



Highland Heights Public School

September 2018



Principal's Message

Principal

Drew Beaton

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Administrative Assistant

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Safe Arrival: 1-866-740-2902

www.highlandheights.kprdsb.ca

Transportation Information:

www.stsco.ca

Welcome back Highland Heights families!

From my family to yours, I sincerely hope that you had a safe and enjoyable summer. As the dust settles at this busy and exciting time, I also hope that your family is beginning to settle comfortably into September routines once again.

As we begin the 2018/2019 school year, we encourage everyone in the Highland Heights community to embrace the opportunity to actively contribute to making this a fantastic and memorable school year. As a school, we focus on the character trait of optimism throughout the month of September. As Nicholas Butler stated, "Optimism is essential to achievement, and it is also the foundation of courage and true progress." We keep this in mind as we all once again set our goals for a highly successful year.

Mr. Killen and our custodial team has once again done a fabulous job with the upkeep of the school – and it looks fantastic! In the office, we have been focusing on all the organizational details to make our start-up as smooth as possible; and teaching staff have taken great care to set up their rooms and programs to meet the individual needs of all our students. We appreciate and recognize that it is the hard work and dedication of everyone, including our families and volunteers that makes Highland Heights the warm, inviting, positive school community it is.

Upcoming Events

Sept. 10th – School Council Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.

Sept. 19th – HH Open House – 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.

Sept. 27th – Terry Fox School Run Day

Sept. 28th – P.A. Day

Oct. 3rd – School Picture Day

Oct. 10th – Hep B and HPV Vaccine for Grade 7 Boys and Girls

As we work together to plan engaging opportunities for your children, please pay close attention to the information that your child brings home, complete and sign all forms, and promptly return them to the school. Of course, getting back into school routines is always a little challenging, but like you, we know that by working together, we maintain and improve the positive learning environment of Highland Heights. One of the ways we can effectively accomplish this is through working together on our School Council. It's a fantastic way to get to know other parents and hear first-hand about some of the school priorities. Our first meeting is **Monday, September 10th at 6:30 p.m.** in the Library, and we would love to have you join us!

Should you have additional questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us at (705) 742-8321. We always welcome your questions and comments, and we look forward to seeing you soon!

Sincerely,
Drew Beaton
Principal

School Organization for 2018/2019



Principal: Drew Beaton

Secretary: Dawna Peltenberg

Custodian: Rob Killen & Kevin Hobbins (Evening)

Teaching Staff:

Mrs. Pavilonis	JK/SK	Ms. Chapman	LLS A
Ms. Clyens-Nagy (ECE)	JK/SK	Mr. Gibson	LLS B
Ms. Lawson (Obbard)	SK/1	Ms. Wood	SERT
Ms. Mongraw	1/2	M. Perrin	French
Mr. Ritchie	2/3	Mr. McBride	Librarian
Ms. Snowball/M. Perrin	3/4	Ms. Brown	Math Coach
Ms. Tees	5/6	Ms. Hipgrave	ELD
Mr. Conlin	6/7	Ms. Habgood	Vision Itinerant
Ms. Brown & Ms. McGarry	7/8	Ms. Maclean	Vision Itinerant

Support Staff:

Susan Calderwood	EA - Brailist	Donna Hames	CYW
Fiona Fulford	EA - Brailist	Shawn Stickle	CYW
Nicole Mathews	EA - Brailist	Jordyn Clark	EA
Michele Waterworth	EA	Meagan Beaudoin	EA
Shauna Colbourn	EA	Jennifer Ridley	EA
Laura Moss	EA	Cory Huelin	EA
Sydney Little	EA	Marcus Quin	EA
Dan Murphy	EA	Brent Canning	EA
Kristine Hamilton	EA	Hannah Fuderer	EA

Safe Arrival Program is Changing / Student Absence Reporting

New Phone Number, Web address, Phone APP coming for reporting Absences.

At KPR, student safety is our highest priority, and we thank families for adopting the automated Safe Arrival system to help ensure students arrive safely at school each day. Starting in September, we will be introducing a new automated Student Absence Reporting System. Therefore, you will need to create a NEW account to report your children's absences online. In your start up package you will receive a magnet with web site and phone number to set up your account.

If your child is going to be **absent** or **late**, please call the **Student Absence – 1-844-434-8119** or go to **studentabsence.kprdsb.ca** and set up your account.

Safe Welcome Program

As we work to ensure the safety of all our students through the implementation of the Safe Schools Program, we are continuing to lock all our doors at 9 a.m., before school starts. If your child is late arriving in the morning (after 9:05 a.m.), please come to the front doors so that your child can sign in at the office and we can mark our attendance appropriately. Just a reminder that our school has a front door security system which includes a camera and intercom connected to the school office. Parents and visitors will be buzzed in by office staff who will release the door lock from the inside. We understand that this may cause some inconvenience, but, the safety of our students is our highest priority. Please be patient if you are not buzzed in immediately!

