

Communicating Student Learning 2014-15

How to be involved

- Talk to your children regularly about school activities and experiences.
- Contact with teachers regularly - even when no problems exist.
- Check in frequently with PowerSchool through the Parent Portal. If you require assistance with the portal please contact the Main Office
- Support your child with developing appropriate home study skills including designating a specific time and place for homework.
- Keep the school informed of all changes affecting your student.
- Become involved in school activities.
- If concerns arise please contact your child's teacher. If you cannot resolve your concern please contact the Principal (Parent Concern Protocol)
- Provide your feedback on your child's Report Card (December, April June)

Program Planning

When students are identified as requiring additional programming their needs will be addressed through the Program Planning process. Parents will be involved through regular communication and meetings. Parents will receive written Adaption reports and Individual Program Plan reports at the end of each term.

Communicating Throughout the Year

As parents/guardians, you can expect to receive information from teachers about your child's learning in relation to the expected learning outcomes. It is important for teachers and the school to share this information with students and parents so that we can collaborate in supporting your child's learning.

Formal:

Annual Report to the Community
Classroom updates
Code of Conduct
Curriculum Night
Electronic Newsletters/notices
Individual Program Planning Meetings
PowerSchool
Report Cards
School Advisory Council Meetings
School Improvement Plan

Informal:

Meetings
Conversations with Student,
Parent/Teacher Interviews
E-mails/Phone calls
Notes sent home
Parent/Guardian meetings
Awards
SAJH Road Sign
School Website
School Messenger

Student Success

- Students will be provided with multiple opportunities to demonstrate their progress toward achievement of outcomes using a variety of suitable assessment strategies.
- For homework to be successful, it must be meaningful, independently completed, and based upon student learning need, and it must adhere to recommended time limits
- Students are responsible for completing all assignments. Assignments will have reasonable due dates and if a due date for an assignment is missed, it will be at the discretion of the teacher and principal to extend the deadline. Students who miss the extended deadline will have missed that opportunity to demonstrate achievement towards the outcomes addressed in that assignment; however, multiple opportunities to assess that outcome will be given.

Student Assessment

Student progress and achievement is assessed, evaluated and communicated in relation to the expected learning outcomes as prescribed by curriculum guides established by the Nova Scotia Department of Education.

Formative Assessment or Assessment for Learning guides our day to day practice. Formative Assessment partners the teacher and the student in a process of continually gathering evidence of student learning with the express goal of improved student achievement.

Formative assessment informs decisions that teachers and students make each day in the classroom through clear learning targets and assessing present levels of understanding. This assessment is based on three simple student questions: Where am I now? Where am I going? What strategy or strategies can help get to where I need to go?

Formative Assessment is very individualized and focuses on continuous learning. Summative assessments focus on reporting where a student is, at a particular moment in time. External assessments are a form of summative assessment that provides a bench mark, comparing students with other students using the same assessment tool at the same moment in time.

2014-2015 School Calendar

September 3	First Day of School
September 18	Curriculum Night
September 23	School Picture Day
September 29	PD day (no classes)
October 13	Thanksgiving (no classes)
October 22	Picture Retakes
October 25	NSTU Provincial Conference Day (no classes)
November 11	Remembrance Day (no classes)
November 17	PD (am.) Parent/ Teacher Conferences (pm)
December 1	Assessment Day (no classes)
December 8	Term 2 Begins
December 10	Reports Cards go home
December 19	Last day of classes
January 5	School Re-Opens
January 21	Graduation Pictures
February 16	Viola Desmond Day (no classes)
February 20	PD Day (no classes)
March 16-20	Spring Break (no classes)
March 27	Assessment Day (no classes)
March 30	Term 3 Begins
April 3	Good Friday (no classes)
April 6	Easter Monday (no classes)
April 8	Reports Cards go home
April 22	PD (am.) Parent/ Teacher Conferences (pm)
May 15	PD day (no classes)
May 19	Victoria Day (no classes)
June 4	Grade 6 Parent Orientation Night
June 29	Assessment Day (no classes)
June 30	Last Day – Report Cards Gr. 7-9

Report Card Descriptors

Beginning this year teachers in Grades 7-12 will use the same grades and descriptors. These new descriptors are a blend of the percentages and qualitative words used previously in grades 9-12 and the updated 2013-2014 letter grade descriptors for Grades 1-6.

90-100%- Demonstrates excellent understanding and application of concepts and skills in relation to the learning outcomes.

80-89% - Demonstrates very good understanding and application of concepts and skills in relation to the learning outcomes.

70-79% - Demonstrates good understanding and application of concepts and skills in relation to the learning outcomes.

60-69% - Demonstrates satisfactory understanding and application of concepts and skills in relation to the learning outcomes.

50-59%- Demonstrates limited understanding and application of concepts and skills in relation to the learning outcomes.

Below 50%- Has not met minimum requirements of the course

INS - Insufficient evidence to determine a grade

IP – In progress until all components of the course are completed.

St. Agnes Junior High



Communicating Student Learning 2014-2015

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At St. Agnes Jr. High School, we value the important partnership between home and school. Effective communication is a key component in developing this partnership.

This brochure shows the different ways you can communicate with the school and how the school can be responsive to our community and its needs