



# *Chedabucto Education Centre/ Guysborough Academy*



*Newsletter*

*February 2018*

<u>Principal</u>	Barbara Avery
<u>Vice Principal</u>	Tera Dorrington
<u>Guidance</u>	Cindy Worth
<u>Secretarial Support</u>	Faye Shea
<u>Building Operator</u>	Hubert Pettipas

next school year, and most grade 12s will be preparing for their next adventure. It is very important for all students, in particular high school students at this point in the year, to realize that second semester has begun and we are on the homeward stretch!

Chedabucto Education Centre/Guysborough Academy would like to extend a special welcome to two international students who started with us this semester; Riko from Japan and Linh from Vietnam. We are excited that you have chosen to spend time at CEC/GA and look forward to getting to know you.

The reporting date for grades 9-12 is Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>. Students will be taking their report cards home on this date, and parents are asked to check their child's progress. Parents wishing to discuss their child's marks are asked to contact the school and schedule an appointment for a mutual agreed upon time. The date for Parent Teacher/Meet the Teacher is Thurs., Feb 15<sup>th</sup>, from 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm for grades 9-12. Appointments are requested. Please call 533-4006/2288 to schedule an appointment.

I would like to welcome to our School Community, Joni Mattie; our new Youth Health Centre Nurse who will be starting February 19<sup>th</sup>. We are very excited to have our Health Centre back up and running!

Moving into the second half of the school year, we would like to take this opportunity to again invite parents to maintain open communication with their child(ren)'s educational partners. It is very important for student success that all parties are engaged in a student's academic progress. The winter months also bring days where weather and road conditions cause delays or cancellations. Please check local radio stations, as well as school and board websites or sign up for text and/or email alerts from the Stay Informed link on the SRSB website for updates when

**Chedabucto Ed. Ctr. & Guysborough Academy**  
27 Green Street  
Guysborough, NS  
B0H 1N0  
**Phone:** (902) 533-2288/ (902) 533-4006  
**Fax:** (902) 533-3554

## **PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE**

February marks the celebration of African Heritage Month, and our ACHFC staff is planning educational celebrations to raise awareness of the contributions that have been made by people of African descent. Our school is the only school in Nova Scotia with an African Heritage and Friendship Centre that is staffed and working to meet the needs of our community. There are many activities planned throughout the month that help bring us together to celebrate as one community, and not just for the month of February, but every day of the year! CEC/GA has opened its doors each year during African Heritage Month to neighboring schools to come and visit the ACHFC and explore the strong African Canadian heritage in our area. In addition, the school will be hosting the February 7<sup>th</sup> School Board meeting in the ACHFC, giving our Board members a great opportunity to tour the school and see firsthand some of the great things happening at CEC/GA! This meeting is open to the public.

Our second semester started on Monday, Feb. 5<sup>th</sup>. Grade 10-12 students are reminded that the last possible day to make course changes/withdrawals is Friday, Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>. If you require help with course changes, please see Mrs. Worth. Before too long, we will begin looking ahead to course selection for the

interruptions are upon us. As you are aware, these situations are unpredictable so it is important to have an emergency plan in place for days when cancellations occur and communicate this with your child's teacher for early dismissal procedures.

*Barbara Avery*  
Principal



### Safe Arrival Process for Elementary Schools

Chedabucto Education Centre/Academy and the Strait Regional School Board believe that regular attendance at school supports greater student success and achievement. Attendance supports student learning and promotes a sense of responsibility that students will need as they transition from grade to grade.

Promoting and supporting regular student attendance is a shared responsibility. All partners, students, parents/guardians, teachers, school administration and school board staff, must work together.

As a result, the following safe arrival process will be implemented at our school to help us account for any student's unexplained failure to arrive at school:

- Parents/guardians are responsible for notifying the school when their child(ren) will not be in attendance.
- If your child(ren) is going to be late or absent from school, the parent/guardian is asked to contact the school by telephone at 902-533-2288 before 9:30 a.m. An explanation is required.
- On a daily basis, homeroom teachers will complete morning attendance. A list of those students who are absent will be generated.
- If a student is marked absent during first class and we have not been previously notified by parents/guardians, we will call the numbers provided in the student demographic information.
- When direct follow-up contact with parents/guardians cannot be reasonably made, we will then determine appropriate action. This may involve contact with the RCMP.

We have received correspondence from the SRSB Operations Department regarding the importance of care and control around the issuing and driver acceptance of

bus passes. **We have been asked to ensure that each and every bus pass includes a civic address for the requested stop** and that bus passes are not given for new stops. Drivers are not authorized to stop anywhere but an existing stop except under emergency situations. Bus drivers are being reminded not to accept a bus pass which does not comply. Also, please include the date and name of the bus driver on the bus pass note. Please contact the school at 902-533-2288 if you have any questions about bus pass procedures.

### TRANSPORTING STUDENTS TO EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

As of June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2014, the SRSB has a new transportation policy in terms of student travel (IV-B-6) to extracurricular activities. In order to transport students (other than their own children) parent/guardians/volunteers will have to do the following:

1. Completed a Vulnerable Sector Check and a Child Abuse Registry Check. (These are good for three years)
2. Complete a revised J-form, which will require the school have a copy of
  - Driver's license
  - Vehicle registration
  - Proof of insurance
  - Teacher/Chaperone consent form
3. Confidentially Form
4. Volunteer Form

Please feel free to contact the school should you have any questions or need assistance completing the required paperwork.

