



A.R. MacNeill Secondary School

Website:

<http://macneill.sd38.bc.ca> Email:

macneill@sd38.bc.ca

Phone: 604-668-6212

Philosophy: MacNeill was founded on the guiding principles of effective practice, flexibility, and choice. We believe that positive relationships among students, teachers and family coupled with a challenging academic core are fundamental to student success. As part of a community of learners, we believe in extending learning beyond the walls of the school building. Students learn to set goals and formulate plans for healthy intellectual, physical, emotional and social development.

POWER - MacNeill's Code of Conduct

- P = Positive Attitude (We participate enthusiastically)
- O = Ownership (We are accountable for our action)
- W = We not Me (We are safe, empathetic, and welcoming)
- E = Excellence (We strive to do our best)
- R = Respect (We care of ourselves, each other, and our environment)

Typical Grade 8 Timetable (8 courses):

Our goal is to facilitate a smooth transition from Elementary School to Secondary School. Our academic and elective classes are organized to allow a core group of teachers to support the students.

- Humanities (2 blocks) – English & Social Studies
- Mathematics
- Science
- Physical Education
- French
- **Elective Wheel #1** – Art, Home Economics (Foods), Technology Education, Digital Literacy A.
- **Elective Wheel #2** – Drama/Dance, Music Introduction, Passion Project, Digital Literacy B.

****Note: Students may sign up to take Band as a 9th course. Band runs all year, every second day at 7:30 am.**

Student Support Services:

- English Language Learning (ELL)
- Learning Center
- Life Skills
- Counselling
 - Academic Planning (school, post-secondary, career)
 - Personal & Social Counselling
 - Referral to community resource

MacNeill Incentive Outdoor Program:

The Incentive Outdoor Program attracts creative and motivated students with a passion for the outdoors. The fundamental goal of the program is to provide opportunities for students to develop critical thinking skills, creativity, innovative problem-solving and adaptability, both in the classroom and in the larger community. Incentive is an experiential program that develops competent, confident and caring people with strong leadership and outdoor education skills. Applications are required (DUE: February 8, 2023).

Advisory/Connections Class:

Students can develop and sustain meaningful connections with staff and peers through our advisory program. This program allows each student to be part of a group with an ongoing connection to an individual teacher. Each group of students stays together with the same teacher for five years (gr. 8-12).

MacNeill offers a wide array of extracurricular activities:

MacNeill has a wide variety of clubs that students are welcome to participate in. Please see the school website for more information on these

Athletic programs offered at MacNeill:

MacNeill offers a wide variety of athletic programs during each season of the school year. Please see the school website for more information on these

• **Important Dates:**

- | | |
|---|--|
| - MacNeill Open House and Grade 7 Information Night | Jan 26 th |
| - Round 1 Transfer Application Deadline | Feb 6 th |
| - Incentive Outdoor Education Applications Due | Feb 8 th (10 am) (decisions communicated March 7) |
| - Round 2 Late transfer applications | March 1 st – May 12 th (decisions communicated May 26) |
| - | |

More Information...

Visit our website: macneill.sd38.bc.ca

Detailed course descriptions can be found on our website under the students tab in the program planning section.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any questions:
604-668-6212

Course Descriptions ***Grade 8 Program***

Humanities 8A (English) (MEN--08HUA) Humanities 8A **(Social Studies) (MSS--08HUB)**

Students will take two blocks of Humanities 8, an integration of the Language Arts' English and Social Studies curricula. This course builds upon the foundation laid in Grade 7 with a continued focus on the skills of reading comprehension, writing, speaking, listening, viewing, and representing. The course emphasizes the writing process and explores the pleasure and satisfaction that come with the ability to write with confidence. Students will read widely and respond both personally and critically to a variety of literature, including novels, short stories, drama, poetry, and non-fiction.

Students will develop research and inquiry skills to use a range of resources, make effective notes and determine main ideas and supporting details. Humanities 8 examines world history and the factors that contribute to development of civilizations, including indigenous civilizations from the 7th Century to 1750 C.E., the years that saw the formation of the modern western world. Within that historical context, students will learn about change and development in society and culture, politics, law, economy and technology and learn how exploration, contact, conflict, expansion and colonization had varying consequences for different groups.

French 8 (MFR--08)

Workbooks (Approx. \$12) are available to purchase or borrow.

French 8 reviews and deepens the understanding of basic concepts presented in the elementary program. Through listening and viewing, students will develop confidence in French and learn how to express themselves both orally and written. Authentic tasks will help students to not only explore, communicate ideas, acquire new language and language structures, but to also view the world and other cultural communities from a new perspective.

Mathematics 8 (MMA--08)

This course builds on skills developed up to Grade 7 while introducing students to secondary mathematics. Areas covered in this program include Representing Data; Ratios, Rates and Proportional Reasoning; Pythagorean Relationship; Percent; Surface Area; Fraction Operations; Volume; Integers; Linear Relations and Equations; Probability; and Financial Literacy. Problem Solving will be related to real-life experiences to make the application of Math more meaningful, and will be integrated throughout the program. On top of this Content, students will be expected to show learning and growth through the Core Competencies of Communication, Thinking, and Personal and Social Responsibility.

