



St. Agnes Junior High

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Brad McGowan- Principal Jarrett Feeney- Vice-Principal Sandy Harrison- Secretary

Principal's Message

As we approach Remembrance Day, I just want to invite everyone to take a moment to remember the sacrifices that were made and continue to be made by those who serve in our Military. As Canadians we look out at a complicated world and know that Canada is a special place and much of what makes this great land so wonderful was formed through those sacrifices.

As always it is my honour to be the principal of this amazing school and be part of this wonderful school community.

Remembrance Day

On November 10th, at 11:00 A.M, students and staff at St. Agnes Jr. High will participate in a ceremony to mark Remembrance Day, honouring those who have served, those who continue to serve, and those who have given their lives in service to Canadians, at home and abroad, in conflicts beginning with WW1 and continuing today in peace-keeping missions around the world. Parents are invited to attend our student-led assembly, where Cadets, the SAJH Band, and Call to Remembrance team members will present words, music, and other traditional acts of Remembrance. All are welcome, and any members of the SAJH community who would like to participate can contact the school.

Education System Administrative Review

As a result of the recently announced Education System Administrative Review, parents and members of the public were asked to comment on the following three questions:

- What administrative changes would you propose should be made to the education system to ensure the focus is on the needs of students?
- What changes would you propose should be made to the Department of Education and Early Child Development?
- What changes would you propose should be made to the administration of school boards?

Upcoming Events

November 10

Remembrance Day Ceremony
11:00 A.M

November 13

Remembrance Day- No Classes

November 20

SAC 5:30-6:30

PTA 6:30-7:30

November 22

Assessment & Evaluation Day-
No Classes

November 24

Picture Retakes

November 30

Report Cards Go Home

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Education System Administrative Review Con't

The review, by Dr. Avis Glaze, is looking specifically at the education system administrative model, including governing school boards, central administrative offices and administration at the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

The goal of the review is to ensure the right administrative structure is in place that best supports student success.

The final report is expected Dec. 31. To view the terms of reference for the review, visit www.ednet.ns.ca/adminreview

Athletics

Athletics has returned with a vengeance here at St Agnes Junior High School! A wonderful community-staff partnership has provided our students the opportunity to participate in Soccer, Cross Country, and Touch Football. Boys and Girls Volleyball teams are just beginning their seasons and Girls and Boys Basketball teams are in the works with tryouts happening this month. We have also rolled out a co-ed hockey team with a season to run from November to January. In this "new normal", a large thank you is extended to all of the parents and staff who have volunteered their time to provide such positive student-athlete experiences.

Culturally Responsive Pedagogy

St. Agnes Junior High is proud to be taking part in an exciting professional development series, specific to junior high school, on Culturally Responsive Pedagogy.

Culturally Responsive Pedagogy uses the cultural knowledge, prior experiences, frames of reference, and performance styles of ethnically diverse students to make learning encounters more relevant to and effective for them. It teaches to and through the strengths of these students. Within a culturally responsive approach, educators are viewed as cultural translators and act as conduits between learning outcomes and students' knowledge and lived experiences. Beyond the curriculum, teachers are deliberate in their attentiveness to the learning context, classroom climate, student-teacher relationships, instructional techniques, and classroom management and performance assessments.

Given the cultural composition of our community and the diverse backgrounds of our student population at St. Agnes, administration and staff believe that this in-servicing has tremendous relevance and value to both enhance professional practice and improve the educational experience for all of our students.



Bell Schedule

8:40 am. - Student Arrival Time

8:50 am. - First Class Begins

11:50 am. - Dismissal for Lunch

1:15 pm. - Student Arrival Time

1:20 pm. - First Class Begins

3:20 pm. - Dismissal for the Day

Junior Achievement Program

All Grade nines will be participating in the Economics of Staying in School (ESIS) program on Thursday, November 23rd. The ESIS program is endorsed and directly sponsored by the Department of Education with the goal to deliver this program to every Grade 9 class in Nova Scotia.

This program provides opportunities for the student and encourages the student to consider and reflect on the advantages of remaining in school until they have gained knowledge, attitudes and skills to needed for long-term career success. Volunteers from the local business area deliver the program.

