



## Assessment Structure – Leading to End of semester

**January 18-January 25<sup>th</sup>** – Final Unit Assessment – One Hour

**January 26<sup>th</sup> – January 29<sup>th</sup>** – Regular Attendance will be taken

Dear students and parents:

As you are aware this year has not been a traditional year of schooling for our staff and students. The online learning has been a big paradigm shift for students and teachers and for our families. A blended learning model has had its challenges, but we are resilient, and we are adapting. We are very proud of our students for their efforts and understanding during these unprecedented times.

Given that it's a unique year and many of our students only received their learning devices well into the start of the year, we feel we need a different final assessment structure for the end of each semester for this school year only. If we go back to a regular classroom environment next year after the vaccines are distributed, we will be going back to our normal structures once again.

As you are aware our school year is divided into two halves. The first semester runs to the end of January and the second semester runs from February to the end of June. The start of semester two will commence on Wednesday February 3<sup>rd</sup>. There is no school on Monday February 1<sup>st</sup> and Tuesday February 2<sup>nd</sup>. These are called our turnaround days in which we process report cards and make changes to schedules based on the performances of the students and the courses they will need to graduate or repeat if they were not successful.

Typically, the very last week prior to the turnaround days and the end of the semester is our exam week which we call our assessment week. Since this year is not a normal year, we have decided to change the structure in order to try and help our students achieve the best possible results. Therefore, instead of an exam the last week we are moving the final assessment week up a week to January 18<sup>th</sup> – January 22<sup>nd</sup>. It will spill into Monday the 25<sup>th</sup> given we have two tracks.

**Instead of an exam the students will have a one-hour test/ assessment of their final unit they are working on at this time.**

On Tuesday January 26<sup>th</sup> up until Friday January 29<sup>th</sup> students are still expected to come to school and attendance will be taken. During this week many of our teachers are planning on continuing teaching to help prepare the students for their next courses. Educationally our teachers have delivered the essential curriculums that provide the scaffolding for success for the students next courses. With our students only attending every other day we have not been able to do as much stretch learning as we would like to have, so this week will help us do that. In education we call these the 'Need to Knows', or essential outcomes, and the 'Nice to Knows', which are our non-essential outcomes.

In addition, to help support our students it will be during this week (January 26-29<sup>th</sup>) that students can choose to rewrite one of their first semester assessments that they may not have done as well on as they had hoped. This will be up to the discretion of the teacher as to whether they will afford the student this opportunity. This means that if you attended regularly, passed things in on time, behaved

appropriately, and essentially was a responsible MHS citizen, then that teacher will determine if the student is deserving of this opportunity. We are hopeful this will help our students obtain extra marks.

In addition, we have many students that are on the cusp of not passing a course because of outstanding assignments. It will be during these four days (two days per track) that students can still pass things in to help them pass. Unlike the test they will rewrite, the most a student can obtain for the long overdue assignment will be a passing grade of 60%. This mark may be crucial in determining if a student passes the course or gets the credit.

**Please note that should we have a snow day during the assessment week that it will probably mean it gets pushed into these four days. Therefore, if these four days don't happen for whatever reason it will simply be unfortunate as we will not be making these days up.**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
<b>Christmas Break</b>						
3	4 A	5 B	6 A	7 B	8 A	9
10	11 B	12 A	13 B	14 A	15 B	16
17	18 Track A - Unit Assessments Period 2	19 Track B - Unit Assessments Period 2	20 Track A - Unit Assessments Period 1 & 4	21 Track B - Unit Assessments Period 1 & 4	22 Track A - Unit Assessments Period 3 & 5	23
24	25 Track B - Unit Assessments Period 3 & 5	26 Track A - Upgrading Days	27 Track B - Upgrading Days	28 Track A - Upgrading Days	29 Track B - Upgrading Days	30
31	1 Turnaround Day No School	2 Turnaround Day No School	3 Track A Semester 2	4 Track B Semester 2	5 Track A Semester 2	6

We thank the students and parents for their support over this past year and we are hopeful that this upcoming year we start to get back to some normalcy in our lives.

Its important to note that should we end up going to a 'Red Phase', which is set by the provincial government, this structure might have to change. Should that happen please understand that we will do everything we can to help support our students.

Yours In education

Mike BeLong

Principal