



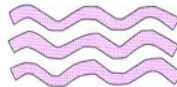
MINITONAS MIDDLE YEARS SCHOOL

www.svsd.ca/minmid/

Student Handbook

Now it's time for you to ...

**Catch the Energy.
&
Release the Potential.**



PLAY

BE THERE

**MAKE THEIR
DAY**

**CHOOSE YOUR
ATTITUDE**

SCHOOL YEAR 2011-2012

FALL TERM:

The official opening of schools is Tuesday, September 7th, 2010.
Students begin on Wednesday, September 8th, 2010.

The number of school days for the Fall Term is as follows:

September	19 days
October	20 days
November	21 days
December	<u>16 days</u>
TOTAL	76 days

The following are holidays and vacations during the Fall Term:

Thanksgiving Day	Mon., October 10, 2011
Special Area Groups (SAG) Conference	Fri., October 21, 2011
Remembrance Day	Fri., November 11, 2011
The last school day before Christmas Vacation is:	Thurs., Dec. 22, 2011

SPRING TERM:

The official opening day of school is Mon., January 9, 2012

The number of school days for the Spring Term is as follows:

January	17 days
February	20 days
March	17 days
April	20 days
May	22 days
June	<u>21 days</u>
TOTAL	117 days

The following are holidays and vacations during the Spring Term:

Louis Riel Day	Mon., February 20, 2012
Spring Vacation	Mon., Mar 26 to Fri., Mar. 20, 2012 inclusive
Good Friday	Fri., Apr 6, 2012
Victoria Day	Mon., May 21, 2012

Total Number of School Days = 193 days

Education Week	April 16-20, 2012
Last day of classes for students	June 27, 2012
Official closing date of schools	Fri., June 29, 2012

Administration Days

Sept. 6, 2011 (no school)
June 28, 2012 (no school)
June 29, 2012 (no school)

P.D. Days

Oct. 21, 2011 (no school)
Jan. 30, 2012 (no school)
Jan. 31, 2012 (no school)
Mar. 2, 2012 (no school)

Parent/Teacher Days

Dec. 2, 2011 (K-9 only)
Mar. 16, 2012 (K-9 only)

Three Early Dismissals: Students will be dismissed one hour and forty minutes before normal dismissal times: Sept. 21, 2011, Nov. 2, 2011, and Apr. 18, 2012

Core Values & Structure

We believe in:

- A supportive environment;
- Fairness for all;
- Dignity and respect;
- Being principle centered.

We believe that schools that are effective have strong character combined with high levels of competence. We are a school with both character and competence. The character correlates focus on the relationships, values and ideals that ultimately shape a schools character. Competence correlates focus on high expectations for teachers to develop strategies that ensure that the high expectations for students are met.

The size of our school presents opportunities and challenges. We have a population of one hundred and ten students with a half time principal and teaching staff equivalency of 6.6. As well we have a half time resource teacher, and librarian along with eight educational assistants, a secretary and a custodian. Students also benefit from the availability of a speech/language clinician, a divisional social worker, and a school psychologist.

Our belief is simple. When resolve, planning, and action become a part of a school's culture, a foundation is provided for the development of practices that will nurture and encourage all members of our school family to learn and grow.

Mission:

- To educate;
- Inspire; and
- Respect each other.

Vision:

A school community that has a caring, respectful atmosphere, motivating and inspiring each student to achieve and exceed their goals.

HIGHLIGHTS: Various special events: Terry Fox Walk/Picnic, Thanksgiving Lunch, Festival du Voyageur, School Skunk Spiel, Gr. 9 Trip to Regina and Moose Jaw, Gr. 7 Outdoor Education trip to Wellman Lake, Tabloid Day, Athletic Tournaments, Winter and Spring performances by our choir, concert and jazz bands

Our Priorities

Create a School Climate where there are high expectations for students and staff – improving outcomes for all learners.

ACTIONS:

- Rethink Classroom Assessment with Purpose in Mind – working towards a more consistent approach school wide. Incorporate Middle Years Assessment in key competencies in Mathematics, Reading, Writing and Student engagement
- The reorganization of the ELA and Math Curriculum along with Student Writing Skill acquisition by grade level.
- To continue to improve reading comprehension skills at all grade levels.

Continue to create a safe space, a space where staff and students alike come to be inspired, create friendships, to learn and to have fun. Continue to strengthen community relations.

ACTIONS:

- Incorporate FISH! For School (staff and students). School improvement is as much an act of the heart as it is an act of the head.
- FISH! For Schools is a powerful new curriculum with the tools and inspiration to create richer, more effective learning environments! FISH! Is a way of life that will help us create a harbor of hope. It is a set of simple, interconnected principles that everyone can tailor to their own life and work; Play; Make their day; Be there; Choose your attitude.

