



Highland Heights Public School

September 2016 Newsletter



KAWARTHA PINE RIDGE
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Principal: Mrs. D. Gannon

Administrative Assistant: Mrs. S. Allan

Head Custodian: Mr. B. Jones

Phone: (705) 742-8321 Fax: (705) 742-7340

Safe Arrival: (705) 740-9923

School Website: www.highlandheights.kprdsb.ca

Transportation Information: www.stsco.ca

Twitter: [@HighlandHtsPS](https://twitter.com/HighlandHtsPS)

Educating the Future Together

Upcoming Events

Sept. 15th – School Open House

Sept. 19th – School Council Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.

Sept. 29th – Terry Fox School Run Day

Sept. 30th – P.A. Day

Looking Ahead:

Oct. 13th – Hep B &HVP for Grade 7/8 Boys & Girls

Oct. 18th – School Photos



Principal's Message:

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Welcome back staff and students to the 2016-2017 school year. I hope everyone had a wonderful summer! I would like to extend a warm welcome to those students and families new to Highland Heights Public School. I would also like to welcome many new staff members to the school. The first week has been an exciting one. Students have been outside learning about our environment through various subjects. Each class is also learning routines and rules that allow children to learn to their full potential.

Thank you to Mr. Jones, our Head Custodian, and Mr. Bell for making our school sparkle. These two men worked hard during some extremely hot summer weather. Their commitment to have the school clean and ready for the new school year is very much appreciated!

Dee Gannon

dee_gannon@kprdsb.ca

Safe Arrival Program

If your child is going to be **absent** or **late**, please call our **Safe Arrival at 705-740-9923** and leave a message including your child's name, the teacher's name and the reason for your child's absence. Messages are checked after morning attendance. If a child has been marked absent and there is no message from a parent/guardian, a phone call will be made from the school office to confirm the absence.



School Council Chair**Ruth Rusaw**ruthrusaw@gmail.com**Superintendent of
Student Achievement****Steve Girardi**Steve_girardi@kprdsb.ca**Trustees****Rose Kitney**Rose_kitney@kprdsb.ca**Wayne Bonner**Wayne_bonner@kprdsb.ca

SAFE SCHOOL INITIATIVE

Just a reminder that our school has a front door security system and locked doors, 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. Other doors to the school will remain locked as in the past. We understand that this may cause some inconvenience, but, the safety of our students is a priority. Please be patient if you are not buzzed in immediately!



This is just a reminder that we are a Nut Free School. We kindly ask that you do not send any products containing nuts to school in lunches or snacks. Thank you for your understanding.

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. 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.***



Breakfast Club is OPEN

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.

SAY CHEESE!

Picture Day is October 18th. Mark your calendars and get ready to say CHEESE!

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.

We ask parents or guardians to make arrangements to meet your child or children 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. We ask parents to avoid going to classrooms during instruction time.



P A R K I N G

When picking up your child (children) from school, please use the back parking lot off of Highland Court. Parents/guardians are not to use the front area of the school for picking up or dropping off students.



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!

Parent Conference on Mental Health

KPR invites parents and guardians to join us at our free, annual Parent Conference, to learn more about children's and teens' mental health.

2016 Parent Conference – Minds Matter @ KPR

Saturday, October 15

8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Cobourg Collegiate Institute

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Ian Manion, Life's Tough But So Are You:

Building Resilient Kids Who Bounce Back from Problems

Plus Choice of Workshops, Displays, Free Child Minding & Refreshments

Look for more information and on-line registration in mid-September on the home page at www.kprschoools.ca.

Mentally Healthy Schools Initiative

This year at Highland Heights we are participating in the Mentally Healthy Schools Initiative.

Mental Health is defined as a state of well-being in which every individual realizes their potential, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and fruitfully, and is able to make a contribution to their community.

Every day the adults here at Highland Heights create caring cultures that promote, academic, social and emotional successes. This is fundamental to promoting good mental health. We also find ourselves working with students who are struggling to belong, emotionally and/or academically. The promoting Mentally Healthy Schools project will focus on specific activities within the school to further enhance the positive views of mental wellbeing here at Highland Heights.

As the Mentally Healthy Child and Youth Worker assigned to the school, I will deliver and support school staff in the provision of strategies and programs. The focus of these programs is: social skills, self-regulation, problem solving, promoting positive mental health and resilience.

Each month I will try and update you on some of the programs that are being used in your child's school.

Please feel free to contact the school if you have any questions or concerns.

