



Northeast Kings Education Centre

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

Principal- Kevin Veinot

October 2018

MISSION STATEMENT

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



Dear Parents and/or Guardians,

September has passed by quickly! We have had a very successful start to the school year in both our High School and our Middle School. We have 913 students enrolled for the 2018-2019 school year which is 4 less students than what we projected last January.

Our students seem to be well settled and are taking pride in our school and their work. They are a great group of people with many positive traits. We have had an amazing group of student leaders taking charge of our school year for our student body! They have created such a positive vibe throughout our school so far this year and they continue to impress our staff with their commitment and dedication to improving our school climate and culture.

The new Provincial student attendance policy will have major implications for some of our students and their families, but especially for our high school students. Students must be in attendance for 80 percent of each course they are enrolled in. This means they must attend at least four days a week. If they do not, they can be removed from each course and not receive any credits for the courses they are removed from.

One of the greatest gifts a child can receive is a strong education. It's sad to see students and families who lose that perspective. We will continue to do our best to make learning meaningful and to track attendance. We will also notify you when we see a concern. Please be sure that your child is attending school.



Our SAGA - Sexuality and Gender Acceptance student and staff team is up and started. Our Mission statement is, "We believe in equality" and is the foundation for all that our committee works towards. I am so proud of our students and how accepting they are of our diversity of students in our school. Northeast Kings Education Centre is truly a great place to grow and receive your education.

We have completed three fire drills, one hold and secure and one lockdown already. We can have our entire school population out of the building in 120 seconds and it is amazing that we can take 913 students and 100 staff and have them all out of sight in a matter of seconds! These are mandatory events that we must practice in case we ever had to use them in the case of an emergency. We expect that we will never have to use them, but we still must be prepared in case of that one exception.



Halloween can be a fun time of year when children get to dress up and visit neighbours looking for treats. It can also be a time of year when accidents happen. I caution you to keep your children safe and to know what they are doing Halloween evening. Unfortunately, there can also be a lot of unnecessary destruction. Please teach your children to be good citizens. Have fun!



Remembrance Day is just around the corner. Our Remembrance Day Assemblies will be held on Thursday, November 8th in the school gymnasium: High School - 1:00 pm; Middle School - 2:15pm. Ms. Salmon's Drama 12 class will take full responsibility for the production of these assemblies. We would love to have you attend one of these ceremonies. Please attend your community service on Remembrance Day.



Have a great October. Remain informed by using our website at: <http://www.nkec.ca>

Kevin Veinot, Principal

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

The month of September has come and gone very quickly at Northeast Kings Education Centre. During the month of September school staff have spent considerable time establishing positive relationships with students. For our grade six students there have been many new experiences, while grade seven and eight students quickly returned to the focused routines and expectations of school life. Middle level Titans have done an exceptional job settling into school routines and demonstrating an awareness of NKEC Expectations for Success.

On September 28th, middle school students participated in the first Positive Participation Presentation (PPP) of school year. During this time, homeroom 'Student of the Month' recipients were awarded. PPP time is also an opportunity to honor student achievement, share individual talents and celebrate Titan pride. Following the PPP, middle school students participated in the annual Terry Fox Run. Northeast Kings Education Centre is an annual participant in this event and during the last 15 years, students and staff have raised over \$18,000.00 for this important charity. Thank you to students, staff and parents for their continued support.

Currently, grade six students are completing the Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development Elementary Literacy & Mathematics Assessment. This assessment measures student aptitude in areas of reading, writing and mathematics. This assessment covers grade three, four and five curriculum. The result of this evaluation provides important information used to guide teacher instruction in grade six, seven and eight. Provincial assessment results are communicated to students, teachers and parents/guardians once assessment data is available.

Your child has likely mentioned the use of Chromebooks (small laptops) at school. We are fortunate to have Chromebooks for student use in our middle school. The use of these personal devices continue to have a positive impact on student learning and engagement. There are a variety of apps for learning accessible to students, and teachers will continue to introduce learning experiences that enhance student understanding and engagement.

October is Fire Prevention Month. Grade six students recently visited the Canning Fire Department to review fire safety information and tour the facility. Northeast Kings Education Centre students and staff thank members of the Canning Fire Department for their continued protection and support of the school and community.

Grade seven and eight students are following a new provincial curriculum this year. The focus of this curriculum is inquiry based learning. Moving forward, student learning will be more inquiry and exploratory based. Although this curriculum represents a significant change in terms of student learning, teacher direct instruction, structured learning time and conventional assessment still remains a priority. If you have any questions regarding this new curriculum, please contact the school office, or your child's teacher.

The first middle school dance is Thursday, October 18th from 6:30-8:30pm. All middle school students are welcome to attend. Dances are a social opportunity for middle school students. Students dance in the cafeteria, spend time talking with friends in the school lobby and play table tennis. All school expectations apply during this social time for students and they are reminded to dress appropriately. The cost for admission is \$5.00 or \$4.00 with a food bank item. Students are to be picked up at 8:30pm.

