

# Northeast Kings Education Centre

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<http://www.nkec.ednet.ns.ca>  
Principal – Kevin Veinot



September 2016

## MISSION STATEMENT

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



Dear Parent(s) / Guardian(s),

Welcome back for the 2016-2017 school year! We would like to give a very special “Titan” welcome to those students and families who are joining us for the first time. We have a great group of 880 students and 81 wonderful staff. It is so great to have your child at our school! We know your child can have a very rewarding experience here when they embrace all that we have to offer! This is our 16<sup>th</sup> year of existence and we will make every effort so that it will be our best year to date!

We have had a great start to the school year and I want to thank all the staff and students that put forth such a strong effort into their course selections and the scheduling process! We are pleased to welcome several new staff members to our school community. We are excited about the positive energy and commitment to teaching from all of our staff members. We have a great “family” of staff that take their profession seriously and will make the curriculum they teach engaging for your child.

Our entire staff will be working towards school goals of creating a positive and structured school climate and developing strategies to improve student learning. We invite you to remain informed about all initiatives and programs by reading the school newsletter monthly, logging onto our school website at: <http://www.nkec.ca> and attending our Student Led Conferences and Parent/Guardian-Teacher Conferences. Please see the calendar for these and other important dates.

We have sent home a student registration form along with a photo consent form for you to read through and make any changes to the information that we presently have for your child and all contact information. Please complete these forms and sign each document so we can get document changes made and be current with your information.

I encourage you to be supportive of your child’s educational experiences by communicating regularly with your child’s teachers and by supporting activities at Northeast Kings Education Centre. Also, feel free to contact the school at any time with your questions, ideas and concerns. It is through working together that we will provide the most effective school experiences for your child.

Sincerely,  
Kevin Veinot  
Principal

## MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

Welcome students, parents and guardians to the 2016-2017 school year. September is a very exciting time at Northeast Kings Education Centre. I would like to welcome all returning Titans and extend special greetings to our new grade six students and grade seven and eight students new to our building this year. The transition from elementary school to middle school is significant; however I am very pleased to see our new grade six students settling into positive routines and developing important relationships with peers and staff.

In the coming weeks and months, students will be reminded of Northeast Kings Education Centre’s “Expectations for Success”. Please take a moment to review the following with your child. Collectively reinforcing these expectations will ensure students grow as respectful and hardworking Titans.

Northeast Kings Education Centre “Expectations for Success”

- To be respectful of others
- To use appropriate language
- To dress appropriately
- To attend class and be on time
- To put forth your best effort
- To have a positive attitude

During the summer months many staffing changes occurred in the middle school. Ms. Robart transferred to another school. Ms. Alguire returns to grade eight to job share with Ms. Ettinger. Mr. Bunin has moved from grade seven to grade six. We welcome Ms. Salmon who is teaching grade six music. We also welcome Ms. MacLeod who will be teaching technology education seven. In our Student Services office, we welcome administrative assistant Ms. Loane. Ms Stigter has taken on the role of student supervisor. Despite staffing changes, I am very pleased and excited about our middle level staff for the 2016-2017 school year. Collectively, they are a very talented, caring and hardworking group of educators!

Staff have been working very hard to build positive relationships with students while establishing positive routines, promoting strong organizational skills and reinforcing the importance of working hard in class. As teachers and educational assistants, we encourage students to put forth their best effort daily, think independently and seek support whenever necessary. As an organizational tool, every middle school student has received a student agenda. We encourage you to take a few moments with your child to review school expectations and important policies found in the school agenda.

Homework is a regular expectation for students. There is no quantity expectation, but rather an emphasis on ensuring homework is an opportunity to extend student understanding of a concept, reinforce skills, and complete content previously introduced in class. If you have questions regarding the homework policy, please contact the school and speak with your child’s teacher, or administration. Thank you to parents and guardians for providing a space and time for completion of student homework within your home. Homework reinforces curricular concepts and promotes strong student work ethic. In addition, many teachers use Google Classroom. Course work and materials are available digitally, please contact your child’s teacher regarding access info. Finally, the parent portal is a terrific way of monitoring your child’s attendance and academic progress. For sign-up information, please contact the administration office.

