



Sackville Heights Junior High Newsletter September 2018

CONTACT US:

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SHJH Family of Schools: Millwood

VP: D. Ferguson

Bus Cluster: 1

Main Office Manager: J. Knight



Welcome back SHJH students & families!!!

A new school year is here and we are so excited to work with you! It is going to be another fantastic year filled with wonderful learning experiences and lots of fun.

Here are a few **important pieces of information** this month:

- **We are not accepting requests for class changes.** Staff have spent hours balancing class lists for many factors. In addition, our elementary feeder schools grouped their grade 5 students for grade 6 classes with the best interest of all students in mind and we respect their knowledge and professional recommendations. For these reasons, class lists are now considered final. Thank you for your understanding.

- CHECK OUT DARTMOUTH ALL-CITY MUSIC!**
Are you in your school band? If so, you can also join us! Please visit <http://dacm.hrce.ns.ca> for more info and to register for one of our **All-City Bands!** Our Junior Concert, Intermediate Concert and Studio B Jazz Bands do not require an audition. Yes, you **MUST** be in your school band.
Attention grades 7-9 orchestral string students: Are you continuing lessons with us? If so, please visit <http://dacm.hrsb.ns.ca> to register if you haven't already done so. How about registering for one of our orchestras too?
- Students are welcome to bring their own electronic devices to school; however, they are not permitted to use them to make calls or send text message to anyone, including parents, during class time.** If students need to contact home for any reason, they should go to the main office where they can use their own device to call home if they wish or the main office phone. This ensures that we know where they are at all times and are supervised. Thank you for your cooperation with this.
- All students are expected to **dress in a respectable and appropriate manner** during the school day at and at school events including dances. **No crop tops or exposed underwear** please!
- The **School Advisory Council (SAC)** meets on a regular basis for a minimum of six times per school year. If you would like to participate on our SAC, please contact Mrs. MacLeod at kmacleod@hrce.ca. We have spaces available for parents and community members. The first SAC meeting of the 2018-2019 school year will be held on **Monday, September 10th, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. in our school library.**
- Our **Breakfast Program** is available from 8:20 - 8:40 a.m. Mon, Wed. & Fri. starting on September 17th. We offer students grab n' go items such as yoghurt tubes, cheese sticks, cereal bars. **We need parent volunteers!!** If you are available to help us, please contact the main office at: 902-869-3800
- SHJH is a NUT/Scent Aware school.** We have a number of students and staff who have strong anaphylactic, life threatening allergies to peanuts and tree nuts as well as those severely affected by scents such as perfumes and body sprays. For this reason, **students and visitors MUST refrain from wearing scented products at school,** especially AXE, and should not bring foods containing nuts to school. Thank you for your cooperation!
- Safe Arrival:** Parents/guardians should report a student absence or late by sending an **email to:** svjattendance@hrsbc.ca or by calling the **Safe Arrival**

phone #: 902-869-3842. Please do not report a student absence on the main office number or the school email address as the notice may not be received in time. **Safe Arrival needs volunteers!** If you are able to help with Safe Arrival one or two days per week we would be extremely grateful. With 573 students this year, having a volunteer to help with safe arrival means that student attendance in the morning can be monitored more quickly.

- SHJH uses a **video surveillance system** as part of our continued efforts to support a safe, positive and effective learning environment. We recognize that the images recorded by this video surveillance system are personal information and, as with all other personal information, we take steps to balance privacy rights with safety and security concerns. The school has the legal authority to collect this personal information under Section 24 of Nova Scotia's *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. Only designated staff has access to our video surveillance equipment and such access is restricted as required by law. The system is used to enhance school safety and to deter or take action in response to unlawful behaviors.
- **Drop off and pick up student safety:** **Parents/guardians** dropping students off in the morning or picking students up after school are **asked not to stop or pull over at the curb in the bus lanes in front of the school.** Student safety is jeopardized if vehicles block or prohibit the buses from entering or leaving our driveway as it causes serious traffic congestion. Vehicles should drive through the driveway with caution!
- **Building Security:** The front door will be locked at 9 a.m. and then after the lunchtime at 12:45 p.m. In order to gain entrance to the school during school hours, visitors need to push the button on the camera located at the front door of the school. Someone will then give you access to the building. **All visitors must report to the main office upon entering the school.**

Volunteers Needed!

Any parents/guardians interested in volunteering at our school should know that we would love to have volunteers help us! **Safe Arrival** each day. We also need people to help with our **Breakfast program**. Please contact the main office if you can help us in these areas. Thanks!!

Important Dates to Remember:

- **First Fire Drill – Friday, September 7th 10:00 a.m.**
- **Annual General SAC Meeting – Monday, Sept.10th 5:30 p.m. School library**
- **Curriculum Night – Thursday, September 13th 6:00-8:00 p.m.**
- **Lockdown Drill – Wednesday, September 19th 10:00 a.m.**
- **School Picture Day – Thursday, September 20th**
- **First School Dance - Thursday, Sept.20th There are no sign-ins for this dance. A portion of the ticket sales for this dance will go to our Me to We club who support local and global charities.**
- **National Run Day or Terry Fox Run – Thursday, September 27th 2:00 p.m.**
- **PD Day – Friday, Sept.28th PD Day - No Classes**