



Dear HPJH Families,

On behalf of the staff at Highland Park Junior High, I would like to extend a warm welcome to all our new and returning students and families for the 2022-2023 school year. The first day of school for students is Wednesday September 7th and we look forward to seeing everyone!

Opening Day information for students will be sent to both our students and yourselves tomorrow, Thursday September 1st.

As we return to a more normal school experience, we can focus on student learning and well-being and enhance our focus on greater collaboration for the benefit of staff and students.

Our Shared Health

- We know – and Public Health reinforces – that the following practices are effective in this current phase of living with COVID-19: getting vaccinated; staying home if feeling unwell; frequently sanitizing hands; and supporting those who choose to wear masks.
- Operations staff will continue to ensure that school ventilation systems are regularly checked, cleaned and, where necessary, repaired and updated.
- HEPA filtration units will continue to be provided to classrooms without active ventilation systems.
- The province's Back to School website – <https://novascotia.ca/backtoschool> contains links to current guidance from Public Health as it relates to COVID-19. Schools will continue to follow this advice. Individuals who test positive will follow the guidance from Public Health. It continues to be the best practice for individuals to stay home when they are feeling unwell.

We have been busy planning to ensure we continue to function in a Pandemic world while returning to the regular structure and routine of learning at school.

We are resuming our clubs, groups and sports teams and we would like to have as much participation as possible. Please encourage your child to get involved right away with all we have to offer. We also want as much parent involvement as possible! Volunteers are a very important part of our school community. If you would like to volunteer, please contact myself or Lee Matheson (Vice Principal) and let us know: cchristianson@hrce.ca or lmatheson@hrce.ca or leave us a message at 902 493 5124.

Please see our website for the times of our Bell Schedule: <https://hpi.hrce.ca/hpi/general-information/bell-schedule-2022-2023>

Entrance is at 8:20, lunch is from 11:30-12:30, afternoon dismissal is at 2:40.

We offer a supervised lunch hour if your child chooses to stay at school for lunch. Students will eat in a designated classroom from 11:30 – 11:50. At 11:50 they will go outside with supervision on school property. If it is raining or very cold, students will remain supervised indoors. Please be aware that we can only provide supervision to your child while on school property.

In addition to our school website, we will keep you updated with regular calls/emails home. Please be sure to visit the school and teacher websites on a regular basis.

There is no student fee this year. A suggested school supplies list is posted on our website. Please contact us if you need any help with this. Lockers will be available for students this year. We will be assigning and developing routines for use over the first two weeks of school. This will all be discussed during student Homeroom time which takes place every morning.

The best way that we can support your child is to have open communication with a shared partnership committed to their success as a learner and a citizen. Any time you have a question or concern, please do not hesitate to call.

We look forward to working with you over the upcoming school year and wish everyone all the very best!

Sincerely,

Carla

Carla Christianson
Principal