

Horton High School ~ October 2017

Principal's Message

Hard to believe that September is gone. As usual, Horton has been a very busy place. Hopefully things slow down a little for everyone so that we all can enjoy the High School experience. Most students are settling in nicely, they are establishing positive daily routines.

Thank you to all of the parents who attended our Parent Orientation Night back in September. Although I only got to speak to the group for 15 minutes, important topics such as assessments, cell phones, dress codes, Horton activities, Google classroom, etc. were discussed. Please remind your son/daughter to place cell phones in their bag during class time, there is no need to have it out during class. Do not be surprised if I call you to come get the device out of the school! Do not hesitate to contact me to discuss any aspect of our Horton community.

The Administration also handed out many Parent Portal Passwords, if you were unable to attend and would like to have a password, please contact us at the school so we can create one for you. When you get set up you will be able to stay informed on how they are progressing academically. This is the report every day! In addition, following your student's class within the Google classroom allows you to see much of the day to day material covered in class.

October is Mi'kmaq History Month; as in previous years, teachers will be scheduling activities in their classes that celebrate the Mi'kmaq culture. Ms. Pelley has once again organized Mi'kmaq activities and displays at Horton. I would like to take this moment to publicly thank her for organizing these events for our students.

Consistent student attendance is crucial to student success. We have now entered the new area of a provincial attendance and engagement policy. This was recently sent to all parents to review. When a child is absent from school, he/she misses important learning experiences including specific skills and knowledge that may be necessary for further learning. The real danger of frequent absences from school is that students will develop gaps in their learning that will hinder future knowledge. This new policy stresses the importance of regular school attendance. It states that 20 percent missed time could result in the loss of credit in High School courses, this number was generated based upon student missing just 1 day per week. However, communication is a key aspect of this policy, stressing that schools need to implement communication and interventions when students miss 5%, 10% and 15% of class time. Horton will ensure that there will be no surprise when a student is at risk for loss of credit. Horton communication plans have always contained various aspects of communication about student attendance, so in many cases families will not notice much of a difference.

Horton is also beginning entering a new phase of Student Success Planning. Our staff will be working diligently in curriculum groups to help design strategies to help improve student success in various target levels. A few years ago parents filled out an online survey on school performance. This year you will be getting another survey electronically, this one is to give us important data on the new Student Success Planning process. This should occur sometime in the New Year.

~Jodye Routledge
Acting Principal

Student Services

Post Secondary Open House Dates: Please check the college and university websites for Fall Open House dates at various institutions.

Grade 12 Fees: Reminder that grade 12 fees are \$80. You may pay by installments. See Mrs. Langille in Student Services.

Addiction Counselling - Every Monday, Tara Newcombe, an Addictions Counsellor, comes to our school to meet with students. Parents/students wishing to make a referral can do so through Student Services.

Breakfast Programme - All students are able to get breakfast (free!!) through the cafeteria: you can get milk or juice, fruit and a multigrain item. Students can simply go through the cafeteria and mention that you would "like the free breakfast". This is one of our health initiatives which is sponsored in part by "Annapolis Valley Health", AVRSB, and "Breakfast For Learning". We believe that good nutrition is a key to optimum school performance and healthy living. Anyone wishing to make a financial contribution to assist us in providing nutrition to our students, please contact Ms. Val Kennie, Financial Secretary.

Post-Secondary Information Day -There will be a representative from approximately 40 universities and colleges available to grade 11 and 12 students on **Wednesday, November 8th**. Grade 12 students will attend period 1 for attendance and then be invited to Horton Hall for period 1 from 9:00—10:10 am. Grade 11 students will attend period 2 for attendance and will be invited to Horton Hall from 10:20 – 10:45 am.

Grade 12 Parent Information Evening - Mr. Armstrong will be discussing information on University/College applications, scholarships, admission requirements, students loans, etc. on **October 24th, 7-8 pm @ Horton**.

Prefects - Any students who are interested in becoming a Prefect Leader here at Horton are asked to listen closely to the announcements the next couple weeks. We will be welcoming new leaders to join us and learn about how you can be involved in our school community.

Peer Tutors- Any student willing to be a peer tutor is asked to sign up in Student Services ASAP.

ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE—ROTARY CLUB OF NEW MINAS SUNRISE

If you are keen to see the world and experience a potentially life changing experience, then a Rotary exchange might be a great opportunity for you.

