



Northeast Kings Education Centre

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<http://www.nkec.ednet.ns.ca>

Principal- Kevin Veinot

May 2016

MISSION STATEMENT

Northeast Kings Education Centre believes in developing a learning environment that nurtures academic, physical, social and emotional growth.

SCHOOL NEWS

Dear Parent(s) / Guardian(s),

May already! Planning for year-end closing activities and the 2016-2017 school year are well under way! Staff and students are preparing for year-end final assessments or exams and completing assignments to ensure course credits or grade level outcomes. This is a very busy time of the year. Please take the time to check in with your child in order to ensure that she/he is being supported and that everything is getting done. Our Parent Portal is a great communication tool to keep all families informed of how your child is doing at school. Being organized and making sure that nothing is forgotten can make year-end at school less stressful and more enjoyable, as it should be. Our students are doing well here at school and we want every one of them to continue this until the final day of June. Here are a few things that we have been focusing on over the past month.

Student Driving

We have been speaking to our students who drive to and from school about being respectful and safe drivers over the past month. Please continue to reinforce safe driving practices with your child at home. We have great students at our school and we do not want them to make a poor decision that could impact them for the short or long term. Texting while driving is becoming a major concern so please let your child know that this practice is extremely unsafe.



Lieutenant Governor Medal Recipients

The most outstanding male and female grade 11 students from each of our Board's high schools will be invited to attend the ceremony at the Annapolis Valley Regional School Board to receive their medal from the Honourable, Brig.-Gen. John James Grant, Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia. Congratulations to this year's recipients from our school. They are Madeline Laurence and Nathan McNally!



Dress Appropriately

With the warm weather coming we are re-visiting appropriate attire for a public setting. It is important that all of our students wear appropriate clothing that represents their selves in a manner of dress suited for a school and public environment. We also want to see only positive comments and/or graphics that would be appropriate in a school setting. Please help us educate our students as they make fashion choices that represent them in a positive light.



Ambassadors for our School and Community:

We really have a great school here at Northeast Kings Education Centre. The reason for this is that we have great students who are handling all the many choices they are presented with daily in a responsible fashion. They occasionally do not make the best decisions sometimes, but we hope that they learn from their experiences so that they can be a great citizen when they finally leave our school community. Another reason that we have such a wonderful school is the fact that we have fantastic staff that genuinely cares about our students. They do not just focus on the academics but they also support all of our students' social and emotional growth as they mature into young adult citizens.

Retiring Staff

We want to wish our retiring staff of Jane Harris and Betty Hughes, a very happy retirement. They have had wonderful teaching careers and we will certainly miss them but want them to have nothing but success and enjoyment in the next phase of their lives.

Enjoy the spring weather and continue to be involved with your child's education.

Sincerely,
Kevin Veinot, Principal

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

The days are getting longer and the weather is warmer – May has officially arrived! It is my experience that the next two months will go very quickly. Between now and the end of June, there are a considerable amount of learning goals remaining. Teachers continue to focus on the delivery of curriculum outcomes in all subject areas. I have been in classes daily and continue to be impressed by the level of student focus and work ethic that is demonstrated by the majority of students. Teachers are encouraging students to put forth their best effort daily and remain mindful of Northeast Kings Education Centre Expectations for Success. These expectations serve as the focus of daily proactive reminders. Please review the list below together with your child at home. Northeast Kings Education Centre Expectations for Success:

- To be respectful of others
- To use appropriate language
- To dress appropriately
- To attend classes and be on time
- To have a positive attitude

Spring Exploratory activities have already begun. Exploratory activities range from golf to survival training and everything in between. Exploratories are an integral component of middle school programming and an opportunity for students to “explore” an activity for the first time. I would like to thank teachers, educational assistants and community volunteers for their creative efforts and commitment to this important student activity.

In addition to teaching curriculum, teachers, educational assistants and administration spend considerable time reinforcing the importance of task completion and student accountability. “Just Do It”, a noon hour session designed to provide students with an opportunity to complete missing, or overdue school work occurs four days per week. If a student neglects to hand in a specific assignment, they are required to spend a portion of their noon hour completing overdue or missing assignments. The ongoing intent of this program is for students to complete assignments and demonstrate an understanding of curriculum outcomes.

During our April Positive Participation Presentation (PPP), Ms. Mahar recognized the academic efforts of middle school students who participated in the Annapolis Valley Regional School Board Science Fair. The science fair is a fantastic opportunity for students to demonstrate an understanding of a variety of science related topics. Congratulations to all NKEC students.

