

PWS UPDATE

Park West School Newsletter

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Principal: Mr. D. Carter Vice Principals: Ms. S. Masih Mr. B. Melanson

June 17, 2019
Year End Edition

Farewell: The Park West School community is bidding a fond and sad farewell to some of our staff. We thank them for helping to make a positive difference here at Park West School. We wish them well in their future assignments and endeavours. We're going to miss them. The following 'members of our family' will not be returning in the fall: Ms. MacDonald (gr. P); Ms. Labor (gr. 2); Ms. Greenwood (gr. 3); Mr. Lewis (gr. 4/5); Ms. Leon (gr. 6); Mr. Alassad (gr. 7); Ms. White (gr. 8/9); Ms. Cavanaugh (support teacher); Ms. Supple (guidance); Ms. Moen (music); Mr. Follini (band); Mr. Regan (phys. ed.); Ms. Pelc (phys. ed./French/Health); Ms. King (resource/learning centre); Ms. Kelly (learning centre); Ms. Dorey (literacy specialist); Ms. Ugursal (JH support); Ms. Babin (EPA); Ms. Mutinda (EPA). Our best wishes are extended to **Mr. Nelson** (gr. 6 teacher) who will be leaving the education profession for retirement after many years of dedicated service.

School Advisory Council (SAC) Election Results: An election was held on June 3 - 7 to elect two (2) parent representatives to our School Advisory Council. Both positions are for three -year terms. There were four candidates: Laura Ankcorn, Jeff Rogers, Karen Saweczko, and Christine Sisneros. There were 44 ballots cast in the election. Ballots were counted and verified at 9:00 AM on Monday, June 10, in the school office; counted and verified by Derek Carter, Brian Melanson, Donna Olsen, and Beth Landers. The two successful candidates are: **Jeff Rogers and Karen Saweczko**. Congratulations to our two new parent representatives. Thank you to all candidates for supporting our school and participating in the election.

PTA Community Family Barbeque: Everyone is invited to come out to our community barbeque on **Thursday, June 20, 5:30 – 7:30 pm**. There will be a minimal charge for hot dogs (chicken), hamburgers, veggie burgers, drinks, popcorn, ice cream novelties and other treats. There will be lots of fun games and activities too, including a photo booth! Bring your families, friends and neighbours to this favourite community event to kick off the summer. This year our community barbeque is being generously supported by RBC. RBC employees will be volunteering and RBC will also be making a generous donation to this fundraising event.

Halifax Regional Arts String Program: The Halifax Regional Arts String Program is open for registration for the 2019-2020 school year. If your child is in grade 5-9 **next year** please go here to register them for string classes: <https://secure.hrce.ca/hra/> If your child is in grade 4 **next year** you will be contacted regarding a parent information meeting, and your child will be given a demonstration at school. It is important to note that, due to the size of the program **if you register for the program after June 30th we cannot guarantee your child's participation**. Register early. Contact Nathan Beeler at 902- 717-4664 with any concerns or questions.

Proud to be Canadian!: Friday, June 21 is "Canadiana Day" at Park West. We're celebrating Canada Day early....and showing our pride in being Canadians. On that day please wear the colours (red & white), the maple leaf, and other symbols of Canada to school.

No School for Students: Thursday, June 27, is Assessment and Evaluation Day. There will be **no school for students** on that date.

Last Day of School: The last day of school is **Friday, June 28**. All students will be dismissed at 10:00 am. Final report cards will be issued at that time.

We Need Them Back: Students and parents....please make sure 'our stuff' gets returned before the end of the year. We're looking for textbooks (they're expensive!), team uniforms (our athletes need to look good!), and overdue library books (many of them are missing from our shelves!). PLEASE return them to us before you leave.

Final Report Cards: Final report cards will be issued to students on **June 28th** (the last day of school this year). Report cards will not be issued early to any student. If students are absent on the last day of school parents have several options:

1. Provide the teacher with a self-addressed stamped envelope for the student. The report card will be mailed to you.
2. Teachers will forward all unclaimed report cards to the office on June 28 following student dismissal. They will be available that day ONLY for parents to pick up in person from the office until 1:30 pm. After that date and time report cards will not be available to be picked up in person at the school until the last week of August. School personnel are not available to provide report cards during the summer months.
3. Parents may provide a teacher with a signed letter of consent authorizing an individual (egs. a sibling, family member, friend) to claim a report card for an absent student on June 28 before 1:30 pm. Without this letter report cards will NOT be issued to any person other than the student or parent.

Late Registration: The school office will be open for late registration on **Wednesday, August 28, 9:00-12:00 / 1:00-4:00**. Children who live within the Park West School boundaries are eligible to attend this school. If new neighbours with elementary/junior high aged children move into the area over the summer please encourage them to register on this date. Proof of address, a birth certificate, and a Nova Scotia health card number are required to complete registration.

