

Horton High School ~ September 2017

Principal's Message

Welcome back, I hope you had a great summer. I am very pleased to welcome this year's new staff members to our team, Rachel Munro (English 9, French), Matt Jennings (Math 10/11, Business Technology 11, O2), Kathryn Brewster (English 10,11), Axel Lawrence (PE 9, Science 9), Travis Cox (Job share with Mr. MacPherson), Larry Vidito (Currently in for Mr. Veinotte) and Kerri Leier (Currently in for Mrs. Green). We would like to welcome back Vanessa Viner to a new Math and Healthy Living position. In addition, Chauncey Hill and Marketa Glenn have joined our Educational Assistant staff.

There have been many changes to the main office staff. I am currently Acting Principal while Mr. Stokes is away. Mr. Veinotte is currently in the position of Grade 9 VP for Mr. Bennett. Mrs. Green is also in the office to help with my former position. School enrollment also created a drop in our number of administrative assistants in the main office. Please be patient as we begin the year with many new changes and various new faces in the office.

Each year we always review the policies and procedures from the AVRSB, this year we continue to plan to focus on the new Code of Conduct developed by the Minister of Education. As parents it is important to get involved in the trends our society dictates, one big one is cyberbullying. We will continue to use the same approach with cyberbullying as we did in previous years. Inappropriate behaviors associated with social media will be dealt with through the new code of conduct; there is no tolerance for this type of behavior and our students know that. Encourage your daughter/son to stay away from using social media to intimidate others or getting involved in drama, these behaviors create unnecessary stress in all of our lives.

Good attendance and punctuality are positive behaviors that we promote at Horton High School. Data shows that some students are missing too much class time. Please call or email the school through the attendance link if they are going to be absent from classes. This needs to be a focus when they have a scheduled assessment on the day of their absence. The province is now in the process of developing an attendance policy to help promote school attendance and enhance student performance. This new policy could be reality at any time. In addition, I believe that being late to class is disruptive to all, but often not always avoidable. If your son or daughter is going to be late for school, please alert the office prior to their arrival or just bring your son or daughter into the school to sign in. I would also like to remind parents that students are required to be signed out when leaving school early. If the system we have in place is followed, this prevents unnecessary phone calls, texts and emails to you about student attendance.

Demographic forms have been sent home recently and it is important that we get them returned ASAP with updated data. Please pay close attention to student self-identification, email contacts, cell phone numbers and emergency contact information. If there is an incident involving your son or daughter we need various ways to get in touch with the immediate family or emergency contacts.

Please refer to the many other forms that have been sent home for your signature, it is important to get those in as soon as possible. We recently rolled out our chromebooks to students to use throughout the year. It was released to our students if your son/daughter brought back the signed form. Students will be responsible for the care of their chromebook and will have to maintain it until they graduate, meaning a student in grade 9 will be given the same device next year. If you have any questions on the use of chromebooks, please drop me a message and I will be eager to help.

To close, I would quickly like to mention the use of technology in the classroom. The issue of cell phone and chromebook use in the classroom can be very distracting to both student and teacher. These devices are permitted to be used only at times when the teacher allows them to use this technology. These devices can be useful educational tools when used properly. Students who do not follow the rules of the classroom will be referred to school administration.

Jodye Routledge
Acting Principal

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, by Mrs. Jacqueline Langille, Administrative Assistant, or one of our Counsellors, Mr. George Armstrong, or Mrs. Sandy Coldwell.

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.

Grad Fees - Reminder that Grad fees are \$80. You may pay by instalments. Please see Mrs. Langille in Student Services.

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**.

NSCC Applicants - Grade 12 students who applied for NSCC programs during grade 11 are reminded that they must send an *In Progress Transcript* to NSCC Admissions before September 30th to hold their spot in their prospective program.

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**.

Orange Shirt Day ~ October 30 (October 28th)

For the first time across the province, Apiksiktuaqn (**Orange Shirt Day**) is being recognized on September 30. Everyone is encouraged to wear orange in recognition of the harm caused to Indigenous children by Canada's residential school system. To learn why the colour orange was chosen, read the story of Phyllis, a residential school survivor: www.orangeshirtday.org/phyllis-story.html. This day is an affirmation of our commitment to the well-being of all children. It is also an opportunity to open up conversations around Treaty Education and how each of us is part of the reconciliation process. Information on the date of Orange Shirt Day observances in AVRSB will be shared with schools and on www.avrsb.ca.

Our school will recognize Orange Shirt Day on Thursday October 28th due to the full day in service on Friday Oct 29th. It will be celebrated nationally on Saturday, October 30th. More information to follow!

Highlighting Student Summer Events:

Azlyn Bezanson represented Nova Scotia as a member of the Masters team from Evangeline Pony Club at a competition in Edmonton, Alberta in August. The team of five competed in the Prince Philip Mounted Games against teams from Ontario, Alberta and BC. They came in fourth place and were only 5 points from the top placing!

Esme Hudson also represented Nova Scotia and the Evangeline branch in Pony Club National Show Jumping and Dressage events this summer. She came in 5th and 6th place in her show jumping and was National Dressage Reserve Champion Training Level!