Music 8 (Band 8) (MMU--08)

Continuing to build student skills, knowledge, and performance abilities to make future music courses accessible. Students are able to join this course with any level of experience. Repertoire is chosen based on student skill levels and interests. Band 8 students are expected to take part in performances and trips throughout the year. Many opportunities for community performance experience and stage presence skill building make this course an exciting growth from elementary band. All instruments including strings and piano are welcome, students are also able to change instruments if desired. Band 8 is integral for developing the skills and knowledge needed to succeed in future music courses.

****Please note that this course will be offered every second day BEFORE school at 7:30am on a rotating schedule that lasts all year.**

Science 8 (MSC--08)

The curriculum allows our students to develop their knowledge and learning skills through our science competencies. This course helps develop the positive attitudes, communication and skills that will help our students learn to be successful. The course will equip students with the necessary scientific skills and processes, encouraging critical thinking, and increasing scientific knowledge. Grade 8 units include: Life Science (cells and immune system), Physical Science (atoms, light, and waves), and Earth Science (plate tectonics and geological events).

Physical & Health Education 8 (MPHE-08)

The goal of Physical and Health Education 8 is to provide students with foundational knowledge and skills required to maintain physical health throughout their lives. Our goal is to have students appreciate the importance of physical well-being and its relationship to physical, emotional, and social health. Students will actively participate in a wide variety of recreational physical activities and learn how to monitor their personal fitness level. In addition to active participation, some curricular time will be spent in the classroom developing a holistic understanding of personal health

Fine Arts and Applied Skills Elective Wheels

Grade 8 students at MacNeill have the opportunity to explore elective offerings through our Fine Arts and Applied Skills Elective Wheel. Students will take two courses each term, enabling them to sample a variety of courses in each field. The courses offered as part of the Elective Wheel are:

Visual Arts 8 (MVA--08)

Do you love making art? Or, would love to learn some great new art skills? This course provides a foundation in art media, methods and appreciation. Students will sample both two and three-dimensional art experiences in drawing, painting and ceramics. Emphasis is placed on skill building, development of imagery and exploring new perspectives of expression. This is a one term course as part of the Grade 8-wheel rotation. Come and join the fun!

Drama/Dance 8 (MDR--08)

This is an introduction to dance and drama required by all Grade 8 students as part of their Fine Arts rotation. Skill development in Dance and Drama supports and enhances other academic subjects. This course helps students to interact comfortably and confidently with others in class. Topics include: team building, concentration/focus during performance, proper stretching and warm-up techniques, choreography development, movement, voice, improvisation, and characterization. This is a fun elective. This is a one term course as part of the Grade 8 wheel rotation. Six weeks will be designated to Drama and six weeks to Dance.

Music Introduction 8 (XLCD08)

This is a one term course as part of the Grade 8 wheel rotation. Students will have an opportunity to learn to play the guitar and sing. The course will highlight many popular songs using the guitar so that students gain experience core rhythm and ear training. Modern

music history and knowledge will be a focus alongside guitar learning skills.

**Please note that this course is only a single term and does not coincide with Band 8. Students who wish to participate in concerts and trips with the school band should also take Band 8.

Technology Education 8 (MADGE08)

This class is available to all grade 8 students as part of the Applied Skills rotation. Students will be introduced to the following disciplines:

- i) Technical drawing and design
- ii) Aerodynamics, the properties of basic mechanics and physics
- iii) The designing and building of "Mousetrap" powered cars or CO2 powered dragsters
- iv) Introduction to bike repair. The student will fully dismantle a bike and then re-assemble it for use

In this course, the students will learn to use woodworking tools as well as mechanics tools. This is a one term course as part of the Grade 8 wheel rotation

Foods 8 (MADFS08)

This exploratory course introduces students to foods, and nutrition. Students learn about the basic principles of food preparation, cookery, and the nutritional value of a wide variety of products and simple meals. Recipes will be prepared for breakfast, lunch, snacks, dinner, and dessert. This is a one term course as part of the Grade 8 wheel rotation

Passion Projects 8 (XLDCE08)

"You are a genius and the world needs your contribution!"

In this course students choose a topic of inquiry based on a passion (e.g., something they are good at, excited about, love to do or want to learn more about). They work through the inquiry process of: pitching their idea to refine their project focus, developing an action plan to guide their research, documenting their research and learning, creating or designing a product or solution to share with others, and reflecting on the process. Creativity, inquisitiveness, risk-taking, and persistence are developed through the exploration of their passion. This is a one term course as part of the Grade 8 wheel rotation.

Digital Literacy 8 course description (A and B)

In this course, students will be introduced to a variety of topics ranging from digital citizenship, civic online reasoning, and information technology. Students will be expected to explore what it means to be a responsible digital citizen in this rapidly changing world of social media and immersive technology. There will be a variety of opportunities to work with commonly used forms of technology, applications, and platforms to further their technological awareness and skills. In addition to developing critical thinking skills regarding their online presence, students will also be able to explore creative tools such as coding and 3D printing