



Northeast Kings Education Centre

1816 Bains Road, Canning, Nova Scotia B0P 1H0

Phone: 582-2040 Fax: 582-2044

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

Principal- Kevin Veinot

January 2018

MISSION STATEMENT

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

January

Dear Parent(s) and/or Guardian(s),



We hope that 2018 found you healthy and happy and this continues throughout the year! We have high school exams starting on January 26th and we have been sending proactive messages to our students that they can be successful in all

of their courses if they put a full commitment to their academics. We want our students to focus on the end goal from the start and not dwell on the obstacles that they have in front of them. Hopefully they can work on this goal and “succeed” in all that they take on for the remainder of the school year. Please support your child at home in getting them to start preparing for their exams now. 30 minutes of review a night now makes a big difference when it comes to exam time.

Exams: Senior High exams will be written from Friday, January 26th through Wednesday, January 31st. The exam schedule is out and posted on the school website. Please encourage your child to get organized and prepare for her/his exams. Thursday, February 1st will be a marking day for high school staff and so there **will be no classes for all high school students**. It will also be a professional development day for all Middle School staff so there will be no school for our middle school students.

Attendance: Consistent attendance at school is directly related to success at school. Our overall student attendance has improved since the new attendance policy has come into effect October 1st, 2017. We have gone from a daily absentee rate of 10-11% to a rate of about 7.5%. I am asking you as parents and guardians to please stress the importance of a good education and consistent school attendance to your son or daughter.

Anxiety: With end of course assessments and exams approaching, your child will be experiencing increased stress and anxiety. This is very typical and normal, and it is a good thing for them to experience as they develop coping strategies for this stressor. Preparation is one of the best strategies to combat exam anxiety. Let your child know that their anxiety is normal and everyone experiences it regularly.

Everyone needs to experience this stress because combating stress is a skill that everyone needs to be able to handle as they grow up. As parents, we do not want to try to eliminate all stressful situations from our children because that does not help them in developing skills to handle the stress from later stressors they will experience when they are on their own. Continue to reassure them that this feeling is normal and will pass with continued effort in preparing for their assessment.



On behalf of the students and staff at Northeast Kings Education Centre we wish a very happy, healthy and prosperous 2018. There are a number of things happening at Northeast Kings Education Centre as we approach exam time in the High School and getting close to the end of term in the Middle School. Please take some time to read the newsletter and remain informed about what's happening at your daughter's or son's school. Also, keep an eye on the school website: <http://www.nkec.ca>

Sincerely,
Kevin Veinot
Principal

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

Happy New Year Students, Parents & Guardians. I would like to welcome students back to Northeast Kings Education Centre from a restful holiday season. Time moves quickly in the middle school and this past fall was no exception. Grade six students have transitioned quickly into middle school routines, while seven and eight students have settled in quickly and have responded well to academic expectations.

Student leadership is an important aspect of school life at NKEC. Historically Middle School Student Council has been influential in developing student leadership skills. Recently however, Middle School Student Council has evolved to form NKEC Middle School Spirit Squad. This is an exciting and energetic group of middle school students who are actively engaged in their school community. Similar to student council, Spirit Squad members organize and facilitate a variety of student led activities and fundraising initiatives during the school year.

The Middle School Spirit Squad coordinate opportunities for all middle school students. Dances, noon-hour school spirit activities and community involvement projects serve as Spirit Squad's focus. One of their most impressive projects to date was the organization and delivery of the Middle School holiday turkey dinner. Middle School Spirit Squad members served the entire middle school (280 students!) turkey dinner with all of the trimmings. Middle School Spirit Squad use proceeds collected from middle school dances and other fundraising initiatives throughout the school year to cover the cost of this meal. I would like to congratulate all members of the Spirit Squad for their hard work and community minded focus. In addition, a special thanks to Mrs. Fougere and Mrs. Duncan for their ongoing time, energy and leadership with Middle School Spirit Squad students.

As students quickly approach the halfway mark of the school year, I encourage all students to work hard in class, review concepts taught at home after each school day, complete homework as assigned, organize learning materials, practice mental math skills and read daily. If students find themselves overwhelmed academically, please ensure your child has completed all of the strategies listed above. If they are still experiencing difficulty please encourage your child to seek support from their classroom teacher; often a few minutes at the end of class, or at recess/lunch a few times per week is enough time to get your child back on track. As the school year progresses, teachers will continue to promote independence, problem solving and critical thought. We want all students to work as independently as possible and demonstrate an understanding of curriculum outcomes. Teachers and educational assistants always ask students to put forth their best effort and we look forward to watching students as they continue to emerge as learners.