Once again the Rotary Club of New Minas Sunrise is offering an opportunity for students to apply to be part of the Rotary International Youth Exchange Program for the 2017-2018 academic year. This program offers the opportunity to live and study in another country where you will get the opportunity to see things you might never have seen, learn a new language and make new lifelong friends from all over the world.

If you are interested in pursuing this opportunity you can find the details at Mr. Armstrong's office. Application submission deadline is **October 26th**.

Horton Harvest Craft Fair ~ Celebrating 22 Years!

Presented by the Horton High School Music Parents Association

Saturday, October 14, 2017

9:00 am ~ 3:00 pm ~ admission is \$2 ~ children under 12 FREE

Admission fee includes one door prize ticket

Featuring a large variety of crafters and artisans

Over 165 tables on 2 levels

Café, door prizes, musical entertainment and ticket auction!

Come out and support the Horton Music Department!



"I'm so glad I live in a world where there are Octobers."

~ Anne of Green Gables

PARENTS AS CAREER COACHES: Senior High

This program is for parents (grand-parents etc.) of students in grades 9/10 to 12. It will provide you with the tools and information that will help your children explore potential occupations which relate to their interests and skills. *Parents as Career Coaches* also encourages parents and their children to consider the many practical factors that will impact career decisions, including skills, the labour market (what occupations are in high demand), and the education and training requirements to pursue these goals.

This very popular program has received consistently strong ratings, from parents, over the years. 99% of parents who attended the PACC Senior High program (2015-16 academic year) rated it as either "Excellent" or "Good".

***Parents as Career Coaches* provides you with:**

- Information about what the career journey looks like, to help you deal with the many twists and turns that can occur. Details on critical skills and personal qualities required to be both competitive and successful, in the work force.
- Information on websites, which will provide information on specific jobs, labour market demands, education/training requirements, salaries and much more.
- A parent guide designed to help you work with your children throughout their career journey.
- A student workbook, which provides your daughter or son with information and activities to identify interests and skills and research occupations.

Dates: Tues., Nov. 7th & Wed., Nov. 8th **Times:** 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm (Session 1) and 6:30 pm – 8:40 pm (Session 2)

You can register for an upcoming session at www.parentsascareercoaches.ca If you do not have internet access or do not wish to register on the website, please contact the school office to add your name to the session list.



"Intervarsity" at Horton (formally known as Horton Christian Fellowship or HCF) encourages students to be part of a Christian community at Horton where they can participate in activities as well as talk about their faith. The room is always open for newcomers and those that want to check what we do. Horton Intervarsity meet Tuesday each week at lunch in Room 1115. For more information contact Jana at jehrenholz@ivcf.ca

Music Department

The Annual General Meeting of the Horton Music Parents Association will be held on Monday, November 6th at 7 PM in the conference room.

The Craft Fair will take place on Saturday, Oct 14th from 9 AM to 3 PM.

The Nova Scotia Junior Wind Ensemble will be performing with the Horton Grade 10 Band on Sunday, Nov 5th. Check the music department website (music.kay.zone) for more details as the date gets closer.

Europe 2019 March Break!

At present, cost is \$215 per month with early registration bonus! Italy - Milan, Pisa, Rome, Florence, Pompeii; Greece - Athens, Delphi, Patras...Walk through the Sistine Chapel, see Michelangelo's La Pieta in person, imagine the roars of the Roman Coliseum as you explore its vaults...Learn Greek Dance and after dinner, yes, you can throw your plate! OLA! If you are interested in joining the Travel Group for a memory-maker of a 10 day trip, see Mrs. Webb in room, 2811; any recess. Information about costs, destinations and process will be explained and a handbook for enrolment provided. Parents - if you require more info email tawebb@gnsps.ca

Reach for the Top: If you are interested please come to lunch meeting on Thursdays, 1:25 in room 2811.

Brain Wars: Meet in room 2811 on Fridays during lunch - all welcome :)

Science 10 - Mrs. Webb

On Oct 25th the Science 10 classes (Mrs. Webb's) will be attending a film debut showing at DevourFest. The film is produced by a former Horton Grad (Aube Giroux) called Modified.

October 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 School photo retakes	13	14 Horton Craft Fair
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 Grade 12 Parent Information Evening ~ 7 pm	25	26 Early Dismissal 12:15 pm	27	28
29	30	31				



~Home of the Griffins~



Horton High School
75 Greenwich Road South
Wolfville, NS B4P 2R2

hhs@avrsb.ca

Tel: 902-542-6060 Fax: 902-542-6066