Northeast Kings Education Centre believes in developing a learning environment that nurtures academic, physical, social and emotional growth. If you have questions or concerns regarding your child’s development, or wish to provide valued perspective and information that may assist school staff, please contact the school and speak with your child’s homeroom teacher, guidance counselor Mrs. Roy, or Mr. Fox. Proactive communication between home and school is very important.

Northeast Kings Education Centre is a “Nut and Scent Smart” school. There are a growing number of students and staff who experience sensitivities in response to nut products and scented perfumes and colognes. Our cafeteria is nut free and we discourage nut products as part of student lunches and snacks.

In addition to academics, Northeast Kings Education Centre has multiple clubs, committees and sporting teams. We encourage every middle level Titan to get involved and participate in at least one extracurricular activity during the school year. This experience will add to your child’s overall educational experience. Please follow our school announcements online to obtain information regarding extracurricular activities.

It was great to see so many parents and guardians attend our middle level orientation this past Wednesday evening. If you were unable to attend, I encourage you to touch base with your child’s teacher, or school administration.

If there is anything we can do to help your child, please contact the school by email, telephone, or make an appointment. Communicating regularly and working together will provide the most effective educational experience for your child.

Greg Fox  
Vice Principal Middle School

## NEWS FROM STUDENT SERVICES

### *Course Changes*

September is quickly passing and the students have done a great job of submitting their course changes and appear to be settling into their classes. The deadline for final **course changes** is Tuesday September 27th students are asked to have their signed forms into Student Services by Friday for processing.

### Upcoming Grade 12 Parent/Guardian meeting

This is an important time for our graduating Grade 12 students who are facing many decisions in the upcoming months. To assist them with this process, we will be gathering all grade 12's over the next two weeks for a presentation on *Exploring Options*. There is a very important meeting for *Parents/Guardians of Grade 12's on Tuesday, September 20th at 6:30pm* in the Cafeteria. It is this time we will look at ways that you as parents can offer support to your child in these very important life decisions.

### Post Secondary Day

Please mark in your calendars, as parents/ guardians are invited to attend, the **Post Secondary Day on November 17th from 10 until 12 noon**. Over 40 representatives from various universities, public and private colleges will have booths set up in the Gym to answer questions for both parents and students. Students from grades 10 -12 will circulate throughout the displays and have opportunity to speak to these representatives.

Emelie Pineo  
School Counselor

### NKEC ATHLETICS REPORT

I am very excited to once again be the Athletic Director at Northeast Kings Education. We are a flagship school in the province in regards to the level of respect we garner at the provincial level. We are seen as a school that gets it, and represents the NSSAF with class, sportsmanship and pride. We have an incredible group of coaches that coach for the right reasons. 26 of our teams will be led by at least one staff member at Northeast Kings, head and shoulders above any other school in this province. Thank you to those staff members and to all the coaches from the community who put incredible commitment and energy to our student athletes. When done properly, sports make an outstanding classroom where our student athletes are able to develop so many transferable life skills.

We have soccer teams who have been chosen, a football team playing their second game against West Kings this weekend, junior and senior golfers who are participating in regionals, cross country runners beginning their season and volleyball teams in the tryout phase breaking in our newly overhauled gymnasium. Good luck to all teams on a successful fall season.

A reminder to all parents to please represent yourselves and family in a positive manner when representing our school. Model kindness to our teams, officials and opposition. Coaches, please continue to treat our athletes in a kind and fair fashion, while giving each member of your team many opportunities to play and be successful. Student athletes, work hard, play as a team, and ensure that you are meeting all expectations in the school and the classroom. Let us make this an outstanding 2016/17 year.

Dale Sanford,  
Athletic Director/Assistant Regional Director Western

### NEWS FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT:

We are opening up the month of September with rehearsals and sectionals planned in preparation for our rather full performance schedule in October/November. For parents and students who are new to NKEC Music, our rehearsal schedule is as follows:

Sr. Concert Band – Mondays @ 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.  
Thursdays @ 8:00 – 8:45 a.m.

Sr. Jazz Band – Wednesdays and Fridays @ 8:00 – 8:45 a.m.

Jr. Concert Band will rehearse during their regularly scheduled class times.

This is our first fundraising event that will occur on October 1st: Our annual Craft Show will take place on Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup> from 9:00 – 3:00 pm on the campus of NSCC (Kingstec) in Kentville! We have over 60 tables of craft and gift items from vendors all over the province. The cost at the door is \$2.00. There will be a BBQ offered during the day, provided by the NKEC Music Parents Association! Plan on spending some of your day with us on Saturday, October 1st and help support the NKEC Music Department!

