



Northeast Kings Education Centre

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

Principal- Kevin Veinot

February 2018

MISSION STATEMENT

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

F E B R U A R Y

Dear Parent(s) / Guardian(s),

February is always a busy month here at school with second semester happening in our High School and prepping our students to register for their courses next year at the end of this month. We are starting to get near the end of second term in the Middle School and have our Middle School Student Led evening on Tuesday, February 13th from 6:30-8:00 PM this month. These will be led by your child showing you what they have been doing in their classes this term. I encourage you to attend.

High School students will receive their **report cards on Tuesday, February 13th**



We enter a very important time of year with **Course Registration** for the 2018-2019 school year. Students in Grades 9-11 will receive Course Registration information by February 15th. Your child will receive a course recommendation form for their Science, English and Math courses for grade 10 or 11 next year along with their registration information. We will be airing live videos explaining our elective courses to our students in the mornings, from February 12th to 16th. Please take the time to thoroughly read the registration information and access the student registration handbook posted on our school web site. Course registration is extremely important and must be completed accurately and on time. Students who do not take the time to register appropriately are often disappointed in September when courses they desire are unavailable.

February is African Heritage Month. We are fortunate to have a rich diversity of ethnic backgrounds at Northeast Kings Education Centre. A celebration and recognition of all of cultures throughout the year in our curriculum and in our school celebrations certainly enriches who we are. African Heritage Month recognizes the culture, heritage and progress of African Nova Scotian communities.



2018 African Heritage Month Theme: Educate, Unite, Celebrate Community

The 2018 African Heritage Month theme "Educate, Unite, Celebrate Community" will honour and pay homage to African Nova Scotians and their long legacy of uniting a passion that has provided a base to educate and celebrate an important part of Nova Scotia's culture and heritage. The theme embraces education and encourages all Nova Scotians with the desire to educate oneself about African Nova Scotian history. Together, we can unite and ignite the culture and heritage we share as a community as we observe the United Nations International Decade for People of African Descent from 2015-2024. This observation focuses on three pillars: Recognition, Justice, and Development.

The province of Nova Scotia has over 50 historic African Nova Scotian communities, dating back over 400 years. These communities have a unique and rich legacy of resistance, resilience and triumph that needs to be shared with all of Nova Scotia. It is for this reason we must Educate, Unite and Celebrate African Heritage Month.

If anyone said it was easy to bring up children, they couldn't have had children. It is often very challenging as they seek their identity and independence. There are struggles at home and at school. In the long run, they usually come around and it can be a very rewarding experience for parents, guardians, and teachers. Please remember, although



we need to be respectful and teach our teenagers about respect, we are not their best friend. We need to develop consistent messages and structures and to abide by them. At school, we attempt to do this through a respectful and informed approach of expectations being discussed proactively before poor decisions are made. It's all about being proactive and consistent. It sounds simple but it can be very complex.

As technology becomes a bigger part of our children's daily lifestyles, we are witnessing both the benefits and the challenges. Our children are just a click away from accessing tremendous volumes of information. Specific technologies, software, and online resources can provide wonderful educational supports. There are many benefits to communication as social networking software creates a much smaller world and people are able to communicate much more easily.

Unfortunately, technology has also created challenges around communication. One of these challenges that schools are facing more often is around students posting inappropriate comments using electronic public communication, including Twitter, Facebook, email, texting, etc. It can often be challenging for a school administrator to fully understand the circumstances surrounding an electronic posting. Quite often, these comments equate to disrespect and possibly cyber-bullying. The basic direction for school administrators is that if a comment is posted electronically on any form of public electronic communication, and has a negative impact on the daily functioning of the school, then it can be considered a school issue. Students will often counter that he/she didn't post at school and that the issue has nothing to do with school. While parents/guardians have an important role in educating their children around the responsible use of technology and social media, schools understand they also play an important part in that process. So, in spite of where the posting happened, the school may take action if the posting impacts on the daily functioning of the school. Such action **could** be in a variety of forms,

such as; communication with the student and/or home, possible disciplinary measures may result, recommendation for counseling, referral to outside agencies, mediation, or even suspension.

This will continue to be a challenge for families and schools. We encourage all parents and guardians to work with us in the important job of educating our youth in the appropriate use of online technologies, in particular social networking such as Facebook and Twitter. There is nothing wrong with you asking your child to give you access to their social media accounts so you can see what they and their friends are posting for all to view.

