

Chedabucto Education Centre/ Guysborough Academy



Newsletter

Nov. 2023

Principal

Barbara Avery

Vice Principal

Tera Dorrington

Guidance

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Faye Shea

Building Operator

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

It is hard to believe that two months have come and gone in the school year already. P-12 Report cards are just around the corner and will be sent home this month with 9-12 sent home November 16th and P-8 November 20th. Our first Parent Teacher is scheduled by appointment for Nov 22nd with an evening session from 4:30 pm-6:30 pm as well as an afternoon session from 12:30 pm-2:30 pm on November 23rd. Please call the school at 902-533-2288 to book an appointment with an in person or phone call option for parents. **No school for All PP-12 students on November 23rd due to in-service in the morning and Parent teacher in the afternoon.**

These parent teacher sessions are a means of facilitating discussions as to student progress and identify criteria for success, it is important for all of us to use the information provided in those sessions to support student learning and achievement. There are certainly many activities and events happening in our school on a daily basis, but the bottom line has to be the academic achievement of each student. Regular attendance at school also supports greater student success and achievement. Attendance supports student learning and promotes a sense of responsibility that students will need as they transition from the school system to post-secondary studies and/or the workforce.

As for school events, our extracurricular schedule has been very busy over the first two months, with

boys and girls soccer and cross country and now well into volleyball season. Thanks to the coaches and parents for their efforts and commitment! Our school teams were very competitive in their respective leagues and enjoyed a fun-filled season. CEC/GA certainly has no shortage of opportunities for students to get involved in a variety of activities and/or committees, and with volleyball, basketball and unified sport seasons upon us, look for continued success and fun for all involved!

Our school will also be hosting the annual Remembrance Day Ceremony for our school community on Friday, November 10th at 11:00 am. Thank you to everyone who has been working hard to provide such a memorable event as we take the time to honor those who have given so much of their lives to make our world a safer place to be each day.

We have an exciting "Big Business to Future Workforce" event happening in our school on Tuesday, November 7 for grade 10-12 students from CECGA, St Mary's and Canso schools! The event, organized by Ashley Cunningham and the Guysborough District Business Partnership, will have representatives from three industrial projects in our area as they present what their projects are about, how they will impact the community and possible career opportunities that may exist (and currently do). The three projects are Everwind Fuels (sites all over MODG/Strait area developing clean hydrogen through wind), Maritime Launch (Canso Area) and Signal Gold (Goldboro).

Our School Advisory Council will have its second meeting on Nov 20th at 6:00pm in the ACHFC. This body serves a very valuable purpose in setting direction for the school and listening to concerns

from the school community. These meetings are open to the school community.

Other events of note upcoming for the month of November include Admin and Evaluation Day (no school for PP-8 students) on Nov 3rd, picture re-take day Nov 7th, and an AARAO tour Nov 28th where various post-secondary representatives will be set up for students to explore and ask questions. As well, eight Preservice teachers will be joining CECGA on Nov 14th for a five week practicum with various teaching staff.

Please continue to communicate with the school if there are issues that you would like to see addressed. Together we can make a positive change for all our students.

Barbara Avery
Principal

Notice to Families when hosting public events – e.g., sporting events/competitions, Holiday concerts, etc.

Please note from time to time our school will host public events like sporting events, competitions and concerts. As a public event, it is reasonable to expect photographs and audio/video/digital recordings may be taken by those in attendance. Therefore, privacy cannot be expected. When events are public, it is reasonable to expect photographs and/or taping will be taken by spectators, media and schools.

We understand you may wish to record your child at this event. Please be respectful of other students' and family's privacy when recording your child during the event.

Thank you for your cooperation.

SCHOOL INSURANCE PROGRAM

Every eligible child attending public school in Nova Scotia is automatically insured by the School

Insurance Program's Basic Plan student accident coverage. This coverage is provided without deductible and at no cost. Basic Plan coverage can cover things such as physiotherapy, dental and medical equipment expenses, up to policy limits.

However, if parents/guardians wish to purchase additional coverage, the Gold Plan increases the time that your child is covered to 24/7 including summer vacations. Many of the specific loss accident payments are triple those of the Basic Plan. Please visit www.sip.ca for more information.

All-Gender Care Products in Schools

The Strait Regional Centre for Education provides free all-gender care products in all schools with Grades 5 to 12 students. These products are located in all female and all-gender washrooms.