Please remember that **October 24th from 6:30-8:00pm is student led conference time** for middle level students. October 24th is an excellent time to review completed assignments, review student understanding of curriculum outcomes, and gather a glimpse of your child's time spent at school. Student appointment times and information regarding October 24th will be distributed to students. If you do not receive a time prior to October 24th, please contact your child's homeroom teacher to reserve a time.

Middle school students will have an opportunity to participate in exploratory activities during the month of October. An important part of middle school philosophy, exploratories are a time for students to participate in a variety of artistic, kinesthetic, and academic related activities with their peers. The intent of this programming is to encourage students to explore a new activity or interest.

It has been a terrific start to the school year. I am impressed by the level of student focus as I travel from classroom to classroom. Students are working hard and demonstrating respectful behaviors. NKEC's expectations for success is the cornerstone of respectful expectations at school. Please continue to speak with your child at home regarding the importance of being respectful of others, completing school work on time, and maintaining a positive attitude. I encourage parents and guardians to continue conversations with your child regarding their school day experiences. Encouraging your child to seek academic support from teachers as required. As you know students now have a full size student agenda to help track homework, assignments and other important information. Teachers and educational assistants are reinforcing the use of this organization tools daily to help keep students on track. Please continue to check the student agenda for daily homework and assignments.

As many of you know, extracurricular programming is an important aspect of school life at Northeast Kings Education Centre. I would like to thank all school staff and community members who continue to volunteer their time supporting students and extracurricular programming. Extracurricular programming has a positive impact on student learning and school climate.

As always, please keep in touch.

Greg Fox, Vice Principal, Middle School

ATTENTION GRAD PARENT/GUARDIAN

There will be a grad parent/guardian meeting on Monday, October 22nd at 7 pm in the cafeteria. The focus of this meeting will be planning potential fundraising events for safe grad. If you are unable to attend and would like to receive email updates about grad events, email jennosmond@gnsps.ca to be added to our list.

GRAD HOODIES

We are currently working on what design the grads want on their grad hoodies. As soon as that selection is made, order forms and sizers will be available for the grads to fill in and try on. There will be a 2nd order in February if you are unable to buy one at this time.

Grads - be sure to listen to announcements and look for updates on the grad google classroom.

NEWS FROM AVRCE

Alert Messaging System Update: Check Your Contact Preferences

The Annapolis Valley Regional Centre for Education (AVRCE) uses the "Alert" messaging system in PowerSchool to send occasional texts and emails to notify parents/guardians of school cancellations (snow days) and other important information.

Our school uses the Alert system to send texts, emails and recorded phone messages for newsletters, reminders, class events etc.

The Alert system uses the contact information you provide on your child's registration form to send messages. Parents/guardians do not need to sign up to receive these Alert messages.

If your phone number, email or other contact information changes at any time during the school year, please let the school office staff know.

Over the summer, the Alert system was updated, which reset all parent/guardian contact preferences. This reset means that all parents/guardians will receive emails, texts and phone messages from the school, as well as emails and texts (including school cancellation notices) from AVRCE, unless you change your contact preferences. Carrying your contact preferences forward during this update was not an option available to us.

If you changed your contact preferences in the past, or would like to do so for the first time (for example, to receive only texts but no email or phone messages), you will need to update your preferences using the PowerSchool Parent Portal (<https://sisavrsb.ednet.ns.ca/public>), or by speaking with the school office staff. Please be aware that choosing to receive no messages may prevent you from getting school cancellation notices!

AVRCE also provides a secondary notice service, *Notify Me*, so school community members (such as grandparents and childcare providers) can sign up to receive school cancellation notices by text or email. *Notify Me* has not been reset; all subscribers from previous years remains in this system. School community members can unsubscribe from *Notify Me* at www.avrce.ca/content/notify-me



NEWS FROM STUDENT SERVICES

September was a very busy month filled with course changes and discussions with many students around post-secondary education. All of the grade 12 students have now heard a presentation on all things post-secondary. It is a pleasure working with the grade 12 students at NKEC. I have been impressed with the high level of respect and positivity demonstrated by the students, even though there is often a lot on their plate!

I look forward to another busy, but exciting month. Please encourage your NKEC student to make an appointment or stop by at lunch/recess time if they have questions or concerns. Many universities will have online applications open up next week for early acceptance.

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SAT's

Any student interested in attending a University in the States must register for the SAT test on-line @ www.collegeboard.com before November 1st. The test is written at Kings Edgehill in early December or Dalhousie University in November.

Scholarships

Scholarship information is now available @ Student Services for the National based Loran Scholarship (deadline Oct 17th for sponsored applicants and 24th for the direct pool), the TD Canada Trust (deadline Nov. 17th) and the Terry Fox (Feb 1st). For scholarship information please watch for new applications to arrive!

Upcoming Presentations by Post-Secondary Institutes at NKEC

Universities and Colleges often visit our school at lunch time and students should be listening to announcements or checking the grad Google classroom regarding who is visiting when.