Have a great February. Stay safe and warm and get actively involved with your child's education. Spring is only five weeks away!!

Check out our **school website** at: <http://www.nkec.ca> Also, please be reminded that we are a **nut-smart and scent-smart facility**. Students, staff and visitors must respect each other by not wearing scented products, try not to bring nut products to school or clean up after yourself when finished eating a nut product. Thank you for your cooperation.

Kevin Veinot
Principal

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

Dear Parent(s) / Guardian(s),

The month of January has been very busy and challenging. Mother Nature has been less than cooperative and unfortunately weather has resulted in time away from class. As a result, students are working hard to catch-up from time missed. Please check with your child regarding homework and special project work. Weather is beyond our control, but we continue to work hard with students and stress the importance of extra effort and task completion.

February is a busy and very important month for NKEC Middle School Titans. Students and staff are excited to celebrate African Heritage Month. While diversity within the curriculum is an ongoing priority throughout the school year, February is an additional opportunity to examine and celebrate the contributions of African Canadians. Student Support Worker, Ms. Clements will be busy facilitating additional classroom activities and meeting with students regarding a variety of activities. During December, Middle School students attended an African dance and culture workshop that was an enlightening learning experience for students and staff.

In addition to academics, students continue to participate in a variety of extracurricular activities. Middle Level Titans are involved in robotics, junior hockey, basketball, badminton, tech crew, cheerleading and the after school program. Recognizing the importance of physical fitness and being outside, classes are participating in our annual skating and broomball program as an extension of healthy active living and physical education class. Each day, a considerable amount of my time is spent in classrooms observing, assisting students and communicating with staff. I continue to be impressed by the level of engaging curriculum and thought provoking activities teachers implement as part of the learning process for students in grades six, seven and eight. Teachers, guidance and educational assistants are working hard to meet the academic, social and emotional need of all students. We continue to motivate and encourage all learners to put forth their best effort daily at school. We ask all students to try their best. **Tuesday, February 13th from 6:30pm-8:30pm is Middle School Student Led Conferences.** This is an excellent opportunity to observe your child's academic progress. We look forward to seeing you during student led conferences.

I continue to encourage students to work hard in class, practice basic math skills such as mental math computation, read on a regular basis and complete assigned homework. Patterning of such foundational skills and academic habits results in improved student confidence.

I would like to remind parents of middle school students about the importance of the Parent Portal. It is an invaluable tool to keep an eye on student grades and attendance. If you are not signed up yet, please bring photo identification to the administration office to start your account.

As many of you are aware, Northeast Kings Education Centre has partnered with the Village of Canning, Northeast Kings Education Centre Home and School Association, Canning District Recreation Commission and interested residents to construct the new Northern Kings Multi-Activity Park. This project is a multigenerational physical activity and free play park with accessible features. We are currently fundraising for this project and hope to have the project constructed this summer for student grades 6-12 and community use. The addition of the Northern Kings Multi-Activity Park will be an exciting addition to the school and community for youth and adults alike. If you would like to discuss the project in greater detail, or make a donation towards the project, please contact the administration office.

Has your child lost, or misplaced an item at school? The school lost and found container is overflowing with jackets, shoes, snow pants and many other clothing items. Please encourage your child to check the lost and found box for items belonging to them. With winter weather conditions, mid-day school closures occur, please ensure your child knows where to go in the event of an early closure and is familiar with phone numbers, addresses and bussing details necessary to get home safely. If there are details you would like the school to be aware of, please contact Student Services.

As we approach March and the next round of report cards, I ask students to continue working hard and be mindful of PEBS Expectations for Success. Also, it is important that students continue to seek extra help if they are feeling overwhelmed. Together, academic success can be achieved!

Please keep in touch,
Greg Fox, Vice-Principal

NEWS FROM STUDENT SERVICES

Course Changes

Course changes may be made through Student Services until February 16th. Students must have a course change form signed by a parent or guardian and have an acceptable reason to request the change. All course changes are subject to availability of space in the class, as well as space in the student schedule.

Course Registration Information for 2018-2019

Over the course of the next month and a half students from grades 9 – 11 will be receiving information on the Course Selection Process for next year. There will be presentations, video announcements, course handbooks, recommendation forms and registration forms delivered to our students to help them make the most informed choices for their academic success. Completed Course Registration forms are due February 23rd! Courses offered for next year are based on what the students choose! Students will plug in their choices for courses here in the Middle School computer lab during the week of Feb 26th to Feb 28th.