BUS PASSES

Just a reminder that there will be **NO BUS PASSES** issued this year. Each student will be allowed to have one alternate route for the year, which has to be registered with the SRCE transportation office by calling 902-747-3644

WATER BOTTLES

Reminder to all students that if they wish to have a drink of water, they **MUST** bring their own water bottles. The fountains are now water fill stations not drinking fountains.

BREAKFAST PROGRAM VOLUNTEERS

Over the last couple of months staff at Chedabucto Education Centre/Guysborough Academy have been working hard; committed to making some enhancements to our Breakfast Program. Currently, we have a Breakfast Program running five days a week with grab and go breakfast carts set up throughout the school. We would like to expand our menu to offer hot items on a more regular basis such as toast, bagels, grilled cheese, oatmeal, boiled eggs, etc. as we did before COVID. To do this we need volunteers.

Volunteers can choose their own schedule (even if only volunteering 1 day per month). Breakfast Program Volunteers require a current Criminal Records Check and Child Abuse Registry Check that is good for 3 years. We have letters at the school which we can provide to have this done free of charge. Volunteers for Breakfast Program also require our in-house Volunteer Application Form & Guidelines for Volunteers done annually (forms are available at the main Office and can be filled out upon your arrival).

Volunteers do not need to arrive until 8 am for set up and leave at 8:40 am after clean up.

Those who are interested can contact the office (902-533-2288) and let us know what day(s) you are available. Please pass this note along to any community members you think would like to help out as well.

Thank you to all who can help us with our breakfast program delivery! Breakfast programs have been found to decrease student absenteeism, in-class disruptions, and to increase student performance. Please consider lending a hand in nourishing our students!

Notice to Subscribers of the SRCE Stay Informed Notification System (Bus Route and Class Announcements by Email and/or Text)

Annual Subscription to the Service Required Effective Immediately

Please be advised that effective immediately subscribers to the SRCE Stay Informed Notification System (Bus Route and Class Announcements) must now re-subscribe annually to continue to receive notifications by email and/or text.

Over the summer, changes were required to the operation of the system to enhance the efficiency and timely delivery of the notifications. Annual subscription to this service will also ensure that the system contains the most up-to-date subscriber contact information (i.e., email address, cell phone number(s) and service provider).

Subscribers to the SRCE Stay Informed Notification System are asked to please re-subscribe, if interested, to continue to receive bus route and/or class announcement notices by email and/or text.

At the end of each school year, subscriber contact information will be deleted. You may re-subscribe after August 1 of each year.

To renew your subscription or to subscribe for the first time, please look for the SRCE Stay Informed graphic image (included above) on the SRCE website, www.srce.ca, and follow the steps outlined to subscribe or re-subscribe to this service; or click here to access the [SRCE Stay Informed By Email and/or Text](#) page directly.

Intimate Images and Cyber-Protection Act

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.

Consent Form for the Publication of Student Personal Information and Student Work

The Strait Regional Centre for Education believes strongly in the need to protect the privacy of all students and recognizes the issues around the publishing of student images and personal student identifying information, especially on the public Internet and social media sites. However, the Regional Centre also believes that the showcasing of students, their work, activities and achievements, is an important part of school life and can be a very positive experience for students. Therefore, it is the practice of the Strait Regional Centre for Education and all schools to have written informed consent from parents/guardians before any student identifying information, including name, grade, school, video/voice/audio recording, images (photos) of students and/or student work, is used in print, online and in social media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.), and prior to any student media interviews.

There are other times when one of our media partners may contact the school to profile a specific student, program or event that may involve a student(s) being interviewed, photographed, video recorded and/or audio recorded.

**Notice to Parents/Guardians
Information Sharing Agreement with
Department of Health and Wellness**

Annually, students across Nova Scotia are offered services delivered by Public Health including the Grade 7 School Immunization Program, Pre-school Screening, Enhanced Vision Screening Program and the Fluoride Mouthrinse Program. Public Health works with the education system to distribute information about these programs and to obtain consent for student participation.

Occasionally, Public Health practitioners may need to contact parents/guardians of students where consent information is incomplete or unclear, or when a consent form has not been returned. Public Health will not contact you if you have signed a consent form indicating you do not wish to have your child participate in one of these programs. The Strait Regional Centre for Education takes its responsibility for the protection of personal student and family information seriously and will share limited information such as names of parents/guardians and students, with Public Health for the purposes of operating these public health services for students.

