



Northeast Kings Education Centre

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Principal- Kevin Veinot

March 2019

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),

March Break already! We are about two thirds of our way through this school year. When our students return after the break there will be approximately three months of school remaining until the end of the year! Attendance is such an important part of being successful at our school. You can't put a price on a "quality education" and I certainly believe and know that we are providing opportunities at our school for your child to receive a quality education. I know that all the necessary pieces exist at Northeast Kings Education Centre for a "quality education" for your child. We have qualified, empathetic staff, a wide variety of course options and plenty of resources. Each student needs a positive attitude, good self-discipline and a good work ethic to receive a quality education. One of the biggest factors preventing some students from this goal is NOT having consistent attendance. Please support your child's education by ensuring that she/he gets to school consistently. With the new provincial attendance policy in action your child must be in school at least 80% of the time or they will be removed from school for the rest of the year.

We just completed the course registration process for students entering Grades 10 - 12 in September. We will be completing next year's grade 9's during the last week of March. Our students have been very cooperative and took the process seriously. We would like to thank them for their efforts in this task! I would also like to thank Mrs. Emelie Pineo-Sponagle for her efforts in getting all of these students registered. This will now allow us to begin to select course offerings and make timetables for 2019-2020.

School Culture: Northeast Kings Education Centre continues to develop a very positive reputation as a quality school. I encourage all community members to promote our Expectations for Success:

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



We had several activities in the classrooms over the last month to acknowledge African Heritage Month. Dr. Henry Bishop also provided an empowerment and drumming mentorship with our male students of African descent.

Get Your Child Involved: We are just starting to get students ready for our spring sports. We have a spring basketball league, track and field, girls' rugby and softball starting up after the break. Our track team can take close to 100 student-athletes so get your child to come out to our practices and see what they like and give it a try. No experience necessary.



Graduation: Please support our Grade 12 students by helping them to ensure that all course work and requirements are done for graduation purposes. Each year we have one or two very disappointed students who do not reach the requirements for graduation. This is often a very difficult time for those students and families.



Please help your child to avoid disappointment.

Have a warm and rewarding spring. Stay involved with your child's education.

Sincerely,
Kevin Veinot, Principal

AVRSB NEWS

Intimate Images and Cyber-protection

The rapid growth of smart phones, social media and the anonymity of the online world has created increasing opportunity for cyberbullying and the unwanted sharing of intimate images. The impacts of these behaviours can be devastating for victims.

Supports are available. For more information please visit: novascotia.ca/cyberscan.

If you believe you are the victim of cyberbullying or that an intimate image of you was shared without your consent call CyberScan at 902-424-6990 or toll free at 855-702-8324.



MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

Dear Parent(s) / Guardian(s),

February has come and gone very quickly at Northeast Kings Education Centre and March has arrived. The weather in recent weeks has been challenging and students have unfortunately missed instructional time due to weather cancellations. Teachers are working hard to ensure students are completing all assignments and have modified due dates to allow additional time. Please speak with your child to ensure they have all assignments completed and submitted. Please keep an eye on the student/parent portal to track assignment details. On Wednesday, March 13th students will receive their term two report card and parent teacher appointment sheet. There are areas identified on student report cards that require extra effort from students moving forward. Ensuring that students make every effort to hand in assignments on time and attend extra help sessions with teachers is very important. These two recommendations will help students to be successful. Thank you to parents for taking time to review the report card with your child and setting goals for term three. We strongly recommend that students and parents attend parent teacher sessions on March 28th & 29th. Please send back the attached form with your child's report card to reserve your parent teacher appointment.

Grade nine orientation and course registration information sessions are approaching for NKEC grade eight students. NKEC grade eight students and parents are invited to attend an orientation meeting in the cafeteria Tuesday, March 26th beginning at 6:30pm. This is an important meeting regarding grade nine transition and the course registration process. It is strongly recommended that current grade eight students and parents attend this meeting. If you are unable to attend, please contact Student Services for more information.

February was African Heritage Month. As a school there were several activities and learning experiences in the classroom that examined and celebrated African culture and heritage. As part of daily instruction, students engaged in a variety of cultural learning opportunities in social studies and English language arts.