NSCC

Students who are considering programs at the Nova Scotia Community College beginning September 2018 are encouraged to apply ASAP. Any grade 11 student who is considering NSCC programs for the following year (September 2019) are also able to apply at this time.

University Information

Many deadlines are fast approaching for University. Most applications are due by March 1st and this often includes applications for entrance scholarships. Please check with each university that you are applying to, to ensure proper forms have been sent in.

Post-Secondary Visits

Throughout the next few months we will have many visits from post-secondary institutions. Any visitors will be set up during High School lunch in the lobby. Please listen to the announcements daily to stay informed as to who is visiting.

Opportunities to Learn French

Explore is a \$2000 bursary for a five week summer French course to improve students' French proficiency at beginner, intermediate, and advanced levels. The course locations are in Québec/ Nova Scotia/ Ontario/ and New Brunswick, and most expenses are covered. The bursaries are available to Nova Scotia students and are determined by random selection. The website with further information including the application form is: www.myexplore.ca. Deadline is Feb 28th.

Legion Leadership Camp

Students interested in developing leadership skills are encouraged to apply for acceptance into the Royal Canadian Legion Leadership Training Camp, running from June 25th to July 2nd at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College in Truro. Students must have completed grade 10 or 11 by June 21st and be 15-18 years old. Please, see Ms Pineo if interested ASAP.

DO (DISCOVERING OPPORTUNITIES)

Discovering Opportunities (DO) is a program that is offered for students entering grade 9 at NKEC. It is a privilege for NKEC to be able to offer this program and is the only school in the AVRSB that does so.

Students attend the core courses as a small cohort of 20 students and have two lead teachers. DO is in an integrated project-based environment. Students participate in activities to enhance personal growth, academic skills, and personal and career goal setting.

Students that make an excellent fit for the program are those who would fit some of the following criteria:

- Feel disconnected from learning, for a variety of reasons and/or are not meeting their full academic potential.
- Would contribute to positive group dynamics.
- Would benefit from being part of a close-knit learning community.
- See little connection between the classroom and real life.
- Could benefit from more opportunities for empowerment.
- Be prepared to commit to this alternative learning approach and participate in all parts of the DO program.

Grade 8 students at KCA and NKEC will be receiving a presentation regarding the DO program and hear from some students who are part of the current NKEC DO group. ...

Additional information for parents of Grade 8 students who are interested in DO will be included in the Grade 8 to 9 Parent Info Session at NKEC, March 20th, 6:30-7:30. Students wishing to be considered for interviews must submit an application by Monday, March 26th. Applications are available from the Grade 8 homeroom teachers, school administrator, Mr. Sanford (Rm. 204) or Mrs. Cunningham (Rm. 202).

GRADE 10 COURSE AVAILABLE

Students can add Food Prep Tech 10 as a possible course selection on their purple registration forms.

MARCH BREAK TRIP

Hey! Are you part of the Class of 19 or 20? Go to eftours.ca and check out tour # 1933661kh (London, Paris, Florence, and Rome). The Classes of 20 or 21 can check out tour number 2082557xa (Italy, Monaco, France, and Spain! The Mediterranean Coast) fpriddle@gnsps.ca if you have any questions. There will be parent meeting March 28th at 6:00pm in the cafeteria.

MIDDLE SCHOOL SKATING PROGRAM

A donation of new or used skates for our middle school skating program would be greatly appreciated. We are in need of hockey skates sizes 9-13.

GRAD NEWS

The grad committee is hosting a Sparlensign Workshop Fundraiser on Thursday, April 12th in the school cafeteria from 6-9. The cost is \$40, choose your design and we will provide everything needed for you to complete a 10x18 solid wood sign. A great evening out and fun way to support our grads.

GRAD PHOTO RETAKES

If you have not received your on-line proofs from Lifetouch Photography, please see Mrs. Zwicker in Student Services. Hard copies of your Grad Photos are available for pick up. Lifetouch Photography will do Grad Photo Re-takes and Friend & Family Grad Photos on Feb 14th and Feb 15th in the Library. Please visit <http://www.lifetouch.ca/mygradphotos> to book your appointment or you can pick up a brochure in Student Services. If you missed having your grad photo taken last month or you would like to have re-takes, please book an appointment. Also, if you are having re-takes and you return your proofs at the time of your re-take appointment, you will not have to pay the sitting fee again. If you have any questions, please see one of the secretaries in Student Services.

