

PWS UPDATE

Park West School Newsletter

Phone: (902) 457-7800 E-mail: parkwest@hrsb.ns.ca Website: parkwest.ednet.ns.ca
Principal: Mr. D. Carter Vice Principals: Mr. B. Melanson and Ms. D. Olson

September 13, 2018

Staff of Park West School for 2018-2019

Principal	Mr. D. Carter	Guidance Counselors	Mr. C. Cobean Ms. D. Supple
Vice Principal	Mr. B. Melanson	Music	Ms. D. Kerr Ms. H. Moen
Vice Principal	Ms. D. Olsen	Band	Mr. C. Follini
Admin Assistant	Ms. B. Landers	Strings	Mr. B. Joyce
Admin Assistant	Ms. E. Johnston	French (elem.)	Ms. M. Mockler
Primary	Ms. C. Campbell Ms. C. Cavanaugh Ms. C. Walker	French (JH)	Mr. S. St.-Louis
1	Ms. C. Francis Ms. L. Griswold Ms. K. Kostlac	Tech. Ed./Phys. Ed.	Mr. J. d'Entremont
2	Ms. J. English/Ms. S. Labor Ms. R. Ssebazza Ms. M. Webber	Phys. Ed.	Mr. P. Regan Mr. J. Piercey
3	Ms. R. Joseph Ms. J. Greenwood (for Ms. T. MacDonald - on leave) Ms. L. Thurston Ms. J. Kelly	Phys. Ed./French	Ms. J. Pelc
4	Ms. J. Clements Ms. J. Ross/Ms. S. Matheson	EAL	Ms. K. Brewer Ms. S. Haikings
4/5	Ms. N. Gouthro	Resource	Ms. D. Allen Ms. L. Landry Ms. L. Hayes Ms. N. King
5	Ms. L. MacDonald Mr. G. Shupe	Learning Centre	Ms. V. Allen Ms. K. Oxner Ms. N. King
5/6	Ms. K. Tracey	Early Literacy/Resource	Ms. P. Morine
6	Ms. C. Bennett Mr. M. Corbett Mr. A. Nelson	Reading Recovery/Early Literacy	Ms. A. Dorey
7	Mr. A. Alassad Mr. A. Driscoll Ms. J. Slauenwhite (for Ms. K. MacBurnie - on leave)	JH Intervention	Ms. Y. Ugursal
8	Mr. J. Hickey Ms. M. MacLellan Ms. S. McKnight Ms. J. Moore (for Ms. C. White - on leave)	EPAs	Ms. L. Sutherland Mr. S. Hopkins Ms. C. Nash Mr. B. O'Connor Ms. J. Keating Ms. H. Boutilier Ms. A.M. Graham Ms. K. Corbett Mr. P. Beaulieu Ms. E. Sims Ms. J. Brown
9	Mr. G. Beattie Ms. S. Martin Ms. T. Riddell	YMCA Newcomer Support	Ms. Y. Sawsan Ms. R. Misra Ms. H. Darwish Ms. E. Grinnell
		Librarian	Ms. A. Comeau
		EXCEL/Lunch Program Coord.	Ms. W. Nizam
		Cafeteria Operator	Ms. J. Scrymgeour

Practicing to be Safe: The safety and security of our students and staff is a top priority for Park West School and the Halifax Regional Centre for Education (HRCE). In recent years we have been implementing a number of measures as part of a comprehensive plan aimed at ensuring our school remains a safe place. One of the procedures schools have been employing is a **lock down** drill. During a lock down regular school operations are suspended. All exterior doors are locked, and no one is permitted to enter or leave the building. Classroom doors are secured, and teachers and students remain hidden inside classrooms until instructed by school administration to resume their activities. Students are isolated within the school when circumstances make it safer to stay in the classroom rather than evacuate the building. Just as we prepare our students to properly respond to a fire drill, they also need to be aware of the proper response during a lock down drill. Another drill we practice is **hold & secure**. During a hold & secure situation all exterior doors to our facility are locked; no one is permitted to enter or exit. Our regular routine continues within the building, but student remain in their classrooms. This type is drill is initiated if there is a safety concern for our students within our school neighbourhood, or within our school (eg. In the hallways or common areas of the school). These drills should be treated with the same level of importance as fire drills. School staff will be discussing the importance of these procedures with students prior to running the drills. We will also take time after the drills to remind them that it was only a practice and there was no danger. Please take the time to speak with your son/daughter about these procedures and reinforce their

importance. We practice these drills to ensure our school remains a safe place for teaching and learning. **A lock down drill will be conducted during the week of Sept. 17 – 21. A hold & secure drill will be conducted during the week of Sept. 24 – 27.**

