



Northeast Kings Education Centre

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

Principal- Kevin Veinot

September 2018

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),

We are so excited to have everyone here for the 2018-2019 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 913 students and 87 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 18th 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 personal information 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

Modeling Appropriate Social Media Behaviours for our Children

Social media has become an important means of communication and seeking information for most people. It is proving to be of particular importance for our youth as technology has become a significant part of the identity of this generation. Unfortunately, increased technology has also resulted in new social issues. It is sometimes used as a means of cyber-bullying or an exchange of inappropriate information. It is up to us, as adults, to serve as proper role models with regards to technology use. We need to teach our children to respect the use of technology and to be good digital citizens. In order to do this properly, we as adults must also learn to be good social citizens and to model appropriate use of social media. We must use social media tools like Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, Instagram, etc. appropriately, because our children are watching and emulating our behaviours.



Please be advised that inappropriate use of technology falls under the Provincial School Code of Conduct. Inappropriate use of technology and social media can result in serious consequences for students. Inappropriate use of technology and social media may also fall under the Criminal Code. We have recently seen criminal charges resulting from the sharing of inappropriate photos. Please be informed and help to inform your children.

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

Welcome students, parents and guardians to the 2018-2019 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

I would like to thank parents and guardians for attending the Middle School Orientation session this past Wednesday evening. Being engaged in your child's education is very important and as a staff we appreciated the opportunity to meet everyone who attended. If you were unable to attend the orientation session, please email or call to establish contact with your child's teachers for the year. We will meet again October 24th during student-led conferences, but please contact the school sooner if you have a question, or concern.

Northeast Kings Titans are very fortunate to work with a dedicated group of educational professionals. The middle school staff work hard to support students academically, socially, physically and emotionally. We understand that a collaborative approach is necessary to ensure student success. Collectively, middle level teachers and educational assistants are a very talented, caring and hardworking group of professionals!

Staff members have been working very hard with students to establish positive routines, promote strong organizational skills and reinforce 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. Many of our teachers use the "Remind" app to communicate homework details and other important information. This one-way text messaging app provides daily info about your child's education. If you have not received "Remind" information from your child's teacher, please contact the school for further information. Also, all students have a Titan's Agenda. This agenda booklet is a terrific tool that we want all students to use to track homework, assignments, important dates and their daily schedule. In the agenda, you will also find helpful studying and organizational suggestions, a multiplication table and other helpful tools. Please check your child's agenda routinely.

Homework is an ongoing 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. 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.

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 Ms. Murphy, or myself.

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 at www.nkec.ca to obtain information regarding extracurricular activities.

If there is anything we can do to help your child, please contact the school by email, telephone, or make an appointment. We are looking forward to a terrific year with your child. Please keep in touch and plan to attend upcoming student led conferences and parent teacher meetings.

All the best,
Greg Fox, Vice Principal, Middle School

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

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 Friday September 21st, students are asked to have their signed forms into Student Services by Thursday 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, I will be doing presentations in the grade 12 English classes before the month is over to **Explore Options**. There is a very important meeting for **Parents/Guardians of Grade 12's on Wednesday, September 19th at 6:30pm** in the Cafeteria. At 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 Thursday September 27th 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.

DRAMA DEPARTMENT

Middle School Drama Club - Mondays from 3:30 pm - 4:15 pm. The first rehearsal will be on Monday, September 17th. Please e-mail Mrs. Salmon (ksalmon@gnspecs.ca) if you have any questions or wish to know more information.

NKEC Improv Team - Wednesday, September 19th will be the tryouts for this theatrical team! Only 8 members will be selected to compete and attend practices. NKEC Improv team competes against other schools in the province, last year placing 5th in our provincial tournament. Please e-mail Mrs. Salmon (ksalmon@gnspecs.ca) if you wish to know more information. You may also visit <http://improv.ca> to learn more about the Canadian Improv Games in Nova Scotia.

