



# Sackville Heights Elementary

## October 2023

Principal: Ms. Rachael Webster  
Vice Principal: Mrs. Lisa Gray

Admin Assistant: Mrs. Holly Pelley

**Sackville Heights**  
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### ***Principal's Message***

*It's hard to believe that October is here and we have already finished a whole month of school. We have had a wonderful start to the school year. Teachers and students have been busy getting to know each other, making connections and adjusting to their new classrooms. It is so nice to see so many happy faces as we travel around the school and the school grounds.*

*September was a gorgeous month for weather, but with the beginning of October, it looks like fall temperatures are coming. Please remember to send your children to school dressed to play outside. Weather permitting, we go out every day at recess and lunch. It is also a good idea to send a change of clothes with your child in case they find mud on the playground.*

*Teachers are learners too and at our PD in September we looked at ways to best support our learners with fact fluency in math and phonemic awareness in literacy. Teachers have a lot of innovative things going on in their classrooms and they love to share their expertise.*

*Sackville Heights is an excellent place to go to school and work! Ms. Gray and I feel very fortunate to be here again this year.*



### **Drop and Go—Important Reminders**

- Pull ahead as far as you can
- Adults should stay in the car
- Children should be exiting the vehicle on the sidewalk side
- Students should be ready to exit the vehicle quickly and be able to open their own door and get out of the car independently.
- Vehicles are not permitted to pass in the Drop & Go. You must wait for the car in front of you to move before exiting the loop.
- If you decide to park at the church and walk your student over to the school please use the sidewalk and do not cross in the Drop and Go.

We have had an increase in the number of cars in the afternoon who are blocking staff parked vehicles. A number of our staff work varying hours that are different from the school hours and we appreciate your help in ensuring they are able to leave the school grounds.

### **From Your PTO (Parent/Teacher Association)**

The first PTO meeting was a huge success! The Veggie Box Orders had a great outcome, thank you all for a great month. **The first big event will be Bingo Night, Thursday November 16th** (No School Friday). Our next meeting will be held at the school on October 17th at 6:30.

### **School Pictures**

School pictures took place this week. Proofs will be sent home in the next week or so. Families will also receive an online code should you wish to order online. Retakes will take place November 2nd.

### **Reminders**

- Oct. 2 Truth and Reconciliation Day (observed)
- Oct. 4 Picture Day P-2
- Oct. 5 Picture Day 3-5
- Oct. 9 Thanksgiving Holiday—no school
- Oct. 17 SAC at 5:30  
PTO at 6:30
- Oct. 27 Conference Day—no school for students
- Oct. 31 Hallowe'en Day

## SAC (School Advisory Council)

Our next meeting will be on October 17th at 5:30pm. The meetings are open to all parents who wish to attend. For more information on the role of the SAC, our Bylaws and Agreements please visit our website.

## Emergency Management Plans

All HRCE schools have Emergency Management Plans, which are reviewed, updated and practiced every year. These plans have three responses to an emergency situation: *Shelter in Place*, *Evacuation*, and *Relocation*.

- *Shelter in Place involves either a Hold and Secure* (where no one enters or exits the building, but those inside may be able to move around) or a *Lockdown* (where no one enters or exits the building and all students and staff are concealed in a secure location, away from doors and windows).
- *Evacuation involves all students and staff exiting the building but remaining on the property.*
- *Relocation involves all students and staff moving from the school property to another nearby site.*

It is also important to note that HRCE can respond to an emergency evacuation using our large network of school buses. There are more than 400 school buses on the road every day.

## School Bus Safety Week

October 16-23, 2023 is School Bus Safety Week in Nova Scotia!

Did you know that HRCE has more than 30,000 students who ride the school bus every day?

School Bus Safety Week is a great time to remind students, families and schools, of a few daily safety tips that everyone can follow to ensure all students get to school safely.

### *Bus Stop Safety*

- Be on time for the bus and please don't run to/from the bus.
- Stand back off the road and don't push or shove when waiting at a stop.
- Always cross in front of the bus. Walk three metres (10 feet) in front of the bus to a point where you can see the driver and wait for the driver's signal to cross. Proceed to the centre of the road, STOP, LOOK & LISTEN and cross the road when it is safe.
- Never crawl under a school bus or cross the road behind the bus.
- Know the danger zones around the bus.

### *School Bus Safety*

- Please respect and listen to the driver and avoid distracting them.
- Please keep noise levels to a minimum.
- Do not stand or move seats while the bus is in motion.
- Never put your hands, arms, feet or head out of the bus window.
- Ask the driver for permission before you open the bus windows.
- Do not throw anything inside the bus or out of the windows.
- Keep the aisle clear at all times when the bus is in motion.



You can find out more information about School Bus Safety Week, including more safety tips at: <https://www.schoolbussafety.ca/kids>