Curriculum/Meet the Teacher Night: We invite parents and guardians to attend our upcoming **Parent Information Assembly and Curriculum/Meet the Teacher Night on Thursday, September 27, at 6:30 pm.** The Parent Information Assembly will be held in the gym beginning at 6:30 pm. Mr. Carter, Mr. Melanson, and Ms. Olsen will take this opportunity to introduce our staff members (including those new to our team), share our plans for the year, our vision for the school, and introduce some new initiatives and policies. This will be followed by a session in classrooms with your children's teachers. This evening is for parents and guardians; not students. Our intention is not to discuss individual student progress at this time, but rather allow you the opportunity to get to know your child's teacher, classroom routines and procedures, expectations, grade level curriculum topics and outcomes. You will hear about outcomes for various subject areas, assessment, mental math, math manipulatives, reading and writing, suggestions for supporting your children at home, teacher expectations, homework, projects, report cards, etc. If you have specific concerns about your child, or the teacher's program/expectations, you are encouraged to discuss these with the teacher privately at another time. Specialist teachers (resource, French, music, physical education, tech. ed., guidance, band, EAL, etc.) will be available in their classrooms and offices to answer any questions and to discuss their programs. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Tasty Lunches at our Cafeteria: The Park West School cafeteria serves a variety of **hot and tasty healthy meals** for our students to purchase at lunchtime. **Hot lunch specials** (\$5.00 to \$5.75) include: grilled cheese and tomato soup; beef & macaroni bake; baked chicken with rice and veggies; meatloaf with mashed potatoes; sloppy joes; roast beef dinner; sweet & sour chicken balls with rice and egg roll; chicken cacciatore; lasagna; mini hamburgers and taters; chicken fajitas; meatballs with rice; baked ham and scallop potatoes; shepherd's pie; and chicken fingers. Lots of other choices are available. **Other cafeteria offerings** include: cheese pizza (\$4.00); garlic fingers with donair sauce (\$4.00); nachos and dip (\$3.50); hamburgers (\$3.25); cheeseburgers (\$3.75); chicken burgers (\$3.75); veggie plates (\$2.75); fruit cups (\$1.25); and chicken ceasar wraps (\$3.75). An assortment of freshly made **sandwiches and wraps** are available daily (egg salad, chicken salad, ham & cheese, and tuna salad) for only \$3.75, and **salads** (garden or ceasar) for \$3.75. During the cold winter months **hot homemade soups** will be served daily for only \$3.75. **Drinks** include: bottled water (\$1.25); 100% pure fruit juice (.55/\$1.50); milk (.40); and chocolate milk (\$1.30). A variety of **snacks** for sale include: baked chips (\$1.50); Crispers (\$1.50); Rice Krispie squares (.60); and cookies (.60). The cafeteria opens at 8 am for **pre-ordering** and for **breakfast**. Toast, bagels, and ham/cheese on toast are available for those who didn't get to eat at home. Two copies of the menu are sent home to all students in grades primary to three every month; one to keep and one to use as an order form. Menus are also available on our school website. Our school cafeteria is operated by Emjay Food Services. To request a menu, place an order, or if you have any questions please contact our cafeteria operator, **Jane Scrymgeour, at 440-7352** between 8 am and 12:45 pm daily.

Vehicle Traffic on School Grounds:

- Exercise extreme caution at all times. We have over 800 students and 90 staff on our premises.
- Observe and obey all **traffic signs**. They apply to EVERYONE.
- Do not speed. **15 km/hr** is the limit on our grounds. Drive slowly.
- Show respect to school personnel directing traffic, reminding you to slow down, and striving to keep our grounds safe for everyone.
- School buses have the right-of-way. They take priority.
- Do not park in Fire Lanes and in the traffic loop "drop-off zone" (well marked by signage). This impedes the flow of traffic and emergency vehicles when needed (to protect our children).
- Please be patient; especially on days when the weather is inclement and there tends to be more traffic on the grounds.
- Leave home at a time to allow for possible delays. We need our students here on time.
- Consider dropping off your children in a nearby street or cul-de-sac that is connected to the school property by walking paths. This will eliminate some of the vehicle congestion on our school grounds.
- Consider allowing your children to walk to school. Most of our students live within walking distance.

From time to time HRM Police and HRM Parking Enforcement will monitor vehicles on our school grounds and may issue tickets to offenders. If you park in a no parking zone or in a fire lane you may receive a ticket. We are striving to keep our students and staff safe. We would prefer to keep our grounds open to vehicles for the convenience of parents/guardians. However, if drivers continue to disobey traffic rules and signage, and compromise the safety of our students, then we will be forced to **close the grounds to vehicle traffic**. This means access to the grounds would be limited to staff only; the gate at the entrance to the school would be closed in the mornings and at dismissal time.

No Student Fees: Park West School is *not* charging any student fees for the 2018-2019 school year. However, students in grades 2 – 6 are being provided with Park West School student agendas. We are **requesting \$5.00 from each student** in those grades to cover the cost of these.

Team Coaches Needed: We would like to provide opportunities for our junior high students (and, in some cases elementary students) to participate on school sports teams. We are currently looking to fill coaching positions for our proposed teams. We would like to offer the following sports: soccer (boys) > starting on Sept.19; volleyball (boys and girls); basketball (boys and girls); badminton; Jr. High Track and Field; Elementary Track and field. The deadline to secure coaches for Soccer and Junior High X-country is Sept 14. If you are interested in coaching a team or would like some more information please contact Mr. Piercey (pierceyj@hrce.ca), Mr. Regan (pregan@hrce.ca), or Mr. Melanson (bmelanson@hrce.ca) **If we don't have coaches for teams then we will not be able to offer those options to our students this year.** We already have staff coaches for our girls soccer team, JH and elementary X-country teams, and co-ed touch football.

School Choir: Choir will be held on Wednesdays this year, after school from 2:45-3:20, in the music room, for students in **grades 3-6**. The rehearsals will be held for the entire school year. A complete schedule will be given out at the first rehearsal. **Students must return a completed permission slip before attending the first rehearsal on September 26.** Permission slips are available from Ms. Kerr. If you have any questions email Ms. Kerr at: dawn.kerr@hrce.ca

