

Niverville Elementary School

VOLUME 20, ISSUE 1

SEPTEMBER 2018



DON'T

FORGET!

- Sept 13: Regular Kindergarten Classes Begin (K1K & K3D,)
- Sept 14: Regular Kindergarten Classes Begin (K2K & K4D)
- Sept 14 & 17: Strong Connections
- Sept 26 & 27: Picture Day 9:00 a.m.
- Sept 28: Terry Fox Run (p.m.)
- Oct 8: Thanksgiving Day—NO SCHOOL
- Oct 19: ADMIN Day—NO SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

The start of a school year is a very exciting time for students and staff. Our hallways and classrooms are buzzing with the sound of curiosity, excitement, and learning. At this time I would like to welcome some new staff to Niverville Elementary School. Ms. Marge Thiessen, our new vice principal, Mrs. Susan Simcoe, our music teacher, Mrs. Jenna Wiebe, and Ms. Nia Rogers, new grade 3 teachers, and Ms. Beth Slusher and Ms. Laura Unger, new Educational Assistants. I would also like to welcome all of the new students and families that have joined our NES community.

As I begin my second year as principal at NES, I'm excited to continue getting to know the students and all that they bring to our school community. I also want to thank the parents for partnering with us for the 2018-2019 school year as we journey together for the success of your child's learning.

Please contact me at any time throughout the year. I look forward to talking with you.

Tracy Beaudin

PICTURE DAY

Mark your Calendar for the School Picture Day on

Wednesday, September 26th, 2018
(K2K, K4D, ALL GRADE 1s,
2C, 2K, 2S, 3F and 3K)
&
Thursday, September 27th, 2018
(K1K, K3D, 2A, 2H, 3AW, 3JW, 3R and
ALL GRADE 4s)

**PLEASE RETURN THE PICTURE FORMS
ON THE DAY YOUR CHILD IS
SCHEDULED FOR PICTURES.**

Questions call Lifetouch at 1-866-457-8212 or
email: guestservices@lifetouch.ca

STRONG CONNECTIONS

Just a reminder that Strong Connections will take place on **Friday, September 14th and Monday, September 17th**. A detailed letter was sent home with your child as to which day they should attend. Students only attend ONE day of Strong Connections.

Example: if your child is scheduled to attend on Friday, September 14th then they will NOT ATTEND school on Monday, September 17th.

The busses will be running as usual.

FROM THE OFFICE:

Student Pick ups:

If your child is to be picked up before regular dismissal, please send a note with your child or call the office **before 3:00 pm** to give details of who is picking up the child and when they will be picked up. We ask that upon arrival you check in at the office, **sign your child out**, and they will be called to office. As a staff, we will be consistent with this procedure as it ensures safety and is less disruptive to the classroom.

Attendance Protocol:

A reminder that if your child is going to be away from school, please call the office or email nes@hsd.ca before 9:08 a.m. If your child is unaccounted for **we will now be contacting you directly as opposed to using the automated system.**

Transportation:

To find out where your child will be catching the urban bus and the times, please refer to the hsd.ca website under the "Parents & Community" tab you will find "Transportation". You can find all the information for the urban bus routes.

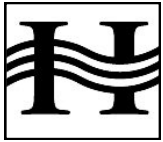
2018-2019 Activity Fees:

Thank you to all parents who have paid the Activity Fees for this year. If you have not paid, please be advised that fees are now past due. Please make payment online by logging into your Parent Portal account, if you need assistance please contact the office. The fee is \$25.00.

MILK TICKET SALES

Milk tickets are available in the office for 0.75 cents and can be purchased by parents at any time and by students during the lunch hour.





HANOVER PARENT & CHILD COMMUNITY PROGRAM

2018-2019 Hanover Parent and Child Community Program

Niverville School and The Hanover Parent and Child Community Program would like to invite you to bring your preschool children to attend a weekly parent and child program. Come with your children to have fun, learn, play, create and sing. This program is free and provides snack. No registration is needed, just drop in when you can.

Children enjoy playing with and learning from other children. It is important for children to be exposed to playing with other children so they learn how to share, participate in cooperative play and express themselves. Children will have the opportunity to play with a variety of toys, sing, complete crafts and learn new games.

This program is being provided for preschool children to promote the development of school readiness skills.

Come join Miss Judy:

When: Friday mornings from 9:30 - 11:30

(This program runs Fridays starting September 21, 2018 and ending June 7, 2019. Families can attend weekly or just drop in when you can.)

Where: Room 3 - Preschool Room at Niverville Elementary School

*** We will follow the same schedule as the division school calendar in regards to school closure days.**

ACTIVE SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

CROSSWALK INFORMATION AND SAFETY TIPS

At NES we are fortunate to have an adult crossing guard from 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Please ensure that your child is crossing Main Street at the crosswalk during those times whenever possible. The adult school crossing guard presses the button and determines when it is safe for the students and their parents to cross. Thanks for modeling this for your children.