The students learn to explore and manage their career and job choices by focusing on the direct links between further education and personal goals. The program provides them with the direct knowledge and information about financial futures. It also emphasizes a greater appreciation of the opportunities available through education and staying in school.

Multicultural Club

Multicultural Club has been meeting on Fridays at lunch in The Center. This group is open to everyone in the SAJH community and is a way to learn about different cultures, meet new people and celebrate diversity. Multicultural Club would like to host regular Lunch and Learn sessions about different cultural experiences. Many thanks to Chenise Hache our Aboriginal Support Worker for leading the first Lunch and Learn session of the year about Mik'maq Culture. Chenise shared food, tea, stories, music and wisdom in an inspiring way.

Multicultural Club is looking for volunteers to share their personal cultural stories for future Lunch and Learn sessions. Please contact Johanna Calder at jcalder@hrsb.ca if you are interested in sharing your cultural story in this informal setting.

PTA News

Each year in December, the Parent Teacher Association organizes a Trinkets to Treasure sale. This sale is made possible from generous community donations of gently used gift items that are then sold to the students for one dollar each. We are asking if you have any items to donate you kindly drop them off to Ms. Harrison at the main office. We always seem to be short on gifts for men. Also we accept gift bags and gift wrapping.



Student Rights and Responsibilities

1. I have the **RIGHT** to learn in this school.

It is my **RESPONSIBILITY** to be prepared to learn.

2. I have a **RIGHT** to hear and be heard.

It is my **RESPONSIBILITY** to respect other's contributions.

3. I have a **RIGHT** to be respected in this school.

It is my **RESPONSIBILITY** to be considerate to other people.

4. I have a **RIGHT** to be safe in this school.

It is my **RESPONSIBILITY** not to threaten, and/or physically or psychologically harm anyone else at school or while going to and from school.

5. I have a **RIGHT** to privacy and to my own personal space.

It is my **RESPONSIBILITY** to respect the personal property of others and to accept their right to privacy.

6. I have the **RIGHT** to be treated with courtesy and respect by adults.

It is my **RESPONSIBILITY** to show respect and to treat courteously all adults in our school and the community.

7. I have the **RIGHT** to be knowledgeable about and proud of my ancestry and cultural heritage.

I have the **RESPONSIBILITY** to learn about and to be tolerant of the history and cultural background of others.

Yearbook

Don't miss out on ordering your yearbook! You can save 25% by placing your order before February 28, 2018. For your convenience, orders can be placed online at <http://bit.ly/2xyiugQ> for only \$30. Check out our link on the SAJH site. Students who would like to help or provide pictures should see Ms. MacInnis to volunteer.

Interested in a copy of last year's book? Please see Mrs. Margeson as there is a small number still available for \$35 each.

Me to We

The students have been busy planning our yearly plan of action. The group has decided to support local food banks and shelters for our local initiative and health care will be our global focus. WE has led a successful food drive in October and we thank everyone who donated to this important cause.

We have plans to raise funds and collect items for shelter care packages in the next couple of months. Students will also be organizing clothing drives, contributing to Sunday Suppers, and preparing class presentations to continue in making a difference in our community. We appreciate all contributions in assisting us in achieving our goals. Please stay tuned for our upcoming event

WE

You're texting your friends and pressing send while they're hoping for their war to end.

Well, you don't have the latest iPhone and you're annoyed their homes are getting destroyed.

We see them on TV and say what a shame, but did you know we are part to blame.

Cause what have we done to help them out, I think it's time we take another route.

There are more important things than shoe deals; they are not getting proper meals.

While you're trying to get hotter, they're not getting clean water.

If you really care, help make a change.

We can help them no matter how far out of range.

We forget them because it's not happening here, but they're living in fear.

They're losing their lives; while we're sitting at the beach

When all we have to do is reach.

Reach out a helping hand so they know there is still hope, faith, and love

We can rise above.

Hopefully, give them a better place to call home, so they won't feel alone.

I want to create a world and environment so they won't have to see anything violent.

Let's make a difference in our community and all around

Now we can say true hope has been found.

Written by Maria Habchi



Great
Academics and
Treatment of
Others.....
Respectful
School.
GATORS!