School sports are in full swing at Northeast Kings Education Centre. Track & Field, Table Tennis, Rock Climbing, Softball, Rugby, Archery, and Robotics are just a few extracurricular activities occurring at this time. As always, please encourage your child to get involved in a school activity; many sports and clubs are always accepting new members. Participation in school sport and extracurricular activity is a great way for students to get involved in their school community and meet new people.

As the weather improves, we ask all students to remain mindful of dress code expectations. It is important that student clothing is appropriate and all parts of the body remain covered. For several of our students, physical education time and free time is an opportunity to increase the heart rate and generate a sweat. We encourage all students to keep additional clothes in their locker and to change their clothes following intense physical activity.

Grade eight students will complete the provincial math and literacy assessment during the last week of May and the first week of June. This assessment is intended to gather information regarding the literacy and math skills of grade eight students from across the province. These assessment results will help grade nine staff determine the direction of instruction and allow students and parents to identify specific areas where additional time, effort and focus is necessary.

As always, please encourage your child to complete homework when assigned, review concepts taught, read each night and organize learning materials daily. If you have questions regarding your child's progress, please contact their teacher or administration at any time. Please keep in touch, Mr. Fox will be back in the office starting May 9th.

Pete Gebhardt, Vice Principal

NEWS FROM STUDENT SERVICES

NKEC's 4th Annual VOLUNTEER FAIR!

The high school student ambassadors would like to extend a huge thank you to the community organizations that attended our Volunteer Fair on Thursday April 28th, 2016.

It was a very informative day and a great deal of awareness was brought to our school about all of the hard work that volunteers do in our communities. Thank-you!

Scholarships/Bursaries

New scholarship & bursary applications are arriving daily. Please be sure to stop in to Student Services to see which applications you are eligible to apply for. The deadline for the staff selected bursary is May 27th. Please bring this to Ms. Pineo ASAP!

Scholarship Announcement

Just a reminder, if you are receiving a scholarship or bursary and **would like it announced at the graduation ceremony** you **MUST** submit a copy of the award notification to Student Services as soon as possible.

NKEC Lieutenant Governor Medal Recipients

Congratulations to **Madeline Laurence** and **Nathan McNally** for receiving the **2016 Lieutenant Governor** medals. The Lieutenant Governor medals are awarded to one female and one male student in grade 11 who have demonstrated qualities of leadership and service in the school and community and commendable performance in the courses in which they are enrolled. Maddie and Nathan will be presented their medals at a ceremony at the Annapolis Valley Regional School Board on June 9th along with other AVRSB recipients. Well done!

GRADS

At the end of April we sent out our first grad newsletter (it is also on our website) which has lots of information about all grad events. Please ensure that you have looked at this so you don't miss out on any of the upcoming events. If you want to receive emails about upcoming grad events, email Jacqueline Faber at jfaber@gnspecs.ca.

Grad Yard Sale

The Grad Yard Sale, Bake Sale, BBQ, & Silent Auction takes place tomorrow (**Saturday, May 7th**) here at NKEC. We'd love to see you all come out and support this fundraiser for Safe Grad.

Grad Parent Meeting

Our next Grad Parent Meeting that will focus on planning for Safe Grad takes place on **Wed. May 18th at 7:00 pm** in room 104.

Grad Reception

It is a Northeast Kings Education Centre tradition that the Grade 11 parents host a reception for the graduates and their families after the graduation ceremony. This year the graduation is being held on **Monday, June 27th**. Later in May we will be contacting grade 11 parents with a request for sandwiches, sweets, fruit and vegetable trays, cheese plates or a monetary donation. We will also need Grade 11 parents to come in to help set up the reception area, and do any necessary food preparation in the kitchen on June 27th. As well, on the night of graduation, we will need parents to set up and host the reception and do any necessary clean-up. Feel free to bring your grade 11 child to help with this event. It is a great way to help out and get a glimpse of what you will be enjoying next year.

YEARBOOK

The yearbook has gone to print! It will arrive in early June. Some students still owe a balance on their pre-ordered book - the remaining balance is due on arrival. Payments have to be handed in to Mr. Priddle. We are excited to see the yearbooks.

Why Not You! Web series is a Department of Education website which helps parents/students navigate through the process of accessing Post-Secondary institutions and how Student Assistance works today. <http://www.novascotia.ca/whynotyout/>

News from the Music Department

We're heading into the home stretch for the Music Department for the school year 2015-16. Our ensembles played extremely well at the recent Annapolis Valley Music Festival with the Sr. Concert Band earning a Silver Rating; the Jr. Concert Band earning a Bronze Rating; the Sr. Jazz Band earning a Gold Rating! In addition, the Sr. Jazz Band performed at the Atlantic Band Festival – earning a Silver Rating. The Sr. Jazz Band also represented NKEC at the Annapolis Valley's Stars of the Festival concert last Sunday. Well done to all the ensembles!!