In the months ahead I encourage every middle school student to get involved in an extracurricular activity at school. Maintaining an active role in the school community enhances a student's experience at school. We are excited about the NKEC After School Program that occurs every Friday during the winter months. Currently students are skating and playing broomball at the Canning Arena. This program is free and transportation to home is available if necessary for students. Forms are available in the main office.

You may be aware of recent changes to the Provincial Attendance Policy. As always students are expected to attend school daily. Changes to the attendance policy however have resulted in greater transparency, accountability and monitoring of student attendance. Every effort is made by the school to collaborate with students and families to ensure regular attendance. If your child is absence from school due to illness, please ensure that the school is aware of the absence. Consistent attendance at school is directly related to success at school. As parents and guardians please continue to stress the importance of education and consistent school attendance to your child.

I would like to thank all middle school coaches, group leaders and other volunteers at large for their commitment to extracurricular programming for NKEC students. Running a team, club, or special event requires time away from family and friends and as a school we are grateful for your commitment to NKEC Students.

As the school year progressed, please continue to contact your child's teacher or school administration regarding your child's social, emotional and academic growth.

All the best in 2018!

Greg Fox,
Vice-Principal, Northeast Kings Education Centre

NEWS FROM STUDENT SERVICES

Course Changes

There will be Parent Course Selection Information Sessions on **February 5th**. **Grade 9 parents** meet at **6:30 pm** and **Grade 10 and 11** parents meet at **7:30 pm**. **Grade 9 parents** interested in the O2 program will meet at **7:30 pm**. Storm date for these meetings is February 6th. This will be an opportunity for parents to learn about course selection and the registration process, as well as learning about the various course pathways gearing towards post-graduation goals.

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 student schedules.

Initial Course Information and Registration for 2017-2018

Over the course of the next few months students from grades 9 – 11 will be receiving information on the Course Selection Process for the next school 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 Fri. February 23rd!**

Applications for Universities/Colleges

Grade 12 students who will be applying for fall 2018 admission into university or college are encouraged to begin the process as soon as possible. Many deadlines are fast approaching and some are as early as February 1st.

Nova Scotia Recycles Contest (Now called Divert)

Wanted to remind everyone that the **final deadline for submissions for this year's Divert NS Contest is April 22nd, 2018**. Entries must be postmarked by this date, so please submit your entries as soon as possible. There are great prizes for all from grade P-12. Grade 12's are encouraged to write a research essay and would be eligible to win the grand prize of a \$5,000 scholarship. For more information check out the website: www.rafb.com.

Dr. P. Anthony Johnstone

The Dr. P. Anthony Johnstone Memorial Entrance Scholarship, a \$6,000.00 scholarship is available to Nova Scotia students entering their first year of university. The province established the scholarship in 1991 to honour the life and work of the late Tony Johnstone, a long-time educator and human rights advocate who devoted his life to promoting multicultural understanding and social equality. To be eligible for the scholarship, a student must live in Nova Scotia, be graduating from high school and beginning an undergraduate degree program at a Maritime university in the fall. The applicant must also have demonstrated an interest in multiculturalism and human rights.

Due date: March 31st, 2018.

Terry Fox Humanitarian Award

Terry Fox Humanitarian Awards are open to graduating secondary level students and those currently studying towards a first university degree or diploma in a Canadian post-secondary institution. To be considered, applicants must meet the following criteria: Involvement in voluntary humanitarian work. Undergraduates studying towards their first university degree or diploma at a Canadian post-secondary institution in Canada. Maintain a satisfactory academic standing and continued involvement in voluntary humanitarian and community work. **Due February 1st, 2018.**

Kinette Club of Kentville and District

Students who are, or will be, attending a recognized post-secondary institution during the 2018-2019 school year, are encouraged to apply for the \$1,000 bursary. **Applications are due February 1st, 2018.**

Emilie Pineo,
Student Services

SAFE GRAD

Fundraiser for Safe grad: Pancake and Sausage breakfast
Sat Jan 20th from 7:30-11:30 am at the Kentville Fire Hall
Free will offering

GRAD PHOTO RETAKES

Grad Photo Proofs and Re-takes
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 should be arriving and will be passed out by Jan. 19th. Lifetouch Photography will do Grad Photo Re-takes and Friend & Family Grad Photos on Wed. Feb 14th and Thurs. 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 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.

