



Newsletter

January/February
2017

School Contact Information

Principal: Jim Keay
Vice Principals: Rob Allan and Tera Dorrington
Guidance: Carleen Matheson
Secretarial Staff: Adeline MacDonald and Judy Boucher
Building Operator: Ernie Pellerine

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School Communication

SAERC Web Site – <http://saerc.srsb.ca>
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Principal's Message

The school community will focus on examinations this week and next. Students are encouraged to adhere to the notes documented in the Student Expectations During Examinations.

Thank you,
Mr. Keay

Messages from the Office

- Please note that school office hours, including phone coverage, are from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Any student signing in or out during the school day is required to see Mrs. Boucher in the Guidance Area to complete their process.

- Parents are asked to ensure that your child has a note for a pass each day it is required. Passes will only be issued with a note containing the bus driver's name, date and the civic address of where your child is going. Phone pass requests are not accepted. Students are asked to request bus passes at the office as soon as possible in the day to avoid a rush at the day's end—preferably before recess. Due to combined bus routes and students being dismissed simultaneously, there is an increased number of students on the buses. Please be aware that there may be times when a student may not be able to travel on a specific bus due to lack of seating for that bus.



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Student Expectations During Examinations

- Schedule

Students are responsible for knowing when their examinations are being written. If you "sleep in" or "forget" when an examination is being written you will not be permitted to do a Make Up examination.

- Start Times

Students are expected to be at the school by 8:45 a.m. Examinations are scheduled from 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. The earliest dismissal time is 10:30 a.m.; students leaving their examination room at the early dismissal need to vacate the hallways immediately.

- Writing Areas

The location for your examination is often in the classroom where you normally take that course. Saying this, you must verify this with your classroom teacher prior to the exam in case there is a change. The locations for each examination will be announced prior to the Review Day.

- Responsibility

Examinations are a major percentage of your course evaluation. Anyone not taking the examination seriously, or causing any distraction in an examination room, will be removed from the writing area and be issued a zero for their final grade.

- Course Materials/Personal Items

If you are enrolled in a semester course, you will be expected to return your borrowed materials before writing the examination. Additional clothing (heavy jackets, etc...) cannot be worn or left on chairs during examinations; you are directed to use your lockers to store your materials.

- School Cancellations

In the event that school is cancelled during the examination schedule, the entire writing schedule will move ahead by one day. For example, if Thursday, January 26th is cancelled due to weather, those examinations will then be written on Friday, January 27th. The Friday examination will then be written on the following Monday; etc.

Guidance News/Mrs. Matheson

Any student who intends on making changes to their Semester Two schedule are asked to pick up a course change sheet in the Guidance Office. All sheets, purple in colour, need to be signed by a parent/guardian and returned to Mrs. Matheson. No changes will be made until at least the first week of Semester Two; changes are not guaranteed. Before granting changes to a student's schedule, School Administration will consider factors such as graduation requirements and class sizes.

Upcoming School Calendar Events

- Thursday, January 26th – Tuesday, January 31st Examinations

- Wednesday, February 1st – Make Up/Rewrite Day
- Thursday, February 2nd – Administration Day/No Classes
- Friday, February 3rd – Semester Two Begins
- Monday, February 20th – Family Day/Recognizing the Mi'kmaq culture and the many accomplishments of the Mi'kmaq people.
- Monday, March 13th/Friday, March 17th – March Break

Health Centre Message/Mrs. DeCoste

The Youth Health Centre (YHC) is open to SAERC students on Mondays, Wednesdays, and every 2nd Friday. The YHC uses a strengths-based approach to develop healthy relationships with youth and engage them in leadership opportunities, personal skills/values development, and connect them to supportive programs & services. To learn more about the developmental asset approach go to:

www.search-institute.org/

Jack.org is the only national network of young leaders transforming the way we think about mental health. The work of all Jack Chapters is underpinned by the message that everyone has mental health and we all need to care for it. Our Jack Chapter team has been focusing on building skills to support them in their efforts to challenge how we think about mental health. Members of our Jack team attended the Jack.org Regional Summit at East Antigonish Education Centre/Academy on November 17th where they had the chance to network with five other SRSB Jack.org chapters. Activities throughout the day focused on strengthening leadership skills such as communication, teambuilding, and collaboration. They also had the opportunity to learn about mental health advocacy and health equity. In the months ahead, the Jack Team will be planning activities to engage their peers in conversations about a) how we can care for our own mental health, and b) how can we decrease stigma surrounding mental health. To learn more about what it means to be a Jack.org Chapter go to: www.jack.org/

If you have any questions about the Youth Health Centre feel free to contact Wendy DeCoste, YHC Public Health Nurse at Wendy.DeCoste@nshealth.ca or (902) 625-8838

Food 4 Children

A local organization, Food4Children, has assisted SAERC with a new initiative that provides daily healthy snacks to staff and students. You will now see food baskets in the Main Office, Guidance Area, Resource Room and Learning Centre filled with fresh fruit and other grab and go items. Please feel free to help yourself.

School Advisory Council

Parents, staff, and community members are welcome to join our School Advisory Council, a group dedicated to the betterment of our school community. All new members are welcome to attend. Come join us!

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, February 22nd, and will begin at 6:00 p.m.

Bus Passes

Parents are asked to ensure that your child has a note for a bus pass each day required. Passes will only be issued with note containing the bus driver's name, date and the civic address of where your child is going. Phone pass requests are not accepted. Students are asked to request bus passes at the office as soon as possible in the day to avoid a rush at the day's end—preferably before recess. Due to combined bus routes and students being dismissed simultaneously, there is an increased number of students on the buses. Please be aware that there may be times when a student may not be able to travel on a specific bus due to lack of seating for that bus.



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Parents/Guardians, grandparents or community members who are interested in doing some volunteer work at the school, either on a regular basis or for special activities/events, should contact the school.

As of June 4th 2015, 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 criminal record check and a child abuse registry check. (These are good for three years)
2. If transporting a student complete a J form and this will require the school have a copy of the following:
 - Driver's license
 - Vehicle registration
 - Proof of insurance
3. Confidentiality Form
4. Volunteer Application Form

Parents are a very important support in the running of extra-curricular and sports activities at the school. We very much appreciate your efforts and support! Please call the school if you have any concerns or questions.



Medical Information

Parents/Guardians are asked to contact the school if your child has a medical condition or allergy which we should be made aware of (if you have not already done so). This will allow us to take some proactive measures to ensure the safety of your child. Please note that no prescription or non-prescription medicine (i.e. Tylenol, cough medicine) will be distributed to a student without a completed school medical form. Please refer to SRSB policy to view the Board's new policy: "Administration of Medications and Medical Procedure: IVB-2."



Bus Loop

Please note the Bus Loop in front of the school is for buses only. All other vehicles must access the other entry points of the facility. Your attention to this matter is appreciated.

VOLUNTEERING & EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES TRANSPORTATION