Anaphylactic Allergies

As we begin a new school year, please remember that we do have students in our school with life-threatening nut allergies. For students with food allergies, it is crucial that a safe environment be created for them which requires concerted cooperation from students, parents and staff. Together, a nut-free environment is possible. Remember that the best way to avoid bringing unsafe products into school is to read labels. We kindly ask that you do not send any products containing nuts to school in lunches or snacks. Thank you for your understanding.

Individual Emergency Response Plans (Plans of Care)



Every year, we re-establish Individual Emergency Response Plans (IERPs) for everyone in our building who has a medical condition that could potentially be life-threatening. It is our belief that collaboratively creating an IERP is absolutely vital to promoting the safety of each individual who suffers from a life-threatening condition.

Essentially, IERPs are a set of directions and cautionary advice to help our staff through a potential emergency medical situation that an individual might face. The plan includes all the information that a first responder would require, as well as step-by-step instructions on how to respond to the medical crisis.

All of our staff members are familiarized with the plans, and they are posted in central locations for administration to refer to in the event of an emergency.

If you are a parent / guardian of a child with a potentially life threatening illness or a medical condition, please ensure that you:

1. Inform the school of your child's medical needs;
2. Schedule a meeting with your child's teacher to review the medical needs of your child;
3. Working with our Administrative Assistant, Ms. Allan, complete an IERP for your child. If this has already been established, please make necessary changes to the form and send back to the school as soon as possible;
4. Complete the Administration of Medication form which details the request and authorizes the administration of prescription medication;
5. Provide the school with up-to-date epinephrine auto injectors (preferably a minimum of two), and any other prescribed medication, and keep them current;
6. Teach your child to take as much responsibility as possible for his/her safety;
7. Provide your child with a medic alert bracelet.

If you have any concerns or questions, please contact the office - and thank you for your full cooperation in keeping all of our students and staff safe!

Bullying Prevention Measures



At Highland Heights, we take the issue of bullying extremely seriously. We believe that everyone has the absolute right to be safe and feel safe at our school, and we consistently strive to make our school environment a secure place for everyone. Students are given consequences such as restricted recess times or community service for smaller issues, and they are suspended for more serious infractions. Research indicates, however, that sometimes children don't report when they are being bullied, so we rely on you for information. Please call Mr. Beaton at the school if you ever think your child is either being bullied or is bullying others.

Police Record Checks

Criminal Record Checks are required for all volunteers, including members of School Council and our Breakfast Program Volunteers. If you are planning to go on a class trip, volunteer in a classroom, volunteer with the Breakfast Program, volunteer for a school function, you **MUST** have a valid criminal record check on file at the school. Police Record Checks are valid for 1 year. You can pick up the proper paper work from the school to take to the Police Station or you can apply online at [Please note that it may take a couple of weeks to get your Police Record Check back from the Police Station, so plan ahead. *Don't leave it to the last minute.*](#)

September Open House - Wednesday, September 19 - 5:30-7:00 p.m.



Please join us this week as Highland Heights will be hosting our Open House on Wednesday, September 13 starting at 5:30 p.m. This is a wonderful opportunity to come out a visit with friends and neighbours and chat with your child's teacher. Pizza will be served from 5:30 to 6:00 and then classroom doors will be open from 6:00 until 7:00.

Breakfast Club



Our Breakfast Program is now OPEN each school day in Room 5. Breakfast will be served from 8:30 to 9:00 a.m. All children are welcome. Thank you to our amazing volunteers who help run this program.

Picture Day

Picture Day is October 3rd, so mark your calendars and get ready to say CHEESE!

Students Leaving School Property

Students require written permission to leave school property for any reason during the school day. If your child regularly walks home for the first nutrition break, these arrangements can be made with your child's teacher and the office. Students who only leave the school property periodically need to have a written note from a parent/guardian.

Picking and Dropping Off Your Child



For the safety of all students, please notify the school if anyone other than a parent or guardian will be picking up your child or children. Without notification, students must follow the regular arrangements made for travelling home. Also for student safety, please use the back parking lot off of Highland Court, not the front area of the school.

We also ask parents or guardians to make arrangements to meet your child or children at a designated spot outside the school at the end of the day. We would appreciate it if you could wait outside for the school bell to ring. If you need to enter the school, please make your first stop at the office. If you need to sign your child or children out during the school hours for an appointment, etc., please come to the office and we will have your child or children meet you at the office. Parents and guardians are kindly asked to avoid going to classrooms during instruction time, unless a previous arrangement has been made with the classroom teacher.

Walking and Riding



Please review the basic safety rules with your children. We will be stressing safety at school and, hopefully between us, we can get the message across. All children should use the sidewalk where possible and cross in front of the school with our crossing guard. Bicycle riders are reminded that they are considered vehicles and are required by law to wear helmets and obey traffic rules. Parents are asked to make sure their children have and wear their helmets. Bikes are never to be ridden on school property during school hours. Students riding bicycles are expected to dismount at the property's edge, walk their bikes to the racks provided, and lock them there for the day. Please note that we cannot be responsible for any damage that may occur to bikes. As in the past roller blades, skateboards, ripsticks and scooters are not permitted on school property.