Grade eight students have just completed a project based learning (PBL) unit and grade six and seven students are set to start a new PBL unit following March break. PBL units include the same curriculum outcomes reflected in provincial curriculum guides. PBL instructional time and student learning time is equally important as other instructional activities. During PBL units, students have opportunity to investigate and analyze concepts collaboratively and take a more active role in the direction of their learning. The topics explored are directly connected to grade level curriculum and have equal importance in terms of assessment. Northeast Kings Education Centre is a pilot school for the new provincial middle school curriculum and PBL and inquiry based instruction are areas where NKEC teachers have received recent training and resources to facilitate student learning. If you have any questions regarding this recent change, please contact your child's teacher, or administration.

Since the New Year, Middle Level Titans have been busy participating in extracurricular activities. Students have been involved in hockey, ski racing, skating, table tennis, basketball, robotics, badminton, improve, and various other school based activities. I would like to thank staff and community members for volunteering countless hours of their time supporting Northeast Kings students – your time and commitment is greatly appreciated!

With spring quickly approaching, another round of extracurricular activities will emerge. I encourage all Middle School Titans to get involved. Extracurricular involvement help build new relationships, skills and student confidence. As always, thank you for playing an active role in your child's education. Please encourage your child to read daily, complete homework, review previously taught concepts and organize learning materials. These small steps have a major impact on student learning and will help your child achieve academic success.

Please keep in touch,
Greg Fox, Vice Principal

GRAD NEWS

We will be having a Grad Parent Meeting to discuss the grad yard sale and other upcoming fundraisers for safe grad on Wednesday, March 27th in the cafeteria.

A reminder to all Grads that your height needs to be submitted by the end of April for Grad Gown sizing. Imperial or Metric is acceptable. You can submit to Patty Schofield on Grad Google Classroom, by email to pschofield@gnspecs.ca or drop by room 114. Thank you.

NEWS FROM STUDENT SERVICES

NSCC

Students who are considering programs at the Nova Scotia Community College beginning September 2019 are encouraged to apply ASAP. Any grade 11 student who is considering NSCC programs for the following year (September 2020) are also able to apply at this time.

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.

Course Registration 2019-2020 Grades 9-11

The course selection process, presentations and on-line registration process is now complete for grades 9-11. A big thank you goes out to the High School Student Ambassadors for their support and assistance to help make the process successful.

Course Registration 2019-2020 Grades 8's

The grade 8's going into grade 9 next year will have their information sessions both at KCA and NKEC during the last week of March. Mr. Veinot, Mrs. Pineo-Sponagle and former KCA grads and NKEC Middle School grads will visit with the KCA grade 8 students to speak to them about the transition to High School. The same presentations will then happen for NKEC students and both KCA and NKEC grade 8's will experience a mini Course Fair hosted by NKEC Grade 9 students.

There is a very important **Parent Information Session** on **Tuesday March 26th at 6:30pm** for Parents of students from both KCA and NKEC entering Grade 9 in Sept 2019.

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, Tuesday, March 26th, 6:30-7:30. Students wishing to be considered for interviews must submit an application by Friday, March 29th. Applications are available from the Grade 8 homeroom teachers, school administrator, Mr. Sanford (Rm. 204) or Mrs. Cunningham (Rm. 202).

MARCH BREAK TRIP

Hey! Are you part of the Class of 20 or 21? Go to eftours.ca and check out tour # 2082557xa (Italy, Monaco, France, and Spain! The Mediterranean Coast) or 2182817cv (Austria, Germany, Switzerland) fpriiddle@gnsps.ca if you have any questions. There will be parent meeting in April with tour info., fundraising plans, and to answer questions.

PHYS. ED DEPARTMENT

The Phys. Ed Department is always looking for lightly worn sneakers, athletic pants, shorts and t-shirts. They are greatly appreciated and used by many students throughout the year during Physical Education class time.

CHEERLEADING

Our NKEC cheer team has been preparing since November for our competition season which runs from early March to mid-April. The team consists of 25 students from grades 7-12. Our first event is at the ICE gym in Windsor on Thursday, March 7th. Teams will not compete but will showcase their skills in preparation for the first competition at Avon View in Windsor on March 14th. Our team competes in Halifax March 30th and 31st at Cheer Expo and then on April 3rd in Bridgewater. Saturday, April 6th, NKEC will host teams from the Western Region here at our school starting at 1 pm. Come out and cheer on our Titan cheer team as we begin our competition season. Thank you to Lilyanne Rafuse and Kendra Whitehead, both graduates of NKEC in 2015 who coach our team and to the many parents who drive our athletes and support their passion.