DONATIONS

Middle School staff are doing a noon hour activity using looms and are in need of wool. We are hoping to do some service projects for the IWK, If you have any wool at home that you are no longer using, please consider donating it to our school. You can bring it in to student services (Mrs. Roy).

NKEC ATHLETICS REPORT

It has been a quiet month for athletics, given the Holiday Break and storm days. Our senior hockey teams participated in a tournament over the break, with both losing in their respective semi-finals. The girls team went 2-2 in the tournament and are showing huge growth on the ice. The girls should also be commended for their improvements in league play, demonstrating much more resistance against strong teams like Avonview. Well done ladies. The boys team also finished 2-2 in the Fred Kelly Tournament, losing 4-2 to Horton in the semi-final. The team has a home game this tonight, Friday January 12th at 8:00 in Canning against that same Horton team. The middle school boys hockey team has been formed as they begin exhibition play in preparation for districts next month.

Our basketball teams are back on the court after a quiet last three weeks. The senior girls' team is travelling to Amherst this weekend to participate in a very competitive tournament, before hosting their invitational next Friday and Saturday at Northeast Kings Education Center. The tournament schedule is listed below. Come out and show your support for the Lady Titans. The senior boys' team just improved their league record to 2-0 with a 64-60 victory over KES this past

Tuesday evening. The team is travelling to Central Kings this weekend for the Gator Invitational, where they will play CK and Simonds High from Saint John. Our junior varsity boys played Parkview in league play this week and are showing significant growth and development on and off the court due to strong commitment and work ethic. Both our junior teams are in exhibition mode, with our boys travelling to Horton this week and the girls travelling to Central Kings on Monday.

We have had a very successful spirit campaign at the school as the Sport's Leadership Committee has sold 150 black athletic hoodies to help promote the pride of NKEC and NKEC Athletics. Wearing this hoodie and other Northeast Kings Athletic merchandise comes with an expectation of strong citizenship and consistent work ethic in the classroom. This just helps to solidify this well deserving pride.

Senior Girls Basketball Invitational

Friday, January 19th

200 NKEC vs NG
330 Horton JV vs Avonview
500 BEC vs NG
630 Avonview vs NKEC
800 Horton JV vs BEC

Saturday, January 20th

900 NKEC vs Horton JV
1030 Avonview vs BEC
1200 NG vs Horton JV
130 BEC vs NKEC
300 NG vs Avonview

NEWS FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT:

January usually is the quiet month for the Music Department, but this year we are gearing up for our trip that will take place in March – during March Break. We are having a trip meeting on Monday, Jan. 15th @ 5:30 pm in the Music Room. We have approximately 30 students signed up for the trip, but we do have room for more to go! If your Sr. Concert or Sr. Jazz Band student is interested in this trip, please contact Maggie Helms for more information.

We are also reading through new music and revisiting music already in the folders to decide what we would like to play for the Annapolis Valley Music Festival, Atlantic Band Festival and our end of the year concerts. Please keep encouraging your student to practice and work through the difficult parts of this music!

Maggie Helms,
mjhelms@gnsps.ca or phone (902) 582-2055

O2 (OPTIONS & OPPORTUNITIES)

During February all grade 9 students will attend a presentation regarding the O2 program. O2 is an academic, career-focused, high school program where students get to explore career options and opportunities through CO-OP or work placements while earning academic credits. This exciting academic program option for high school offers a preferred seat at NSCC in a program of choice or provides the opportunity to opt for university.

While cohorted in a small class of 20 for some courses, every high school course is available to O2 students. O2 is a great academic option for hands-on learners that are looking for a different way to engage with and do high school.

An information session for parents of interested Grade 9 students will be held at NKEC on February 8th at 7:30. Students wishing to be considered for interviews must submit an application by February 5th. Applications are available at Student Services or can be downloaded from our school website.

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

Dates to Remember

January	
16	Grad Photo Retakes
17	Early Dismissal 12:05
20	Safe Grad Pancake Breakfast 7:30-11:30am Kentville Fire Hall
26-31	HS Exams*
February	
1	NO SCHOOL HS Marking Day, MS PD Day
2	Second Semester Begins
5	Gr 9 to 10 Parent Info session 6:30 pm ** O2 Parent Info, Gr 10 to 11, Gr 11 to 12 Parent Info session 7:30 pm**
9	February Newsletter
13	HS Report Cards
14	MS Student Led 6:30-8:30 pm
16	Last Day for 2 nd Semester Course Changes
19	NO SCHOOL – Heritage Day

*in case of storm day everything will be pushed ahead one day

**storm date Feb 6