Student Verification Forms

Please return the Student Registration Verification Form to the school as soon as possible. These forms help the school update important information pertaining to your child. New phone numbers, adult contacts for emergencies and medical alerts are very important!! Thank you!

No Dogs on School Property



Please do not bring your dogs on school property at any time and especially not during the school day. The presence of visiting dogs creates several potential problems and we appreciate your consideration of student safety, not to mention the obvious hygiene issue. Even though responsible dog-owners “stoop and scoop” when walking their pets, we are still left with a significant problem of remnants that end up being lost, forgotten or left behind. Please remember that we have a lot of little people that are crawling and playing on our yard, and even when a mess has been picked up, children still end up being negatively affected. On behalf of all of our students and staff, thanks for your cooperation and understanding.

Sun Savvy

Although the heat of summer is fading, the sun can still be dangerous for our health. Damage to eyes and skin from too much sunshine is easily prevented with the few simple steps below:

- Limit time in the sun between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.
- Look for shaded areas or create shaded areas to do outdoor activities.
- Wear clothing to protect as much skin as possible.
- Wear a hat with a wide brim or a backflap.
- Put on UV protection sunglasses.
- Use sunscreen with SPF 15 or higher that gives protection from both UVA and UVB rays.

School Council



What is School Council?

The purpose of school council, through the active participation of parents, is to improve student achievement and enhance the accountability of the education system to parents. School councils play a vital role in the education system in Ontario. They provide a forum through which parents and other members of the school community can contribute to improving student achievement and school performance.

“Partnering to Make Our Schools Strong”... Education is a partnership involving parents, students, teachers, principals, school boards, government and the community. By being a part of the school council team, we work together to ensure a high quality of education for our children.

Why be involved?

Parents play the first and most important role in their children’s education and are key partners in building a quality education system. One purpose of the school council is to promote and support the involvement of all parents in their child / children’s learning. This involvement contributes both to the child / children’s success in school and to the quality of the school environment. Participating on a school council is a rewarding experience for all those who value the opportunity to make a difference in their child / children’s education. Membership on a school council benefits the individuals involved by providing the following personal advantages:

- being an important partner in the education system, whose views are valued;
- contributing to the shared goal of improving student achievement;
- having a vehicle through which to express opinions;
- being able to keep informed about what’s happening at the school, the board and at the provincial level of education.

When & Where are the School Council Meetings Held?

School Council meets once per month in the School Library in the evening. Please check the school newsletter for specific details.

Who attends School Council Meetings?

If you have a child / children enrolled at Highland Heights P.S., you are eligible to attend meetings. No experience is required! Just bring your ideas and your enthusiasm... everyone has a voice at the table.

The membership of the School Council reflects the diversity of the school community. Parents and guardians form the majority of members on the School Council.

What is discussed at School Council Meetings?

“To consult” means to seek advice, to confer, to discuss or to deliberate on the views and opinions held by others. In the spirit of the regulations regarding School Councils, there are clear expectations that all partners be consulted:

- School boards and principals are to seek advice from their School Councils.
- School Councils are to seek input from the parents of their school community about matters under their consideration.

Topics of discussion at the Council table include:

- Current Events
- Bullying Prevention
- School Culture
- School Spirit
- Student Recognition
- EQAO Results
- Code of Conduct
- School Improvement Plan
- Literacy and Math Initiatives
- Improving Communication
- Parental Engagement Activities

Elected Positions on School Council

Along with parent membership, the School Council is comprised of elected positions, including Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Secretary and Regional Representative. Any parent representative may be nominated to one these positions. If you are interested in participating on School Council or would just like to attend a meeting, School Council will host its first meeting of the 2017/2018 school year on **Monday, September 10th @ 6:30 pm!** Minutes from monthly meetings can be found on the Community Board outside the staff room and on the school website – www.highlandheights.kprdsb.ca

Health and Physical Education Curriculum

We wanted to provide an update on the Health and Physical Education Curriculum for the coming school year.

As you know, the government has announced a broad public consultation on this issue.

While this consultation is underway, the Ministry of Education has re-issued the 2010 Health and Physical Education Curriculum for elementary students. Secondary students will continue to receive the curriculum broadly revised and introduced in 2015.

We know that our teachers and school support staff are well-trained professionals who will continue to be committed to supporting the well-being and healthy development of students.

We are also obligated by legislation to follow the provincially approved curriculum. Our teachers are highly professional, and will teach the curriculum in a developmental and age appropriate manner as they have always done.

As with any question you may have about anything related to your child's learning, the best place to start is with their classroom teacher. These conversations can strengthen positive relationships between parents and teachers, and resolve concerns at the level closest to the issue.

More information is also available on our board's website at: www.kprschools.ca