



Chedabucto Education Centre/ Guysborough Academy

Newsletter

October 2020

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

I am pleased to welcome students, parents, staff and school community members back to a new year at Chedabucto Education Centre/Guysborough Academy! Although this school year will look and feel different, I know we will come together and continue to support one another as we adapt to our changing conditions as a result of the Covid 19 Pandemic. Although this year will look different than other years, our dedication to student safety and student learning with our students remains the same. We will continue to stay in touch with you when there is new information to share. In the meantime, if you have questions the provincial Back to School website includes an extensive "Frequently Asked Questions" list that may be helpful, as well as an informative "Resources" link to posters and videos on topics like proper hygiene techniques. Please see <https://www.ednet.ns.ca/backtoschool/frequently-asked-questions> for more information regarding this. The Strait Region Centre for Education also has a link on their website (Nova Scotia's Back to School Plan) that contains up to date information as well at <https://srce.ca/content/back-school-plan>. There are many changes that have been implemented at our school by the Nova Scotia Department of Public Health that were shared

through email letters with you prior to start up. If you did not receive this information, please call the school and we will provide you with the information. It is important that we have your up to date contact information on file to ensure you received any correspondence from us or the SRCE as we use the Alert System through PowerSchool for mass communication deliveries. I ask that students and parents have flexibility and patience as we work through this together and implement these mandated changes. As always, if you have questions please feel free to call the school at 902-533-2288 or email me at barbara.avery@srce.ca.

Again, we had a few teacher movements since last school year. I would like to extend a special welcome to the incoming members to Chedabucto Education Centre/Guysborough Academy; Teagan Lombardo will be our new Music teacher, Ms Ritcey gr 1, Mrs George Core French gr 4-9 and Career Development 10 and Visual Art 11 & 12 as well as Ms El-Husseini who will be teaching ELA 7, 8, 10, Eng Comm 11/12, Visual Arts 7 & 8, Child Studies 9. I welcome all our staff back; teachers, teacher assistants, office staff building operator, custodial staff as well as all community partners and look forward to working with you all again this year.

Throughout the month of October our school has planned some activities to celebrate Mi'kmaq History Month to promote awareness about the Mi'kmaq culture and heritage. Some of the activities planned include our students making announcements, the playing of O'Canada in Mi'kmaq, learning and playing Mi'kmaq songs and the history behind them, reciting poetry, reading short stories and quotes related to Mi'kmaq History.

Many studies show that the presence of cell phones or other electronic communication devices can interfere with student learning. As a staff we will work together to minimize this interference. To

support student learning electronic devices will be turned off/silenced and stored out of sight. Usage is only permitted in the building before and after school, recess, lunch or during free periods unless otherwise specified by teachers/lunch supervisors. We ask that if an emergency arises to please call the office phone at 902-533-2288 and we will notify your child in a timely manner to make contact with home. Students were informed of these expectations by their subject area teachers at the beginning of the school year and they are also found in the Student Handbook.

Please continue to support and to talk to your child about their learning regularly. We will all work together to help students feel safe and supported in all aspects of their learning. Please feel free to email or call the school to speak with your child's teacher should any concerns arise. Open communication is very important to us.

As a green school, this year we are going to try and reduce our ecological footprint even more. One initiative we are continuing with this year is to reduce the number of paper copies of the newsletter. With PowerSchool we are able to compile a list of emails and forward the newsletter electronically. Those that wish to receive a paper copy please contact the school at 902-533-2288 or email faye.shea@srce.ca and we will put your name on a list to have it sent home with your child.

Looking forward to working with you and your family; stay safe and stay healthy 😊

Barbara Avery
Principal



BUS PASSES

Just a reminder that there will be **NO BUS PASSES** issued this year. Each student will be allowed to have one alternate route for the year, which has to be registered with the SRCE transportation office by calling 902-747-3644.

Notice to Subscribers of the SRCE Stay Informed Notification System (Bus Route and Class Announcements by Email and/or Text) Annual Subscription to the Service Required Effective Immediately

Please be advised that effective immediately subscribers to the SRCE Stay Informed Notification System (Bus Route and Class Announcements) must now re-subscribe annually to continue to receive notifications by email and/or text.

Over the summer, changes were required to the operation of the system to enhance the efficiency and timely delivery of the notifications. Annual subscription to this service will also ensure that the system contains the most up-to-date subscriber contact information (i.e., email address, cell phone number(s) and service provider).