Susan Calderwood

Child and Youth Worker

Mentally Healthy School Initiative



Welcome back Highland Heights' parents, caregivers and students. Council would also like to extend a warm welcome to new members of our Highland Heights' community. We hope that everyone had a wonderful summer. We are excited for our new school year and look forward to bringing you new and exciting fundraisers and events.

Have you ever wondered where the money that is raised by our fundraisers is going? Do you have questions about what is going on in the school? Do you have ideas or suggestions about new fundraisers? If so, please join us at one of our monthly meetings. Meetings generally last about an hour. If you cannot attend a meeting, I will gladly hear your questions or ideas and present them on your behalf at a meeting. Please feel free to contact me through email at ruthrusaw@gmail.com or speak with me in person. Minutes from monthly meetings can be found on the Community Board outside the staff room. The minutes can also be found on the school website –

<http://highlandheights.kprdsb.ca>.

Our first meeting will be ***Monday, September 19th @ 6:30 pm*** in the school library! We look forward to a great school year with the Highland Heights team guiding our way!

School Organization for 2016/2017

Principal: Dee Gannon

Secretary: Susan Allan

Custodian: Bernie Jones & Jon Bell (evening)

Teaching Staff

Ms. Obbard/Miss Brown	ECE JK/SK	Mr. McBride/Ms Henzie	4/5
Ms. Houghton	SK/1	Mrs. Hedges/Ms. Osborne	6
Ms. Wood	2/3	Ms. Brown	7/8
Ms. Cavanagh	$\frac{3}{4}$	Mrs. Halpin	LLS
Lisa Collison	SERT	Ms. Perkins	LLS
Mrs. Shewfelt	Teacher	Mrs. Peers	Teacher
Mme Henzie	French		

Support Staff

Susan Calderwood	CYW	Donna Hames	CYW
Terri Forsythe	CYW	Richelle Coppaway	EA
Shauna Colbourn	EA	Jennifer Ridley	EA
Chantal Noyes	EA	Sydney Little	EA

Character Attribute for September is: R E S P E C T

I am polite, courteous and caring. I value myself and others. I treat all people with dignity and uphold their rights. I protect property and our environment.





September 9, 2016

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Welcome to the 2016-17 school year! It has been a pleasure seeing all those excited, eager faces at our schools over the past week. We welcome everyone to the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board (KPR) family. We are honoured that you have entrusted us with your children's and teens' education and well-being; we take that responsibility seriously.

By now, over 31,000 elementary, secondary and adult students have begun settling into their learning routines. We're glad to have them back. We sincerely thank our custodians for getting our schools sparkling clean over the summer, as well as the many other staff who came in before the start of school to make their classrooms warm, welcoming places.

Trustees:

Cathy Abraham
(Chairperson)

Sarah Bobka
(Vice-chairperson)

Wayne Bonner
Anthony Caruso
Cyndi Dickson
Rose Kinney
Jaine Klassen Jeninga
Angela Lloyd
Diane Lloyd
Mary Lynch-Taylor
Shirley Patterson

Tenzin Shomar
(Student Trustee)

We appreciate, and embrace, the responsibility that comes with educating our leaders of today and tomorrow. We encourage you to become involved in your child's education. Please stay in regular contact with the school, and offer the insights only you can give to help staff better understand your children's strengths and needs. By working together, we can help your children – our students – to achieve their full potential and meet with success.

Together, we also can help to keep our schools positive, inclusive and safe for everyone. We are committed to treating all individuals with respect and dignity, and we believe bullying or harassment have no place in our schools. Please review your school's bullying prevention and intervention plan, available on the school website, and let school staff know immediately if your child has been bullied. You also have the option of reporting incidents through the Report Bullying web link at www.kprschools.ca. In addition, you may wish to read our comprehensive Community Threat Assessment Protocol, which outlines how we work with police, mental health providers and community agencies to keep students safe. The protocol, all of our policies, school information, and many other helpful resources are available to you at kprschools.ca.

Finally, we encourage you to join us at KPR's free, annual Parent Conference, Saturday, October 15 at Cobourg Collegiate Institute. This event once again will focus on child and teen mental health. Our keynote speaker, Dr. Ian Manion, will offer a lively, practical presentation titled Life's Tough But So Are You: Building Resilient Kids Who Bounce Back from Problems. The conference also will include a variety of workshops, displays by community agencies, child minding for ages two and up, and refreshments. Watch for details, and for the opportunity to register online, later in September.

Want to stay up to date on the latest news from KPR? Follow us on Facebook or on Twitter @kprschools. We look forward to another exciting, successful year of working together for the benefit of students!

Sincerely,

Cathy Abraham
Chairperson of the Board

W. R. (Rusty) Hick
Director of Education

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Director of Education

EDUCATION CENTRE

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