NKEC presents The Addams Family, the musical! If you wish to know how you might be involved in this production please send Mrs. Salmon an e-mail. (ksalmon@gnspecs.ca). Auditions will be held during the last week of September and more information will come your way as we journey through the creation process together!

PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

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

NKEC ATHLETICS REPORT

Welcome to another year of Titan sports. We are very excited to provide teams across 16 sports, with many of our teams coached by

educators in the building. This is unprecedented in the province, as we are very fortunate to have many knowledgeable and compassionate coaches leading our teams. We have four soccer teams, a junior and senior girls' volleyball team, baseball team, cross country team, golf and football team all at various stages of infancy. If you are interested in participating, please feel empowered to come out to cross country at any time, as we would love to see more runners representing our school.

Our football team won their first league game this past Sunday, 39-0 over J.H. Gillis. The team looks very strong this year and look to improve their record this weekend with a home game against Central Kings Sunday morning. Good luck to the coaches and young men in that contest.

New year, same expectations for all that are representing our school during athletics. Parents and supporters are expected to be positive towards both teams, opposing fans and officials at all times. Coaches are expected to be positive, consistent role models for student athletes on both teams and mirror the same expectations that exist in our classrooms. Student athletes are reminded that their primary responsibility is to the classroom and to be strong school citizens. Failure to meet these expectations could result in that student athlete being dismissed from the team for a period of time until they have shown the necessary improvements in the classroom or school.

We are very excited for all our teams and we look forward to a very successful season, competing the right way. Best wishes to all student athletes, who aim to always give their best effort each and every practice and game.

Dale Sanford, NKEC Athletic Director, NSSAF Regional Director

NEWS FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Welcome to all new and returning students to the NKEC Music Department!! We are excited to have many opportunities for your students to participate in the music program at our school. Band registration night was last Thursday, Sept. 6th, but registration is ongoing. If your son or daughter was unable to make it to the registration night, they may pick up a packet of information from Ms. Helms in the Music Room.

Below is the current rehearsal schedule for our performing ensembles.

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.

Again this year, we have an adult concert band: **North Mountain Concert Band** for any adults (parents, grandparents, friends, family) who would like to learn to play a concert band instrument. We will meet on Thursday evenings with the first year players meeting from 6:30 – 7:30 pm. Second year or experienced players will meet from 7:30 – 8:30 pm. If you've never played an instrument but have always wanted to learn, this is the place for you. We have instruments to loan and the only other cost would be the purchase of the method book we use. This Thursday, Sept. 13th, will be a registration night for any adult interested in joining in on the fun!

We have a functioning Northeast Kings Music Department website: www.nkecmusic.ca. Please check out the welcoming letter; information concerning the NKEC Band Parents' Association; and the calendar of events for the Music Department. If you have any questions, concerns, or comments, you may contact Maggie Helms at mhelms@gnspecs.ca or phone (902) 582-2055.

2017-2018 YEARBOOKS

Yearbooks are available for preorder. This year's price is \$39. Our very successful fundraising campaign is subsidizing the cost of this year's book. There will be a link on the school website shortly. Contact fpriddle@gnspecs.ca for further information.

EUROPE TRIP

Want to see Europe over March Break 2019 or 2020? Check out eftours.ca tours number 1933661kh and 2082557xa. We fly to London 6 months from today! Contact fpriddle@gnspecs.ca for further information. Parents and students interested or already booked to travel are invited to an information session Tues, Sept. 25th at 6:30 pm at the NKEC cafeteria.

SEPTEMBER	
18	Reg. Shut down – NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
19	Gr 12 parent meeting 6:30 pm
21	Last day for Semester 1 course changes
26	Last day for Year Long course changes
27	Early Dismissal – 12:15 pm
OCTOBER	
8	Thanksgiving Day – NO SCHOOL
12	October Newsletter
15	Photo Retakes
15	Grade 7 Immunization
19	Early Dismissal – 12:15 pm
24	Middle School Student Led – 6:30 – 8:00 pm
26	Prov. In-Service – No School for Students