Upcoming Open Houses

Many schools are hosting Open Houses at this time of year. Please check each institution's website for the most update list. There are many schools that don't have official Open Houses but have tours all year long. Contact each school to make arrangements.

Kingstec Campus Open House: Oct 18th from 9am-7pm. NSCC will waive the \$25 application fee so bring your applications with you if interested in applying!

Concerned about what your future career choices are?

The province has purchased license rights for a web based career exploration program called myblueprint. It is a new tool for us, but it is amazing so far. To create a log in please go to myblueprint.ca/avrsb and the code to set up an account is NKEC

GRAD PHOTOS

Grad photos will be taken November 19th – 23rd. Please watch for more information regarding when the website will be open for making appointments. For questions, contact Mrs. Zwicker in the Student Services office at 902-582-2050.

NKEC ATHLETICS REPORT

A big congratulations to Harrison Seaman, a grade 9 student who won the individual junior boy golf regional championship last week at Ken-Wo. This is a first in Northeast Kings Education Center history. Well done Harrison!

Our football team has had a very good start to the year, sporting a 4-0 record, defeating Cole Harbour 24-6 in their most recent win. Continued success on and off the field for the boys as they embark on the second half of their schedule. All of our soccer teams have had a very good month of action. Both of our junior teams are undefeated in league play, with both teams hoping to qualify for regionals. Our senior boys' team is 2-1-1 in league play, with a very important game against Bridgetown this week. Our senior girls' team is very young, but looking strong, with a 4-0-1 record in league play to date. Good luck to all four teams as they hit the important part of their seasons. Our senior and junior girls' volleyball teams are hitting stride with their campaigns, both looking to show improvement over the next six weeks. The senior team is very young with no grade 12s, and look to build towards a very successful 2019. Our junior team is made of mostly grade 9s and hopes to have a very successful year on the court. Our cross country team heads to Bridgetown this coming Monday for regionals. We have a very strong senior boys' team that has hopes for another regional banner. Our junior girls' team look to all run personal bests. Good luck to all runners!

A reminder to all student athletes of the expectations placed upon our athletes when representing our school. We have a very high bar of what we expect in the classroom, the halls of Northeast Kings, at practices and during all competitive events. We are very proud of our student athletes and look forward to an outstanding year on all levels.

NEWS FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

We have a pretty quiet month of October with rehearsals and sectionals planned in preparation for our rather full performance schedule in November. For parents and students who are new to NKEC Music, our rehearsal schedule is as follows:

Sr. Concert Band – Mondays @ 3:30 – 4:45 p.m. and 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.

For adults who have always wanted to learn how to play a concert band instrument, this is the time to join the North Mountain Concert Band. Beginner adult band rehearses on Thursday evenings from 6:30 - 7:30 pm. If you have experience and would like to play with a fun group of adults, the Intermediate band rehearses on Thursday evenings from 7:30 - 8:30 pm. Contact Maggie Helms for more information: mhelms@gnsps.ca.

Please feel free to check out our Music Department website: www.nkecmusic.ca to stay up-to-date with what's happening with our Music students!

MARCH BREAK TOURS

Students currently in grades 11 and 12 can tour London, Paris, Florence, and Rome in March 2019. Go to eftours.ca tour # 1933661kh

Students currently in grades 10 and 11 can tour Northern Italy, Monaco, Southern France, Barcelona, and Madrid in March 2020. Go to eftours.ca tour # 2082557xa

Brand new! Students currently in grades 9 and 10 can tour Ireland, Scotland, and England in March 2021. Go to eftours.ca tour #2182817cv

Join our Googleclassroom: 966hhz for further information. Fundraising is underway for all three trips. Students can sign up now to lock in a price. (Students can begin fundraising before they sign up for the trip - check out the googleclassroom to find out how.) Email fpiddle@gnsps.ca with any questions!

2018-2019 YEARBOOKS

Please preorder yearbooks before Oct. 31st. No extra yearbooks will be available in June. Go to nkec.ca and click on 'Yearbook 2019. Thanks to successful fundraising this year's yearbook is \$39. Contact: fpiddle@gnsps.ca with any questions.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Donations (all sizes) of lightly worn sneakers, T-shirts, athletic shorts and pants are always appreciated and used by our students.

Dates to Remember

OCTOBER	
11-17	Gr 6 Assessments
17	MS Exploratory
15	Photo Retakes Gr 7 Immunization
19	Early Dismissal 12:05 pm
24	MS Student Led 6:30 – 8:00 pm
26	Provincial Conference Day – No School For Students
NOVEMBER	
8	Remembrance Day Assembly HS 1:00pm, MS 2:15 pm
9	Regional Shut Down – No School For Students
12	Remembrance Day (In Lieu) – No School For Students
14	Gr 9 Take Your Kids To Work Day
16	November Newsletter
19-23	Grad Photos
19	HS Report Cards Go Home
20	MS Report Cards Go Home