School Supplies: School supply lists for all grades will be posted on our **school website** and on the **school office window** during the summer months. Please don't stress if you can't find specific brands, colours, sizes, etc. requested on the supply lists. Just do the best you can. School supplies in quantities for the entire year **do not** have to be brought to school on the first day.

Class Lists: Due to reasons of privacy and confidentiality class lists will not be publicly posted on the school premises prior to the first day of school. Students will be assigned to their new classes when our doors open for a new school year on September 5th. Parents and students should be aware that class lists are tentative. It is highly likely some students will be moved to other classes, and teacher assignments at some grade levels will change after September 5. These changes may be necessary due to changed enrollment at some grade levels, and in order to strive to conform to class size caps mandated by the EECD. At this time our enrollment for September, and beyond, is unpredictable. Traditionally we have some students move away over the summer months, and we receive many new students at registration in late August. In September it may be necessary to reconfigure our classes and assign teachers to new grades/classes. **Class lists will not be finalized until early October.**

Lost & Found: After student dismissal on **June 26** all remaining items in our *Lost & Found* will be bagged and donated to charity.

Are you in the Right School? Only children who reside within the Park West School boundaries with parents or legal guardians are eligible to attend this school. Addresses provided to the school may be investigated if there is suspicion the information is not accurate. If a child registered at and/or attending Park West School is found to be **not** residing in our area his/her parents will be directed to register at the appropriate neighbourhood school. This includes students who **were** living in our area and moved out of bounds **during** this school year, but remained at Park West to finish the year.

Are You Moving? If your children attended Park West this year, but you'll be moving away over the summer, please inform us as soon as possible. We need to know if they won't be here in September. Call our school office at 457-7800 or email us at parkwest@hrce.ca

Back to School: The first day of school for the 2019-2020 school year is **Thursday, September 5**. Students should arrive by **8:25 AM**. Parents and students must not enter the school building until the entrance bell rings at **8:25 AM**. Signs will be posted on exterior doors with directions for entry to the building and assemblies for class placement. Next year we are hoping all students (and their parents) will make it their priority to be **on time for school** on a regular basis. Our *Protocol for Late Students* will continue.

Reminder to all School Volunteers: The HRCE **Student Protection Policy** is now fully implemented. All individuals who wish to volunteer in the school on a regular basis, or who wish to be a chaperone for a school trip, must complete *Police Records and Child Abuse Registry Checks* in advance. The following are required: (1) A completed Department of Community Services Form B2 – *Consent to Disclosure of Information* which can be found at: <http://gov.ns.ca/coms/families/abuse/ChildAbuseRegister.html>. This search must be updated every **three years**. (2) A certified and true copy of a criminal records check completed in the **three months** preceding volunteering. This check must be updated every **three years**. Copies of completed documents for both must be on file in our office. Forms are also available on our school website or from the school office. For more details visit the HRCE website at www.hrsb.ca This is something you may wish to do in preparation for the new school year.

For More Information: For information during the summer months don't forget to check out:

- the Halifax Regional Centre for Education (HRCE) website at www.hrce.ca
- the Park West School website at www.pws.hrce.ca

Office Hours: The school office will close for the summer months on **June 28 at 1:30 pm**. It will re-open on **Tuesday, September 3 at 10:00 am** for the new school year. Regular office hours (8:00 am – 3:30 pm) will begin on September 4th.

2019-2020 School Year Calendar: Are you making plans for next year? Are you planning Christmas vacation? Do you need to know the dates for March Break? The complete HRCE School Year Calendar for 2019-2020 is now available at www.hrce.ca and on our school website (pws.hrsb.ca) .

Staying for Lunch Next Year? All students who wish to remain at school over the lunch period for the 2019-20 school year **must be registered** for the lunch supervision program. Registration forms are available from the school office.

Dates to Remember:

JUNE		
18	Grade 9 Farewell Celebration: dinner and harbor cruise	\$45 per ticket
19	SAC and PTA Closing Dinner	4:15 – 9:00 PM
20	PTA Community Family Barbeque	6:00 PM
21	Canadiana Day at Park West – <i>Let's celebrate Canada's birthday early!</i>	5:30 – 7:30 PM
21	Elementary Assembly	10:30 AM
26	Grade 9 Closing Ceremony	<i>*an informal event *family and friend invited *class photo at 12:30 PM</i>
27	Assessment & Evaluation Day	*no school for students
28	Last day of school. Early dismissal at 10:00 AM	

Mr. Carter, Ms. Olsen, Mr. Melanson, and the entire staff of Park West School thank you for supporting us in our efforts to provide your children with the best educational experience possible. We're proud of our students and our school. We all look forward to working with you again next year. We wish the families of Park West a summer that is safe, relaxing and filled with lots of fun.

See you on September 5th.