Promote physical activity and good nutrition practices, wellness and healthy school environments

ACTIONS:

- Quality daily physical education/health program
- The implementation of a school cardio room for students and staff
- Adherence to the new divisional nutrition policy

Schools that make a difference for all children are wonderful places where hope fuels all activity and futures are created.

Rachel's Challenge

OUR GOAL:

Don't let your character change color with your environment. Find out who you are and let it stay its true color.

A proactive approach to stop bullying. Teachers and students working together as a TEAM to make our school a safe space where everyone can come to be inspired, create friendships, to learn and to have fun. Wherever there are children, there are bullies. **'Rachel's Challenge'** is a school initiative that not only educates students about bullying, but also allows students the opportunity to become a part of the solution. ASK YOUR KIDS ABOUT IT !

WHAT IS BULLYING:

Bullying is a conscious, willful, deliberate, hostile and repeated behavior by one or more people, which is intended to harm others. Bullying takes many forms and can include many different behaviors, such as:

- ✚ Physical violence and attacks;
- ✚ Verbal taunts, name-calling and put-downs;
- ✚ Threats and intimidation;
- ✚ Extortion or stealing of money and possessions; and
- ✚ Exclusion from the peer group.

"Bullying is not about anger. It is not a conflict to be resolved, it's about contempt – a powerful feeling of dislike toward someone considered to be worthless, inferior or undeserving of respect."

THE BYSTANDER:

Bullies use fear to get away with unacceptable behavior. Their victims (the "bullied") fear continued abuse if they tell. Bystanders fear becoming the next victim. The "bullied" suffer in silence while repeatedly getting harassed. Bystanders stay silent to avoid the unwanted attention. It's a vicious, unending cycle.

RACHEL'S CHALLENGE is about no longer being the bystander. It is about Random Acts of Kindness. It is about students helping students – friends helping friends – knowing the facts and taking action. Together we will make a difference.

STEPS WE ARE TAKING TO PREVENT BULLYING:

- ✚ Presentations on bullying
- ✚ Incident tracking form
- ✚ Clear and consistent consequences for bullies that educate
- ✚ Withdraw privileges
- ✚ Replace activity
- ✚ Letter of Apology
- ✚ Educate the child about bullying and why it is not acceptable
- ✚ Teaching intervention strategies to students so they are not bystanders
- ✚ Weekly Reflection
- ✚ FISH! For Schools

Self-Control

If someone were to pay you 5 cents for every kind word you spoke and collect 5 cents for every unkind word, would you be rich or poor?

Staff

Principal ...

Mr. Miles Jones

Secretary ...

Mrs. Lois Sevchenko

Teachers ...

Mr. Max Hart

Mrs. Charlene Rooks

Mr. Mark Matejka

Mr. Mark Simpson

Mrs. Teresa Kujanpaa

Mr. Mel Lausman (.5)

Miss Tera Swan (.25)

Resource ...

Mrs. Lois Delaurier (.5 - p.m.)

Educational Assistants ...

Mrs. Kim Clarkson

Mrs. Cathy Dormer

Mrs. Kathy Dvorak (librarian)

Mrs. Cathy Haggerty

Miss Kim Leslie

Mrs. Laura Muir

Ms. Sheri Nichiporuk

Mrs. Sheila Sikora

Custodian ...

Mr. Darrin Byblow

Speech Pathologist ...

Ms. Louise Oberton

Divisional Social Worker ...

Mrs. Julie Baskier

Divisional School Psychologist ...

Ms Sheena Blanchard

Evaluation

We utilize a computer generated report card. The software programs we will be utilizing will be: MEDIA X, GRADE QUICK, and EDLINE. These are extremely powerful and versatile programs. It allows us to design our own detailed individual or group reports, enter individual customized assignments, calculate marks quickly and print unlimited reports. With this software, we will be sending a complete report card home during the three reporting periods, along with interim individualized reports from each subject area throughout the year. Progress conferences where students, parents and teachers discuss the students' development will continue.

School Hours

8:50-9:00 am	Homeroom with Teacher
9:00-9:50 am	Period 1
9:50-10:05 am	Wellness Break #1
10:05-10:55 am	Period 2
10:55-11:45 am	Period 3
11:45-12:50 pm	Wellness Break #2
12:50-1:40 pm	Period 4
1:40-2:00 pm	PASS Time
2:00-2:15 pm	Wellness Break #3
2:15-3:05 pm	Period 5
3:05-3:55 pm	Period 6

Bus Regulations

- Misbehavior while riding or loading may result in suspension of bus privileges.
- Any student wishing to ride on a bus other than the one assigned must have a note from home.