### 2016-2017 YEARBOOKS

Yearbooks are \$45 again this year and must be pre-ordered with a minimum \$20 deposit before October 28. Grades 6-8 students can give their form and payment to Mrs. McMillan. Grades 9-12 can give their form and payment to Mr. Priddle. Yearbook meets Tuesdays at lunch. Come join!

### GRAD NEWS

The grad committee will be getting started up Monday, Sept 26th at recess. We are looking for grads who are interested in helping out with grad events (socials, sweatshirts, fund-raising for safe grad)! The grad committee will be hosting a luncheon fund-raiser on our first half day (Oct 19th). We will be looking to all grads/parents on our luncheon days to help out by bringing in an appetizer, hot

dish, salad, or dessert. If you would like to get on our grad news email list, please email Mrs. Osmond at [jennosmond@gnspec.ca](mailto:jennosmond@gnspec.ca)

### DRAMA DEPARTMENT NEWS

We are kicking off the start of the year in the most dramatic way possible! There are many exciting opportunities for your children to become involved in the Arts Department at NKEC. Below you will discover an outline of a few opportunities that your child may be interested in.

Come out and enjoy the fun – singing, dancing, and acting!

Cheers,  
Mrs. Salmon  
[ksalmon@gnspec.ca](mailto:ksalmon@gnspec.ca)

### WHAT IS HAPPENING?

NKEC will be doing a musical this year, with performances happening in June. The audition sign-up list will be posted on the Arts bulletin board on Monday, September 19. Audition dates are Tuesday, September 27 and Thursday, September 29 after school – please sign-up for a time. Please see Mrs. Salmon for more details.

#### *Middle School Choir:*

There will be a Middle School Choir opportunity for Middle School students – Wednesday mornings 7:30 – 8:30 am. Please contact Mrs. Salmon if your child would like to participate in this opportunity. Auditions will be held for vocal placement purposes – Thursday after school 3:30 – 5:00 pm.

#### *High School Vocal Ensemble:*

There will be a High School Choir opportunity for High School students – Tuesday mornings at 7:30 – 8:30 am. Vocal Ensemble Auditions will be Thursday after school 3:30 – 5:00 pm or Friday, September 23 at High School lunch. Auditions will be held for vocal placement purposes.

#### *Middle School Drama Club:*

Middle School Drama Club will be on Mondays after school from 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm. All middle school students are invited to attend - the first meeting is September 19!

#### *High School Improv Team:*

NKEC's Improv Team is comprised of a group of students who demonstrate a willingness to work with others and collaborate under pressure in a theatre environment - in other words – make things up on the spot! Last year's Improv team placed 7<sup>th</sup> in the province, out of 37 teams. Improv Team try-outs will happen Wednesday, September 21 from 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm. If you are interested in competition and acting, this would be an exciting opportunity for you. Sign-up for try-outs!

#### *NKEC Dance Club:*

This year NKEC Dance Club will resume on Thursday, September 22 at high school lunch.

### COMMUNITY NEWS

Promoting Positive Behaviours in Teens  
(Formerly known as Parenting Your Defiant Teen)

- Tuesday Evenings 6:30-8:30
- September 20 – November 1
- Northeast Kings Educational Centre
- **NO FEE** to participate

An 8 week course for parents of teens between 13-18 years old. For more information please call 902-365-1701 Ext. 3163

#### *Sledge Hockey:*

We're looking for new players to come out and give sledge hockey a try. If you or someone you know might be interested, here are the details:

- Where – Kentville Arena
- When – Sundays 9:00 – 9:50 am, October – March
- Cost - \$100

Players of all ages and abilities are welcome. All equipment is provided if required, including sticks. For more information please contact Todd Grant at [todd.grant@gmail.com](mailto:todd.grant@gmail.com).

<b>September</b>	
20	Grade 12 Parent Meeting 6:30 pm
27	Last Day for Course Changes
30	Regional In-service – NO SCHOOL for Students
<b>October</b>	
1	NKEC Craft Fair at NSCC
4	Photo Retake Day
10	Thanksgiving Day – NO SCHOOL
12	Middle School Dance 6:30 – 8:30 pm
19	Early Dismissal 12:05 pm