MPI shares the following tips for crosswalk safety:

As a driver, be extra vigilant when you're approaching a crosswalk. Reduce speed, and prepare to stop when the overhead lights start flashing. Stopping is mandatory. Come to a complete stop and wait until the pedestrians have reached the other side of the road before driving away. Before you go, make a quick check in both directions to make sure no one else has entered the crosswalk.

If the crosswalk is on the other side of the intersection, stop well back so that cross traffic can get through.

DESIGNATED DROP OFF SPOTS

We have pamphlets at the front office available that identify the safe drop off spots for parents driving students to school. If you do not have one yet, you can email the school for one to be sent home with your child. When dropping off on 1st Street North, across from the cemetery, please have your children exit from the passenger side and walk down the sidewalk to the stop sign (as long as snow banks allow). That road is also where our buses drive to continue their route after drop off and pick up.

Be on the lookout for activities to promote and support active and safe transport throughout the school year!

Information Regarding Lice

Directives from Provincial Department of Health changed in 2012. This was based on the medical community identifying lice as a nuisance but not a medical concern.

There were 2 primary changes:

- 1) We no longer send children home immediately when they have lice. They can stay until the end of the day.
- 2) They can return to school with nits still present in their hair.

There are 2 ways that we become aware that a child has lice:

- 1) Parent reports lice
- 2) We find lice

At NES 3 EAs have been trained on how to check for lice and nits.

How NES responds and follows through when we are aware of a child having lice:

- 1) When a parent reports lice to the office, the office will notify Ms. Thiessen.
- 2) If we find the lice, Ms. Thiessen will send a letter home to report findings and a package from the public health nurse will be sent home. This package outlines how to treat lice effectively and provides other information regarding lice.
- 3) When the school is aware of lice, the educational assistants do the lice checks for the class the child is in, their sibling, and their sibling's class if the sibling also has lice.
- 4) If the classroom is checked, letters are sent home to the students and to the bus students—youngest & only. This letter is provided by the public health nurse to hand out. It was not written nor can it be changed by NES.
- 5) An EA checks the day the child returns, approximately a week later and again approximately two weeks later.
- 6) Findings of the next checks are shared with parents if nits or lice are still present.
- 7) If treatment was not effective, Ms. Thiessen will call to encourage effective treatment.
- 8) When reported by a parent, Ms. Thiessen will call to see if they need the information package sent home and provide the public health nurse's contact information for them to call if needed.

In reviewing the measures we are taking, the public health nurse assured us that we are following the protocol that other schools in our province do and that by doing the second and third checks we are going beyond what many school do.

Please feel free to call the public health nurse, Chelsea Manaignre if you have any questions regarding the policy.

Notice - Religious Exercises - Niverville Elementary School, 2018-2019

The Board of Trustees of the Hanover School Division has received petitions requesting that religious exercises be held in Niverville Elementary School during the 2018-2019 school year.

The petitioners have specified their desire for the recitation of the Lord's Prayer and the reading of a Bible passage or story.

As the petitions bear the signatures of parents representing more than 60 students in the school, the Board of Trustees of the Hanover School Division has authorized religious exercises, as specified above, to be held before the official instructional day, from 9:00 a.m. to 9:05 a.m., in designated common areas of the school.

Provincial and divisional guidelines will be followed. These guidelines are available at the school office and on the web site at www.hsd.ca.

Only children of parents who have signed the petition or have written a signed note of request to the school office or Board of Trustees of the Hanover School Division, indicating the name and the grade of the students they are signing for may participate. Petitions and/or notes must be signed/written annually.

Notice - Religious Instruction- Niverville Elementary School, 2018-2019

The Board of Trustees of the Hanover School Division has received petitions requesting that religious instruction be held in Niverville Elementary School during the 2018-2019 school year.

The petitioners have specified their desire for the Discovery Time program offered by Child Evangelism Fellowship.

As the petitions bear the signatures of parents representing more than 25 students in the school, the Board of Trustees of the Hanover School Division has passed the required by-law permitting religious instruction, as specified above, to be offered by volunteers during designated half-hour per week classes.

Provincial and divisional guidelines will be followed. These guidelines are available at the school office and on the web site at www.hsd.ca.

Only children of parents who have signed or joined the petition may participate. Parents may join the petition by forwarding a signed note to the school office or Board of Trustees of the Hanover School Division, indicating the name and the grade of the students they are signing for. Petitions and/or notes must be signed/written annually.

Practice of Religion in Hanover School Division

As a Manitoba public school division, The Hanover School Division is obligated to comply with the provisions of *The Public Schools Act* and provincial guidelines governing the implementation of religious exercises and religious instruction. *The Public Schools Act* states that public schools must be non-sectarian. Religious exercises and religious instruction in public schools may only be implemented by school boards in a manner consistent with the Act and departmental guidelines after a parent petition is presented to the school board. Petitions must be submitted annually for each religious component. The Hanover School Division will continue to provide for appropriate religious exercises and instruction consistent with provincial and divisional guidelines.