School Cancellations

During inclement weather, closure announcements will be made over radio stations:

- CKDM (Dauphin 730);
- CJGX (Yorkton 940);
- CJGX (Yorkton FM 95.3);
- CJSB (Fox 104.5 FM)

***WE WILL, ONE STEP, ONE PROCEDURE AT A TIME ...
BUILD SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL.***

Rights & Responsibilities

Everyone at Minitonas Middle School has the right to a safe learning environment. Each person has the responsibility to act in a way that helps to make this school a safe and positive place to work and learn. The following procedures have been developed to make sure that this happens.

1. Everyone will be at school and in class on time and prepared to work.
2. Everyone will treat each other with respect and show appropriate conduct towards each other at all times.
3. Everyone will take pride in their school and not damage it in any way.
4. Everyone is expected to use acceptable language.
5. Students must not possess any weapon which may be used to intimidate or injure other individuals.
6. Everyone will avoid the use of tobacco, alcohol or other dangerous substances.
7. Everyone will solve their problems or differences in a peaceful manner

Attendance

- ✚ A phone call to the school by a parent is expected if a student is absent.
- ✚ If the school is not notified, the school will phone home.
- ✚ Truancy is not acceptable.

Award Guidelines

- ✚ Honor Roll – 80% and above in all subjects.
- ✚ Grade 9 Awards for Academic Excellence – plaques will be awarded in various subject areas.

Permission to Leave

If a student must be taken from school, parent should inform the homeroom teacher and the school office.

Student Possessions

- ✚ We encourage students to lock their lockers.
- ✚ We discourage students from bringing valuables to school
- ✚ Lost items should be reported to the office immediately.

When problems occur or mistakes are made, there will be consequences.

Remember ... each person has the responsibility to do things
that will make the situation better.

If a student cannot solve the issue by themselves, their job is to ask for help
from a responsible adult.

Caution Fees >>

- ✚ A fee of \$25.00 will be assessed each year.
- ✚ \$13.00 of this fee will go towards the purchase of a Student Agenda. We hope this will be helpful in organizing various activities at home, school and in the community.
- ✚ A refund of \$12.00 will be made at the completion of the school year, if there is no damage or loss of school property.

Dress Code >>

- ❖ Students are expected to dress in a manner that reflects pride and respect for themselves and the school. While at school, it is expected that students will dress neatly and modestly.
- ❖ Students considered to be dressed in an unacceptable manner will be asked to correct the problem.

Fire Drills >>

- ✚ Are held throughout the school year
- ✚ Specific details will be provided to students
- ✚ Students should become acquainted with exits in each area of the building

Medications >>

- ❖ Prescription Drugs – School staff will not be dispensers unless parents have proper forms completed and it is necessary for the safety of the child.
- ❖ Non-Prescription Drugs – will be provided under the following guidelines:
 - a) Parental authorization either in writing or by telephone
 - b) Dispensing will be done through authorized office personnel

Noon Hour >>

- ✚ Students who bring lunch must eat in their classrooms.
- ✚ Students must have a note from home in order to leave the school grounds.
- ✚ An Intramural program is.
- ✚ Our library is available for use from 8:30 – 9:00 a.m. and 12:30 – 1:10 p.m.

Computers >>

- ❖ The computer lab is available on a regular scheduled basis or for occasional use as needed.
- ❖ There is also a computer in each classroom.
- ❖ Responsible use of the computer is expected at all times

PASStime >>

Preparing All Students for Success. A 20 minute study time/opportunity for students to receive one-on-one or small group teacher support in various subject areas.

FISH!

[Catch the Energy & Release the Potential]



FISH! is a way of life. It's a set of simple, interconnected principles that everyone can tailor to their own life and work. No one else can live these principles for you.

- Play
- Make Their Day
- Be There
- Choose Your Attitude.

When you choose to make these principles a part of your life, you will notice a positive difference in your relationships and within yourself.

One of the most profound statements in FISH! comes when one of the fishmongers, says, "It's about who you're being while you're doing what you're doing."

"Doing" is necessary, but it's the mechanical side of our lives. It's easy to get wrapped up in our doings, especially all the tasks we have to complete. When that happens, we get stuck on autopilot and react without thinking. We feel rushed, impatient. Sometimes it feels like we are human doings rather than human beings.

When we say "being", we mean making a *conscious* choice to take a stand for something. It requires thinking about and taking responsibility for how you react, how you treat others, how you treat yourself. "Being" is the most important commitment there is.

When we focus on being who we want to be, it influences everything we are doing. We are free to deal with difficult people and situations more calmly. We are able to notice when we are not being who we want to be.

The principles of FISH! may seem like actions you do but they're really ways of being. When we are being lighthearted, no one has to tell us how to PLAY. Ways to PLAY just show up. When we are in a MAKE THEIR DAY state of being, we find opportunities everywhere to create special moments and perhaps make people smile.