



WELCOME TO MT. SENTINEL'S MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAM (MYP)!

We are so excited to work with Mt. Sentinel's Grade 7 and 8 students to build a strong, engaging, and supportive learning community. MYP looks a little different than traditional school programming as the focus is shifted to project-based and integrated learning. We believe that learning should be meaningful and empowering to our students; Mt. Sentinel's middle years program works to support this.

HUB Teachers: Students are a part of a learning "HUB" for the year. HUBs are intended to connect students with a consistent teacher and group of students throughout the year. Should you have any questions or comments, do not hesitate to contact your child's HUB teacher. Your child's HUB teacher will be your "go to teacher" regarding program questions, scheduling, overall learning and social/emotional needs.

Carly Christy	Room 201	carly.christy@sd8.bc.ca
Rachel Lacroix	Room 309	rachel.lacroix@sd8.bc.ca
Katie Comrie	Room 306	katie.comrie@sd8.bc.ca

In addition to HUB, students will be participating in Foods, ADST, Art, Drama, PE, and target lessons with Ms. Lacroix and Ms. Christy. Those teachers are listed on our school website. Our Teacher Librarians, Inclusion Support Team, and school counselors also play a key role in your child's program; their support and presence is built directly into the daily schedule.

Materials

Required materials:

- 3-Ring Binder (non-zip up preferred)
- Lined paper
- Dividers
- Pencil case
- Ruler
- Scissors
- Small pencil sharpener
- Writing supplies: pencils, erasers, highlighters, coloured pens.
- Coloured pencil crayons
- Black fine liner
- Black Sharpie
- Calculator
- **An agenda will be provided by the school**

Agendas!

This year in MYP, building strong organizational skills is a focus. Students will be given a personal agenda at the beginning of the school year which they are responsible for keeping track of. Students will be instructed to write in it every day and are encouraged to share their agenda with their parents and guardians to communicate take home learning, announcements and important dates and information. At the start of the year we are asking parents and



guardians to sign their child's agenda after each school day. Starting in the second week, we ask parents and guardians to review their child's agendas at the end of each week and sign their agenda to indicate that they have read them.

Class Expectations

Phones: Phones are not permitted in MYP classrooms. While technology becomes increasingly integrated into our daily lives, it is important to form responsible and healthy relationships with it. Students will be assigned to a personal laptop computer to facilitate learning and assignments, therefore a smartphone is not necessary. Students are expected to leave their phones in their locker. If they forget, teachers will have a phone bin in their classroom to securely store their devices for the duration of the day. After two warnings, parents/guardians will be contacted regarding students' phone usage. If students continue to bring their phone to class, further measures will be discussed. Some students enjoy listening to music while working independently. If this is the case, students are encouraged to bring a small mp3 player (such as an iPod shuffle) and ear/headphones. Students can also connect their headphones into their laptops to listen to music if they choose. If you need to communicate with your child during instructional time, we are happy to facilitate that. Please contact the office and we will connect you. Additionally, each MYP classroom is equipped with a phone so your child can call you directly from class if absolutely necessary. Please fill in your preferred phone numbers in the place provided at the bottom of this form to ensure that we have the most convenient number on hand when needed.

Class environment: It is our priority to ensure that all students at Mt. Sentinel feel safe and supported. It is everyone's responsibility to create and maintain these spaces! We have zero tolerance for bullying (physical, verbal, digital and/or emotional). Students are expected to arrive to class on time and ready to learn. We believe that we learn best when we work together. For this to be possible, class participation is required. We strive to cultivate warm and supportive classroom spaces, but this takes a special commitment from all class members to maintain it. The room is an environment to learn from others, therefore students are encouraged to contribute when they can and listen to their classmates respectfully; they are all experts in different things!

Absences: Because we are engaging in project-based learning, attendance is very important! If your child is absent due to illness or other reasons please contact the school in advance (they can report an absence on the school website). Students are encouraged to reach out to friends and check Google Classroom to see what they missed. Upon returning to school, they are required to check in with all of their teachers to gather what they missed. As class time is busy, they are encouraged to do this before school and during breaks. Because our learning takes place inside the classroom, students may have some take home work if they miss class.

Unexcused absences and tardiness: We have busy days planned in MYP! If your child has unexcused absences or are arriving to class late, they will be expected to make up this class time during their breaks. Please reiterate to your child that punctuality is important and it is to be practiced within the school daily.



Our General Daily Schedule

A copy of your child's specific daily schedule will be glued to the interior of their agenda. We understand the importance of consistent routines and structures and the vital role you play in preparing your child for school each day by sending them to school with the necessary materials, supplies and mindset for learning. Everyday starts with "HUB Time" for 15 minutes to help ground your child for the day and to ensure they know the schedule for the day and where they need to go. The daily schedule is reviewed and accessible to our learners throughout the day in their HUB classroom. Please coach your child to go to their HUB classroom when they are unsure about their day. Our Middle Years Program follows the same daily schedule for the school including school start and end times, recess breaks and lunch time.

HUB teachers facilitate learning by integrating English Language Arts, Social Studies, Science, Mathematics, Art, Health and Career Education, and French Language curriculum. This appears as **HUB Time - Theme Based Curricular Content** on the daily schedule. HUB teachers also work with our elective teachers to extend learning themes in the Fine Arts and ADST curriculums - this appears as **ADST Electives or Fine Arts Electives** on the daily schedule. Finally, our learners have an opportunity to also work with curriculum specialists in **Physical Education**. HUB teachers are also mindful of the importance of movement and physical activity, they have the flexibility to incorporate this time into their HUB teaching when it is important to support self-regulation and executive functioning skills into their daily practice. This may include local class outings along the Rails-to-Trails or to Crescent Valley beach.

The schedule is likely not like one you have seen before. Please be patient. Your child will settle into the routines and you too will soon find a regular rhythm and routine that you will know, understand and appreciate because it supports learning in the middle years.

Parents and Caregivers,

We look forward to working with your child and are excited to be on this new learning journey in partnership with you. This is our time to make a difference for your child not only now, but to also cultivate a curiosity and excitement for future learning as students prepare for the Grad Program starting in grade 10.

Do not hesitate to contact any of the HUB teachers throughout the year if you have any concerns. We can be reached at the emails provided on page 1 of this document.

In learning,

Ms. Christy, Ms. Comrie, Ms. Lacroix
Ms. Maloff, Ms. Adams



Mount Sentinel
Secondary School

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This page is to be returned to the students' HUB teacher, signed by both the student and their parent/guardian by FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER, 9th

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent / Guardian name: _____

Parent / Guardian signature: _____

Email: _____

Phone Number: _____



School District 8
Kootenay Lake