Religious Exercises

If the appropriate number of parents of children in a particular school (parental signatures for 60 students) petition for religious exercises of a specific nature for their school, the board will authorize the implementation of religious exercises for that school for that year. Petitions must be presented to the board on an annual basis.

This applies to adherents of all religions presenting a petition with the appropriate number of signatures.

In order for this to be administratively possible, the original petition would need to be presented to the board by the first board meeting in May.

No divisional personnel or board members will be involved in the petitioning process, other than to provide information pertaining to the provincial guidelines governing this process and the presence of enabling by-laws where appropriate petitions are received in a timely manner. No school personnel will be involved in follow-up with students or their families in situations where parents have not joined a petition.

In cases where the board has authorized implementation of religious exercises in a school, based on qualifying annual petitions, schools will provide information to the school community through a newsletter announcement in June and September, indicating that the board has received a petition(s) and passed the required by-law and that parents wishing for their children to participate would need to add their name to the petition(s) by sending in a signed note. New registrants during the year will be informed of the status of religious exercises and their voluntary nature in their school by provision of copies of all of the school newsletters published year-to-date.

The school will provide appropriate space for religious exercises between 9:00 a.m. and 9:05 a.m. before the start of the school day. All schools, except for the SRSS (see below) will have an official length school day starting at 9:08 and ending at 3:40 or later. Exercises will be led by volunteers from the school staff, from the community or from parents requesting the exercises. Attendance will not be taken, nor will school staff enforce attendance or non-attendance, other than to inform parents where appropriate.

Students with permission to participate (parents have signed either the original petition or have added their name to the petition with a signed note) will meet in the designated area during the designated non-instructional time. At no time will religious exercises be broadcast in the school via the PA system or held in a general assembly.

General assemblies are considered to be part of the regular instructional day and will commence at 9:08. Religious exercises on these days will continue to be held before the school day, between 9:00 and 9:05 a.m.

Students not participating would not be required to report for classes until the instructional day begins. Non-participating students at school due to transportation arrangements will be provided with a designated classroom space and will be supervised by a teacher.

At 9:08 all students will be expected to be in their homerooms for the beginning of the school day. Attendance will be taken, as well as lates recorded at this time and O Canada and school announcements will be broadcast from 9:08 to 9:10, at which time regular instruction will commence.

Religious Instruction

If the appropriate number of parents of children in a particular school (Parental signatures for 25 students) request religious instruction of a specific nature for their school, the board will pass a by-law permitting this.

This applies to adherents of all religions presenting a petition with the appropriate number of signatures.

In order for this to be administratively possible, the original petition would need to be presented to the board by the first board meeting in May.

No divisional personnel or board members will be involved in the petitioning process, other than to provide information pertaining to the provincial guidelines governing this process and the presence of enabling by-laws where appropriate petitions are received in a timely manner. No school personnel will be involved in follow-up with students or their families in the case that parents have not joined the petition.

In cases where by-laws have been duly passed by the board based on qualifying petitions, schools will provide information to the school community through a newsletter announcement in June and September, indicating that the board has received a petition(s) and passed the required by-law and that parents wishing for their children to participate would need to add their name to the petition(s) by sending in a signed note. New registrants during the year will be informed of the status of religious instruction and the voluntary nature of this instruction in their school by provision of copies of all of the school newsletters published year-to-date.

The school will provide appropriate space for religious instruction and classes will be scheduled for a single half-hour class per week during the regular instructional day for any given class, based on the availability of appropriate volunteer instructors. Schools may limit religious instruction to the last hour of the school day, may designate a specific day of the week for all religious instruction and may set the total length of the instructional block so that it will not extend the entire academic year. Volunteer instructors for the individual schools will provide parents with a schedule in advance of the commencement of religious instruction each year.

Students with permission to participate (parents have signed either the original petition or have added their name to the petition with a signed note) will meet in the designated area during the designated religious instruction time.

Volunteers must use an approved body of materials that meet the requirements of the division and school mission statements and are appropriate to the age of the students. Volunteer teachers must submit a Criminal Records check and a Manitoba Child Abuse Registry check to HSD in advance of the commencement of the instructional block, in order to qualify.

Any use of extra materials for home study is restricted to those students participating in religious instruction during the approved block of religious instruction. This material may only be distributed in the school by designated volunteer instructors as part of the religious instruction class and collected by the same volunteers. Markers of such materials are not authorized to access the students directly through the school.

Students not participating in religious instruction will be in a regular classroom supervised by a teacher and will be working on the regular Manitoba curriculum for their grade. This work will be supplementary in the sense that it will not create homework or missed essential learning for the students opting in to religious instruction, nor will it create extra busy work or homework for those students not opting in.