The two options are as follows: Deluxe Sit Session - \$25.00 – 14-16 proofs, up to three backgrounds and it takes 20 minutes. Yearbook & Composite Session - \$10 – 4-6 proofs and it takes 5 minutes. In order to have your picture in the yearbook and on the wall composite, you must choose one of these two options. If you are interested in a Family and Friends session, please see Mrs. Zwicker (Student Services) or call [902-582-2050](tel:902-582-2050) for more information.

NKEC ATHLETICS

Happy February everyone. The school is very pleased with how well our teams are representing Northeast Kings Education Center. A consistent reminder regarding the importance that every student-athlete and adult representing our school does it the right way. This means your best effort, a desire to win but a sincere acceptance of defeat, strong sportsmanship and a positive energy by all participants. The life lessons are so much more important than the sport itself. The sport is just an awesome opportunity to learn or strengthen those vital life skills.

We are in need of a badminton coach! We have a couple of parents who are willing to assist, but we need someone to take leadership of the program. If you are interested, please contact the school or email me at dsanf@gnsps.ca. Our four hockey teams are coming into their crunch time, as playoffs are around the corner. The senior girls' team is hosting regionals, while the boy's team is just coming off a second place finish at the Art Lightfoot Tournament. Good luck to all of the hockey teams as they prepare for districts or regionals. Our basketball teams are also heading toward regional play, with the senior girls participating next weekend at either CK or Avonview. Our boys' team was rebuilding this year and will not qualify for regionals. Our boys' JV team is off to regionals this weekend at Parkview, while the jr girls' team fell just short of qualifying for their regional tournament. Our Middle School teams are finishing the first round of district play downs with hopes of advancing past the first stage. Our curling team had their regionals cancelled last weekend and will be travelling to Barrington in two weeks. Good luck to the table tennis team coached by Mr. Craan, as they are starting their NSSAF season after a successful club year. Thank you to Mrs. Hall for starting a skiing/snowboarding club, giving a few students that extra opportunity to be active.

Thank you to all coaches, student-athletes, spectators, administration and staff for their support of our very busy Athletics Program. Our staff and administration allow our student-athletes to be dismissed at key times for games and tournaments, and this is something that is very much appreciated. Softball, Track and Field and Rugby are just around the corner, with coaches lined up and raring to go.

COMMUNITY NEWS

A Dressy Affair

A chance to purchase a second hand prom dress for a great cause! Last year over 125 dresses were up for sale and the prices for the dresses ranged from \$20 to \$100 (some were initially purchased for \$800+). In addition to prom dresses, there will also be cocktail dresses and evening gowns available for ladies looking for other formal wear. Participants can buy a \$25 ticket to help support the local causes, then get shopping during the event. Shoppers can complete their prom look by selecting shoes, handbags and jewelry that will also be available. Please contact Paula at [902-690-5298](tel:902-690-5298) for more information.

March 24th 7:00-9:30 pm. Tickets are \$25 (only 100 available)

Venue: Louis Millett Centre.

Entertainment: Elsie Morden

There will be entertainment, vendor tables, a photographer, food/ refreshments etc- a fun evening to raise money for a local program in new minas called- CAPRE

Ross Creek

March Break Camps

Ages 5-7, 8-10 and 11-16, March 12-16th

Camps run 9:00 – 5:00, includes snacks and homemade lunch

Cost: \$65.00/day or \$295 for all 5 days

Bolland Driver's Ed

Seats are available for Driver's Ed classes during the month of Feb and over March break. A \$20 donation will go toward Safe Grad or the Breakfast Program, your choice. Please contact Bolland Driving Solutions for more info: 902-679-1555.

FEBRUARY	
13	High School Report Cards Go Home
13	Middle School Student Led 6:30-8:30 pm
14-15	Grad Photo Retakes
16	Last Day For Course Changes
19	Heritage Day – NO SCHOOL
20	Mahar Home Room Student Led 4:00-6:00 pm
23	Student Course Registration Forms Due
26-28	Online Course Registration
MARCH	
1	Online Course Registration
1	Evening With The Arts
2	Middle School Marking Day – NO SCHOOL For Grades 6-8
9	March Newsletter
12-16	March Break
19	First Teaching Day after Break

