

What does God have planned for this year?

It's been an interesting summer for my family.

It was the Friday after the long weekend in July when my wife received a text from a friend. She was hoping her kids could come to stay at our house for the night as they weren't able to drive home to Williams Lake due to a couple of wildfires near their city and Ashcroft that had closed the highways through the Interior in a few different spots.

We were happy to help out and said yes quickly, but then we quickly went to our phones to find out more about what was happening in our old hometown of Williams Lake. It is now seven weeks later, and everyone is well aware of the kind of summer it has been for people who have lost homes, businesses, ranches and properties and many thousands more who have been displaced for weeks all over our province.



The summer wildfires around our province were a reminder to me that our best laid plans are not always what God has planned for us. That doesn't mean we stop planning and dreaming of what our futures can be. That doesn't mean we stop working hard to achieve our goals. Instead, what it means is that we do our best to align what we are doing with the direction God wants us to go.

Ultimately MEI is not my school. It is not the teachers' school. It is not even the students' school. While we all share this space from September



to June each year, it is God's school first!

I am excited to find out what God has planned for His

school this year, and I hope you are too. As you prepare to return to school over the next couple of weeks, make sure you are as prepared as you can be. After all the different types of learning you've probably done this summer, be ready to learn again in the school environment. Get lots of sleep too. The adjustment from summer to September school days is not always an easy one, so start getting enough rest now.

Most of all, be ready for God to surprise you. What does He have planned for you for this year? Pray that He will bless you in ways you could not even imagine right now, listen carefully to how He might be pushing you in new and exciting directions, and be ready to be stretched and grown, even when it might be a little uncomfortable at first.

We can't wait to welcome you back to school on September 5th. See you soon!



Tuesday, September 5

Homeroom will start at 9:00

Homeroom lists will be posted on the front doors of the school to enable students to proceed to their classrooms for confirmation of their attendance, general orientation, timetable distribution, and locker assignment. After the morning assembly a pizza lunch will be provided at 11:30. Once you have reconnected with friends you will be free to head home.

Back to School



Timetables & Changes

Your tentative 2017-2018 timetable is enclosed. Please check to make sure it is complete and that the courses listed on your timetable meet course/grade/graduation requirements and pre-requisites. The MEI Course Calendar is available at http://www.meischools.com/secondary/documents/student_services/course-calendar.pdf Unfortunately, not all students were able to get their chosen courses. Class size, number of sections, prerequisites, course conflicts, MEI graduation requirements and other factors determined whether students were able to be scheduled into courses of their choice.

TIMETABLE CHANGES

Students who have an incomplete timetable or wish to make course changes can do so by scheduling an appointment through the office at 604-859-3700. Priority for timetable changes will be given to those students who have an incomplete timetable. Appointments will be available August 28, 29 and September 5. Students are reminded that in order to request a course change, they **must have a note signed by a parent.**

Keep in Touch

As our primary method of communication with parents is via email, please let us know if your email address changes. This will ensure that you are kept up to date with school events.

Student Handbook

A copy of the Student/Parent Handbook is available online. Check out the link under Student Services.

Lost & Found

If you lose books or clothing items, please check in the cupboard specifically for Lost and Found items. It is your responsibility to have the appropriate books and texts for your classes.



Photo Day

Every student must be photographed for the school directory on Friday September 8.

Please find your order forms included with your package.



Parking

In order to park at MEI, students must register their vehicle and purchase a parking pass for \$20 at the office.

There will be NO assigned parking spots this year as parking will be on a first come, first served basis.

So get to school early to get your best spot.

MEI Bus Service

MEI Schools has four user-pay school bus routes: Arnold/Whatcom, Mission, Chilliwack, and East Abbotsford. Bus stop locations are determined based on the addresses of registered riders, but do not provide door-to-door pick up and drop off.

Bus registration forms can be found on the MEI website under "Bus Routes". For details and availability, email busroutes@meischools.com.



Driving Guidelines

Please obey the traffic directives (arrows and signs). Parents are encouraged to drive through the parking lot and exit through the west entrance by the Elementary School, instead of trying to turn around in congested areas.

Please do not stop and drop off your student in the middle of the high school driveway. The result is congestion and frustration behind you!

If possible, pick your student up from a pre-arranged area.

School Supplies

Students generally develop their own preferences for keeping notes and subject information. Some specifics you may need include the following:

- Music/drama students need black dress pants and black shoes for music performances. (See more information in the Course Calendar online.)
- Language supplies should include a binder to be used only for language, and a French/English or a German/English dictionary.
- A Bible, preferably "Teen Life Application Bible", New Living Translation, hard cover. A limited supply of Bibles are available in the office for \$30.
- Three ring binders, paper, pens, pencils, eraser, calculator, etc.

P.E. Supplies

Students are expected to wear MEI gym strip for all their physical education classes. Students who already have an MEI gym strip that is in acceptable condition are permitted to use it and do not have to purchase a new set. Those who do not will be required to purchase their gym strip from their PE teacher on the first day of classes. Payment should accompany the purchase. T-shirts and shorts are \$15 each.

Students are required to have a good pair of non-marking running shoes for use on the gym floor in order to avoid causing damage to the floor's surface.

Get Involved!