NEWS FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

We would like to thank everyone who made it out last night for the Evening with the Arts presentations! We introduced some 'new faces' to the crowds and we hope you all enjoyed the variety of arts we have at NKEC.

The month of March is usually pretty quiet, but with the Annapolis Valley Music Festival on the horizon, you should expect to see and hear your music students practicing their music over March Break. We have received our time slots for performances at the Festival and they are listed below:

The **Sr. Concert Band** will be performing on **Monday, April 29th @ 3:00 pm**. Later that evening, at **7:15 pm**, the **North Mountain Concert Band** will perform. The **Jr. Concert Band** will be performing on **Wednesday, May 1st @ 9:00 am**, and the **Sr. Jazz Band** will be performing on **Friday, May 3rd @ 1:30 pm**. We would love to have as many people in the audience as possible to support our students and adults, and all performances will take place at the Atlantic Festival Theater Building on the campus of Acadia. Information about travel will be shared soon!

NKEC ATHLETICS REPORT

A crazy month for athletics with many successes on and off the sport's arena, hill and court. Our senior girl's curling team won the regional banner for the second year in a row with a 9-8 extra end victory over Parkview. Congratulations to coach Belliveau and team members Kailey Bennett, Katherine Myers, Abby Maclean and Claire Donnelly. Well done ladies and good luck at provincials! Our senior boys' hockey team finished up another successful year, but fell just short of making provincials at regionals this past weekend in Yarmouth. Despite this disappointment for team members, please know that you continue to represent the school the right way and we are proud of your efforts each and every year. Our senior girls' team had a remarkable regional tournament by finishing 3rd, defeating West Kings in the final game. The girls challenged Auburn yesterday in the game to go to division 1 provincials, but lost to a very good team. Well done ladies on a great season. Our junior boys' hockey team won districts and will be a force to reckon with at regionals in Yarmouth this week.

On the court, our badminton team is ramping up for districts in a few weeks. As well, our cheer and table tennis teams are working hard to prepare for regionals in April. Thank you to the coaches for dedicating your time for these late winter and early spring sports. Our basketball teams have all finished their seasons as of this past weekend. Our JV boys and junior boys' teams both had good seasons with development and improvement in all areas. Our junior girls' team lost by one point to Middleton in the regional semi-finals, before soundly defeating Maple Grove for the bronze. This represents a remarkable showing for our junior girls program. Well done team members and coaches. Our senior boys' team fell short in the regional quarter final, losing to host Forest Heights in a very close battle. The young team hopes to make huge strides next year, building off this year's results. Our young senior girls team finished 8th at provincials, losing two close contests along the way. The team should be commended on making provincials and they also hope to build off of this important provincial experience. Thank you to all the coaches in our basketball program for their efforts this year. We have had success in skiing and snowboarding this year, sending more athletes to regionals than ever before. Two skiers and four snowboarders qualified for provincials with Ella Anderson and Lee Baldwin finishing 5th and 8th respectively in intermediate girls snowboarding. Sam and Carmen Oulton are participating in skiing provincials at press time.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Kentville Recreation is seeking Leadership Candidates for 2019. Deadline for applications is Friday, March 15th. Candidates must be age 18 by May 1st, 2019. For information on how to apply, please contact Ashley Alders at 902-679-2539 or by email at recreation@kentville.ca.

Dates to Remember

March	
8	MS Marking Day – NO SCHOOL FOR MS
13	MS Report Cards Go Home
18-22	March Break
25	First Teaching Day after Break
26	Grade 8-9 Parent Info Session 6:30 pm
27	Storm date for above mentioned meeting
28	MS Parent Teacher 6:30-8:30 pm
29	Middle School Early Dismissal 12:05 pm
29	MS Parent Teacher 1:30-3:30 pm
April	
12	April Newsletter
19	Good Friday – NO SCHOOL
22	Easter Monday – NO SCHOOL
25	HS Report Cards Go Home