### 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.

### CANCELLATIONS MADE AFTER STUDENTS COME TO SCHOOL

From time to time, school may be cancelled due to inclement weather, power outages, etc. As well, after school programs may be cancelled such as PACY, yoga, basketball, and so forth. We ask that all parents/guardians have alternate procedures in place for their child(ren) in

the event that there is an early dismissal or cancellation. Please discuss with your child the family plan should school be dismissed early or a program/event is cancelled with no one at home. Children should know alternate locations to go to and/or where the spare key is hidden, contact phone numbers, etc. Ensuring that your son/daughter is well prepared for unexpected situations will help to ensure their safety in the event of an early dismissal.

We will do our very best at this end to make sure things run smoothly, so please make sure you take the time to make these alternate arrangements. The office is very busy at these times; therefore, we request that arrangements **other than phone calls** be made for students to get home in a safe and orderly manner.

### PERMISSION NOTES



Written permission must be given to a student when he/she plans to stay after school hours, leave the school, get dropped off at another stop other than his/her regular stop or change buses. **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. Parents are reminded that bus passes will only be issued **upon written request** signed by parent or guardian. These requests are to be brought to the office and given to the secretary **no later than recess.**

Students phoning home during the day asking parents/guardians to request a bus pass ***IS NOT ACCEPTABLE***. Phone requests from parents/guardians will only be accepted in ***EMERGENCY SITUATIONS***.

### SCHOOLS PLUS



SchoolsPlus seeks to improve the collaboration and coordination of services and programs for children, youth and families. The main goal is to bridge the gap between various community organizations and the schools by connecting students and families in attaining timely and effective services to meet their identified needs. SchoolsPlus supports a number of programs within the schools and community. Referrals come from the School Program Planning Teams, Administration, Families and Students as

well as outside agencies. SRSB currently has four SchoolsPlus Models. They are located in Guysborough, Antigonish, Richmond and recently Inverness Counties.

You can contact the SchoolsPlus Facilitator, Liz MacIntosh by calling 533-4046.

Homework Club in the SchoolsPlus Room will be on Wednesdays from 2:30 to 3:30 beginning on January 10th.

We are also on Facebook at SchoolsPlus Guysborough County.

### STUDENT SAFETY

With the ongoing concern for the safety of children, **all visitors to the school must report to the administrative office upon entering the school.**

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 Mouth Rinse 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 school board 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.

Please contact your local public health office if you have any questions about these public health programs. Please contact your principal or school board information access and privacy manager, if you have any questions about how your information is shared.

### NUT AWARE SCHOOL

There are currently students attending **Chedabucto Education Centre** 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 and nut**

**products).** 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!



## Once upon a castle....



Valiant knights and fearless princesses are summoned to the Museum of Industry this March Break. Kids can build castle walls with wooden blocks, then knock them down again with a catapult. Dress as a Lord, Lady or Jester, and act out a medieval skit in costume. Escape from a dungeon maze, practice jousting skills, and quest for treasure through the Museum's galleries. Be the King or Queen of the Castle, March 10 – 19 at the Museum of Industry, Stellarton.

Visit: [museumofindustry@novascotia.ca](mailto:museumofindustry@novascotia.ca)

## Heritage Day, February 19, 2018

Celebrate Heritage Day with **FREE admission** from 9 am to 5 pm at the Museum of Industry.

This year Nova Scotia's honoree is Mona Louise Parsons. A Canadian hero of the Second World War, Parsons worked with the Dutch resistance to rescue downed Allied airmen, was arrested by the Gestapo, and escaped from a Nazi prison camp before contacting Canadian soldiers at the end of the war. Parsons never wore a military uniform, but she was willing to lay her life on the line for freedom. She became the only Canadian female civilian to be imprisoned by the Germans during the Second World War.

To commemorate the contribution made by Parsons and other women during the Second World War, visitors can see a uniform worn by the Canadian Women's Army Corps, and practice sending secret messages in Morse code, as members of the Resistance did.

Visit our self-directed craft tables to keep the kids busy and be sure to visit our temporary exhibits, *Hope and Survival: The Halifax Explosion Memorial Quilt Project*, and *Art in the Hall 2*, featuring works of art by seven Pictou County artists. The Museum's hands-on exhibits will be open throughout the day.



# FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>1</b> Admin Day/Inservice NO SCHOOL	<b>2</b> Day E First Day of 2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester Day E	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Day F First Day of Semester 2	<b>6</b> Day G	<b>7</b> Day H School Board Meeting	<b>8</b> Day A	<b>9</b> Day B  Kelso Assembly 9:00 a.m.	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Day C Pre-Primary Registration	<b>13</b> Day D Report Card Day (Gr. 9 – 12)	<b>14</b> Day E	<b>15</b> Day F Parent Teacher/Meet the Teacher Interviews by appointment (9-12)	<b>16</b> Day G	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Day H Heritage Day NO SCHOOL	<b>20</b> Day A	<b>21</b> Day B	<b>22</b> Day C	<b>23</b> Day D	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Day E	<b>27</b> Day F	<b>28</b> Day G			