Thirty two students are preparing to leave on May 21st for a five day music trip to Montreal and Quebec City. While visiting the two cities and taking in the historical and culture atmosphere, we will have a couple of musical workshops, play a joint concert with an area high school music department, and enjoy Cirque du Soleil. Thank you for supporting these students as they have been fundraising throughout the year for this special trip!

We're in the process of planning our last concert of the school year, to be held on June 13th at 7:00 pm in the gymnasium. Admission is a free will offering. This concert is a chance to honor our Grade 8 students and our graduating Grade 12 students.

NKEC ATHLETICS REPORT

Athletics,

We are in the final stretch of the year and our spring sports are all in full gear. Our table tennis team coached by Mr. Craan hosted regionals this past weekend, with one of the largest enrollments in recent memory. As is usually the case, Mr. Craan put on a great tournament with the help of

his players. Congratulations to the team for a successful season. We have junior girls' softball coached by Mr. Bunin and junior boys' softball coached by Mrs. Mahar and Mrs. Rogers in the tryout stage of the season. Thank you to those teachers for their time and commitment to NKEC sports. Our senior girls' softball team coached by Leo and Emily Stacey has played three games already and look to be competitive again this year. Good luck to the girls in their quest to make provincials at South Colchester this year.

Our girls' rugby team coached by Mr. Barton and Mrs. Alguire has had three matches to date. Despite being defeated in all three games, the coaches are seeing real growth. The team is fundraising for their trip to PEI this month, which is a very big deal to the coaches and players. The boy's team coached by Michael Davis and Mr. Seymour are working hard in practice, with hopes of registering as a league team for next season. The commitment of the boys will dictate whether or not this does occur. Our track team of 35-40 athletes are preparing daily for districts later this month. The athletes should be aware by now that attendance in practice will be the only way that the school will register them at the District meet. Putting the tough practice time in makes for better results and also gives you the athlete that extra sense of satisfaction and pride.

Athletic banquet news! The banquet is set for Monday, June 6th, with a 6:00 social followed by the event starting at 6:30. There are seven staff members who are working hard to put on a wonderful evening. Our hosts of Mr. Batstone and Mr. Duncan are working diligently to put on a classy social for student/athletes, coaches, parents and special guests. We will also be selling NKEC sport's calendars that evening, with team photos decorating each month of the year. Please mark this date on your calendar and make this semi-formal event something of which we can be very proud.

Dale Sanford

NKEC Athletic Director

Western Region Assistant Regional Director

England Trip

Do you want to tour England for 10 days over the March break in 2017? See eftours.ca and tour number: 1725248RT to register. You must be in Grade 11 or 12 in the school year 2016/17. Contact fpriddle@gnspecs.ca for more information. Sign up ASAP to confirm numbers and to secure your place on the tour.

International student program

Have you ever thought of hosting a student from another country??? We are currently looking for Homestay families for the NKEC area to host students. If this is something that you think you might be interested in please give me a call or send me an e-mail and I can answer any questions you might have!!

Below you will find some general information about the program:

Length of stay- usually 5 months or 10 months

Students- all grades 9-12 and sometimes younger

Family- you don't have to have children in order to be a host family, but if you do that is great!! - you could be retired or even single... (we try to match you with a student who best fits your home situation)

Host Family Pay- you receive \$550 each month to host the student to help with the costs involved. **The Home-** an international student must have their own bedroom in the house. For information please contact.

Ian Campbell,

AVRSB Homestay Coordinator, campbeli@gnspecs.ca, 902-582-2040.

Dates to Remember

Important DATE!

May	
7	Grad Yard Sale 8:30-12 pm
12	Early Dismissal 12:15 pm
18	Safe Grad Parent meeting 7 pm
19	MS Dance 6:30-8:30 pm
20	Early Dismissal 12:15 pm
23	Victoria Day – NO SCHOOL
24	Grade 9 Orientation – NO SCHOOL FOR GRADE 9's
27	In-service – NO SCHOOL
30/31	Grade 8 Assessments
June	
1/2	Grade 8 Assessments
2	Grad March Practice & Grad Photo 12:30 pm
3	In-service – NO SCHOOL
6	Athletic Awards 6:30 pm
8	Graduation Banquet 6:30 pm
11	PROM 6:30 pm
13	School Concert at 7 pm
24	Grad Practice (Mandatory!) 12 pm
26	Free BBQ for Grads and Families 7-8:30 pm
27	Graduation 7 pm
27	Safe Grad immediately following Grad ceremonies