Subscribers to the SRCE Stay Informed Notification System are asked to please re-subscribe, if interested, to continue to receive bus route and/or class announcement notices by email and/or text.

At the end of each school year, subscriber contact information will be deleted. You may re-subscribe after August 1 of each year.

To renew your subscription or to subscribe for the first time, please look for the SRCE Stay Informed graphic image (included above) on the SRCE website, www.srce.ca, and follow the steps outlined to subscribe or re-subscribe to this service; or click here to access the [SRCE Stay Informed By Email and/or Text](#) page directly.

Notice to Parents/Guardians Information Sharing Agreement with Department of Health and Wellness

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 Mouthrinse 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 Strait Regional Centre for Education

takes its responsibility for the protection of personal student and family information seriously and 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.

All Regional Centres for Education in Nova Scotia share certain personal information about students and parents/guardians with the Department of Health and Wellness, for the purposes of operating these programs. This information sharing is required by the Public Health Protection Act and is permitted by the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPOP) Act and an Information Sharing Agreement signed by the Regional Centre.

Please contact your local public health office if you have any questions about these public health programs. If you have any questions about how your information is shared, please feel free to contact your respective school or our Regional Centre's Information Access and Privacy Manager at 902-625-2191.

Intimate Images and Cyber-Protection Act

The rapid growth of smart phones, social media and the anonymity of the online world has created increasing opportunity for cyberbullying and the unwanted sharing of intimate images. The impacts of these behaviours can be devastating for victims.

Supports are available. For more information please visit novascotia.ca/cyberscan.

Consent Form for the Publication of Student Personal Information and Student Work

The Strait Regional Centre for Education believes strongly in the need to protect the privacy of all students and recognizes the issues around the publishing of student images and personal student identifying information, especially on the public Internet and social media sites. However, the Regional Centre also believes that the showcasing of students, their work, activities and achievements, is an important part of school life and can be a very positive experience for students. Therefore, it is the practice of the Strait Regional Centre for Education and all schools to have written informed consent from parents/guardians before any student identifying information, including name, grade, school, video/voice/audio recording, images (photos) of students and/or student work, is used in print, online and in social media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.), and prior to any student media interviews.

There are other times when one of our media partners may contact the school to profile a specific student, program or event that may involve a student(s) being interviewed, photographed, video recorded and/or audio recorded.

Feminine Hygiene Products in Schools

The Strait Regional Centre for Education provides free feminine hygiene products in all schools with Grades 5 to 12 students. These products are located in all female and non-gender specific washrooms.

SCHOOL INSURANCE PROGRAM

Every eligible child attending public school in Nova Scotia is automatically insured by the School Insurance Program's Basic Plan student accident coverage. This coverage is provided without deductible and at no cost. Basic Plan coverage can cover things such as physiotherapy, dental and medical equipment expenses, up to policy limits.

However, if parents/guardians wish to purchase additional coverage, the Gold Plan increases the time that your child is covered to 24/7 including summer vacations. Many of the specific loss accident payments are triple those of the Basic Plan. Please refer to the [School Insurance Program \(SIP\) Accident Insurance Policy brochure](#) or visit www.sip.ca for more information.

Safe Arrival Process for Elementary Schools

Chedabucto Education Centre/Academy and the Strait Regional Centre for Education 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 SRCE 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.

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.

CHEDABUCTO LIFESTYLE COMPLEX

To use the CLC facilities, **CHILDREN UNDER GRADE 6** will need to be accompanied by an adult unless it is a Municipal program such as PACY, However in order to go to the CLC after school written permission is required in the office.

PARENTS/GUARDIANS TAKE NOTICE

We are asking parents and students to take extra caution when packing lunches for your son/daughters. Due to the many allergies that some students have we would like to remind people that Nutella is also considered a nut based product.

NUT AWARE SCHOOL

There are currently students attending **Chedabucto Education Centre/Guysborough Academy** 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!



PERMISSION NOTES



Written permission must be given to a student when he/she plans to stay after school hours, leave the school, **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.

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. SRCE 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 or Faye Fraser at 533-3609. We are also on Facebook at SchoolsPlus Guysborough County.



October Happenings

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Day A	2 Day B	3
4	5 Day C	6 Day D	7 Day E	8 Day F	9 Day G	10
11	12 	13 Day H	14 Day A	15 Day B	16 Day C	17
18	19 Day D	20 Day E	21 Day F	22 Day G	23 SCHOOL BASED IN-SERVICE NO CLASSES	24
25	26 Day H	27 Day A	28 Day B	29 Day C	30 Day D	31