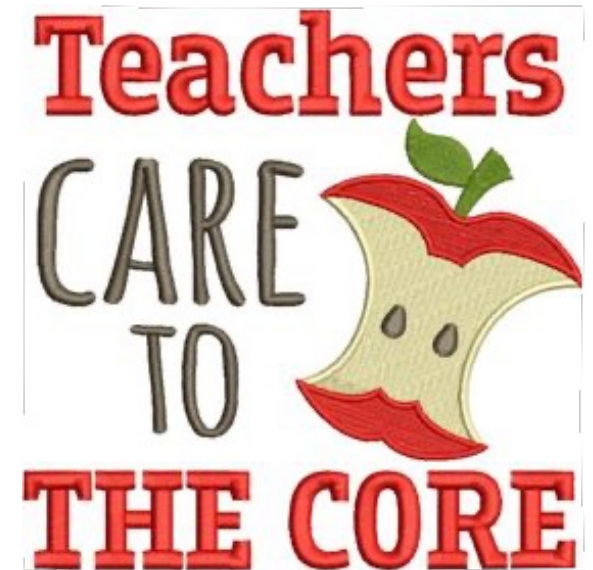
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- **Q. HOW CAN I ASK FOR HELP FROM MY TEACHERS?**

Teachers will explain when they are available outside of class, but you can always speak to your teachers during class or just before or after class. Teachers also have email addresses posted on the school website if you or your parents want to ask a question about school or request a meeting.

- **Q. WHAT IF I GET LOST WHILE TRYING TO GET TO CLASS?**

During the first few weeks there's always teachers outside their classes that would be more than happy to help, and the leadership students can also help you get to your classes. Don't be afraid to ask!





MORE QUESTIONS...

- **Q. WHAT HAPPENS IF I'M LATE TO CLASS?**

Attendance is important but everyone gets late once in a while so I would not worry too much but if you arrive late, make sure you go to the office to sign- in and get a late slip which you will then give to your teacher.

- **Q. HOW MUCH HOMEWORK WILL I GET?**

This will depend on your teacher and the subject. They will likely give a reasonable amount, but we can assure you it's not too much more than what you got in grade 7.

- **Q. WHAT IF MY CLASSES ARE TOO DIFFICULT FOR ME?**

As long as you attend class, stay organized and do the work to the best of your ability, high school will not be as hard as you think. As a high school student, we expect you to be actively engaged in your own learning. However, if you are having difficulties, speak with your teacher as soon as you can and they will be more than happy to help. If issues continue, talk to your parents or see your school counsellors and they will surely guide you to success!



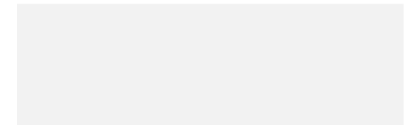
AND EVEN MORE QUESTIONS...

- **Q. IS IT EASY TO MAKE FRIENDS AND GET TO KNOW PEOPLE?**

Of course! Everyone is in the same boat as you. Although it may be hard in the beginning it will become easier to get to know people as you get to know who is in your class, join clubs and sports teams!

- **Q. IS THERE BULLYING?**

We ensure that students at McMath continue to follow our motto of “A Caring Community”. Bullying is not welcome at McMath and we certainly do not encourage it. If you ever feel bullied or see it happening to others (in person or online), the best thing to do is to talk to a trusted adult. Whether it be a teacher, vice principal or your counsellor. Every staff member will take it seriously and will be more than happy to support you. Everything you do share will be confidential.



Q. CAN I BIKE TO SCHOOL?

Yes! You can bring a lock and park your bike in the front of the school!

Q . ARE WE ALLOWED TO LEAVE SCHOOL PROPERTY DURING LUNCH AND BREAKS?

Yes! You are allowed to leave school property during lunch or break. You may take this time to go to the village or go out for a walk with your friends.

Q. WHERE CAN I EAT MY LUNCH?

There are the tables in the Rotunda, sitting areas in hallways, tables around the school, inside some classroom and outside!

► Q. WHAT HAPPENS IF I CAN'T OPEN MY LOCKER?

IN GRADE 8 THIS IS SOMETHING THAT MANY STRUGGLE WITH, BUT IT EVENTUALLY COMES WITH TIME. YOU CAN ALWAYS ASK A TEACHER FOR HELP OR A STUDENT FOR SUPPORT!



HOW CAN PARENTS ASSIST IN THEIR CHILD'S SUCCESS?



**Social Media
Responsibility**



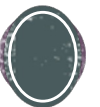
**Healthy Sleep
Habits**



**Healthy
Eating Habits**



**Structured
Homework
Time**





COUNSELLORS...

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- **Ms. F. Arvanitis**

- *I - U*
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- **Mr. C. Arena**



ADMINISTRATION

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- **Mr. L. Banta / Vice-Principal**
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- **Ms. A. Naidu / Vice-Principal**
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GET CONNECTED!

WE WANT PARENTS/GUARDIANS AND STUDENTS TO CONNECT WITH US –
BOOKMARK OUR WEBSITE AND FOLLOW US ON...



X @RAMcMath



mcmathsecondaryschool

Follow



mcmathstuco

Follow

School Website: mcmath.sd38.bc.ca