All Regional Centres for Education in Nova Scotia share certain personal information about students and parents/guardians with the Department of Health and Wellness, for the purposes of operating these programs. This information sharing is required by the Public Health Protection Act and is permitted by the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPOP) Act and an Information Sharing Agreement signed by the Regional Centre. Please contact your local public health office if you have any questions about these public health programs. If you have any questions about how your information is shared, please feel free to contact your respective school or our Regional Centre's Information Access and Privacy Manager at 902-625-2191.

**Notice to Families Regarding School-Based
Communications**

As we begin another school year, I would like to share a reminder with our students and families regarding school communications.

As part of efforts to establish and maintain open communication with our students and families, our school uses several communication platforms, including print, online and social media, to regularly share information with our families and school community. These platforms include: school newsletter/calendar, school website, Twitter account, and direct email and text alerts to parents and guardians using SchoolMessenger.

In addition, our practice is to share information on situations that require emergency response from EHS and/or the RCMP, as needed. Currently, there are plans involving individual students who may require a medical response. These specific incidents involving individual students will be addressed directly with the family of the student and no school-wide notification notice will be issued.

When necessary, serious incidents that impact multiple students and the school community broadly, including those that escalate through broad sharing on social media, will continue to be communicated directly to students and families through a notification issued by the school.

If you have any follow-up questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. As always, thank you for your ongoing support and cooperation.

**Communication to Parents/Guardians and
Students from Teachers**

In accordance with Recommendation #31 of the Report of the Council to Improve Classroom Conditions (April 28, 2017), in an effort to minimize disruptions to student learning and the teaching day, teachers have up to two business days to respond to emails.

CHEDABUCTO LIFESTYLE COMPLEX

To use the CLC facilities, **CHILDREN UNDER GRADE 6** will need to be accompanied by an adult unless it is a Municipal program such as PACY, However in order to go to the CLC after school written permission is required in the office.

PARENTS/GUARDIANS TAKE NOTICE

We are asking parents and students to take extra caution when packing lunches for your son/daughters. Due to the many allergies that some students have we would like to remind people that Nutella is also considered a nut based product.

NUT AND SHELL FISH AWARE SCHOOL



There are currently students attending **Chedabucto Education Centre/Guysborough Academy** with severe allergies that can cause an *anaphylactic reaction*. An anaphylactic reaction can be triggered by **ingestion, inhaling or touching** any of the identified allergens (**peanuts, tree nuts, nut Products, and shellfish**). If an individual is exposed to an allergen, their body triggers an immediate immune response and sends out extra antibodies to fight the allergen. They can experience very strong reactions including hives, swelling of the eyes, ears, lips, and tongue. This requires immediate emergency care!

PERMISSION NOTES



Written permission must be given to a student when he/she plans to stay after school hours, leave the school, **If**


there is no contact from a parent/guardian, the student will be sent home on his/her regular bus.

Permission notes are also necessary to be exempt from participating in Phys. Ed. classes or other school activities.


Communication to Parents/Guardians and Students from Teachers

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SCHOOLS PLUS

 SchoolsPlus seeks to improve the collaboration and coordination of services and programs for children, youth and families. Our main goal is to bridge the gap between school, home and outside agencies. We meet students and families where they are and provide support in accessing services to meet needs. We do lots of programming with classrooms, individual students and parents as well as collaborating with outside agencies to deliver programs in schools and communities. Referrals can be made through the School Program Planning Teams, Administration, and outside agencies. Students and families can access SchoolsPlus support by contacting SchoolsPlus Facilitator, Liz MacIntosh at 631-2414 or Community Outreach Worker, Amanda Millar at 631-4699.

November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Day E	2 Day F	3 Day G Admin Day for PP-8 NO CLASSES 9 – 12 Regular Classes	4 No Cafeteria service on Nov. 3 rd .
5	6 Day H Apprenticeship Presentation	7 Day A <i>Picture Retakes</i> Big Business to Future Workforce Building Gr. 10 -12	8 Day B	9 Day C SMU BUS TRIP Gr. 11 & 12	10 Day D School Remembrance Day Service 11:00 am	11 
12	13 HOLIDAY	14 Day E STFX Pre-service Teachers begin	15 Day F	16 Day G (9 – 12) Report Cards Go Home	17 Day H	18
19	20 Day A School Advisory Meeting 6:00 pm (P-8) Report Cards Go Home	21 Day B	22 Day C Parent Teacher By appointment 4:30 – 6:30	23 Parent Teacher by appointment NO CLASSES PP-12 12:30 – 2:30	24 Day D	25
26	27 Day E	28 Day F AARAO TOUR Gr. 9 - 12	29 Day G	30 Day H		