Emma Olszoweic, Jessica Sylliboy, Nelson Kruszewski, Lauren Kruszewski, Aliya Lickers, Emma Atwell and Skylar Maguire represented Nova Scotia at the North American Indigenous Summer Games held in Toronto in July. Nelson competed in track and field events. Lauren, Emma O, Jessica, Skylar and Aliya were on the women's U19 soccer team playing at the Mc Master University field in Hamilton. They came in fifth place overall. Emma A was on the Nova Scotia Archery team. She placed fourth! A great effort by all the athletes. There were teams from all across Canada and the United States. As well as the competitions, the students were able to take in the Opening Ceremony in Toronto as well as other cultural and social events throughout the week.

Aliya Lickers and Nelson Kruszewski both came away from this year's Mi'kmaq Summer Games with medals! Aliya competed in the 100 m, 400m, running long jump and shot put events. Nelson competed in track and field events as well as the 1 k race. The games were held in Cape Breton in August.

Horton Music Department:

The Music Department Information and Registration night is Thursday, September 14th, at 7 PM i the Horton Performance Centre.

All rehearsals will start on the week of Sept 18th, except the Pops Orchestra, which will have their first rehearsal on Friday, October 6th. To join an ensemble, add your name to this list in the music room. The only ensemble that is by audition is Glee Club.

Horton High Athletics Coaching Opportunities

There are a number of coaching vacancies available throughout this school year. We have openings for coaches in the following sports (all at different competitive levels): Soccer, Volleyball, Basketball, Badminton and Table Tennis. If you are interested in knowing more about these positions and what is involved with coaching at Horton, please contact Jason Pleasant (jpleasant@gnsps.ca) or Paul Veinotte (pveinott@gnsps.ca).

News from the English Department:

The grade 12 English and grade 11 English websites are a great way for parents and students to keep on top of course expectations. Course materials, homework updates, and test guides are available at <http://www.horton.ednet.ns.ca/staff/scottbennett/>

Horton Ongoing & Upcoming Events:

Europe 2019 March Break! Italy - Milan, Pisa, Rome, Florence, Pompeii; Greece - Athens, Delphi, Patras...If you are interested in joining the Travel Group for a memory-maker of a trip, please meet on Sept 19th at 1:25 in Mrs. Webb's room, 2811. Information about costs, destinations and process will be covered and a handbook will be provided. A parent meeting will follow on Monday Sept 25th at 7 pm in room 2811.

Reach for the Top: If you are interested in making a team to compete please come to the intro lunch meeting on Monday Sept. 18th. While we can only send one team of four a year, we can have subs and still have a blast practicing and preparing!

Brain Wars - meets in room 2811 on Fridays during lunch - Intro meeting is Friday Sept. 15th.

The 22nd Annual Horton Harvest Craft Fair will be held on Saturday, October 14th. Mark the day on your calendar!

IntersVarsity at Horton

"IntersVarsity" at Horton (formally known as Horton Christian Fellowship or HCF) encourages students to be part of a Christian community at Horton where they can talk about and grow in their faith. Horton IntersVarsity meet Tuesday each week at lunch in room 1115. For more information contact Jana at jehrenholz@ivcf.ca

Updates from Mrs. Webb

Next Friday, September 22, the Oceans 11 class will be going to visit the Open House at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography. Students will experience hands-on activities and displays, touch tanks, presentations on research and have opportunities to talk with scientists. This is also open to the public over the weekend! We have room for 5-6 parents if you wish to join us!

On Oct. 3rd, Science 10 students will be doing an ecosystem study of Miner's Marsh during the first two classes.

	Dates to Remember
	September 14 Music registration at 7:00 pm School photos
	September 15 Last day for course changes Last day for homerooms
	September 19 Grade rep elections
	September 20 Grade rep elections Early dismissal ~ 12:15 pm
	September 21 Parent Orientation ~ 7:00 pm
	September 28 Terry Fox Run Orange Shirt Day
	September 29 NO SCHOOL for students Family of School In-service
	October 9 NO SCHOOL ~ Thanksgiving Day
	October 12 School photo retakes
	October 14 Horton craft fair
October 18 Mi'kmaw Day	
October 24 Grade 12 Parent Info Night 7-8 pm at Horton	

Schedule for Horton Parent Orientation Evening - September 21st

BRING YOUR CHILD'S DAY 1 SCHEDULE

- 7:00 pm - Welcome & Orientation - Performance Centre
- 7:15 pm - Parents will be directed to Day 1, Period 1 class
- 7:20 pm - Day 1, Period 1
- 7:30 pm - Class change for year-long courses
- 7:40 pm - Day 1, Period 2
- 7:50 pm - Class change for year-long courses
- 8:00 pm - Day 1, Period 3
- 8:10 pm - Class change for year-long courses
- 8:20 pm - Day 1, Period 4
- 8:30 pm - Class change for year-long courses

OUR
SCHEDULE!

*Mr. Carver will break every 10 minutes to announce the session changes. **Note** that people in year-long (every other day) courses will spend 10 minutes in each class for a particular block (A/E, B/F, C/G, D/H) while those in semestered courses will have a 20 minute session in that particular class.

*If you are interested in gaining access to the **Parent Portal** at this time, please bring a piece of photo ID.