



NOVEMBER 2016 NEWSLETTER

Principal: James Gushue

Grade 6-8 Vice-principal: Karen Lander-Pinard

Grade 9-12 Vice-principal: Greg Bower

Phone: 902-825-5350 | Fax: 902-825-5355 | Email:

mrhs@avrsb.ca



NATIONAL DEBATING SEMINAR HELD AT MIDDLETON REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

MRHS hosted the National Debating Seminar on October 26 to 31. Approximately 85 students, teachers and coaches from across Canada attended.

Middleton is the smallest community to have hosted this event in 50 years and had the best bilingual integration. Skylah Van Wagoner was the top Nova Scotia debater—congratulations! We would like to thank all of the community members for their support as well as the parents who helped with meals and the final banquet. A special thanks to the MRHS students who helped run this event. The students represented our school and community exceptionally well. Thanks again from Ms. Hubley, Ms. Cole and Mr. Stewart.

MORE DEBATE NEWS:

At the provincial debating impromptu on October 14-15, the team of Jake Waldner and Nora McLennan placed 4th overall. Individually, Jake was 10th and Nora 9th.

In senior high, the team of Skylah Van Wagoner and Mia Fraser placed 7th and Harper Metler and Liam Taylor placed 3rd. Individually, Skylah ranked 9th, Liam 7th and Harper 2nd. Harper and Liam have gained a spot at Senior High Nationals in Vancouver as a result of this tournament. Congratulations to all debaters!

MRHS debaters will travel to Dalhousie University for a tournament on November 18-19 and St. F.X. on November 25-26. Good luck!

CANADIAN CURRENCY CHALLENGE

MRHS TEACHER, LAURA COLE, WINS GOVERNMENT OF CANADA HISTORY AWARD

The Canadian Currency Challenge is designed to encourage students to think about the construction of Canadian identity through the analysis of an object relevant and familiar to their everyday lives—currency. During this project, students will be asked to complete four phases: comparison, discussion, synthesis and presentation/class vote.

This project is intended to be used as an introduction to Canadian History as it enables the teacher to evaluate students' current understanding of both Canadian History and culture. Given the wide variety of historical events represented on Canadian currency, it also allows the teacher to introduce a broad array of themes and ideas to gauge student interest. This lesson and project will act as a touchstone for future units. Finally, it allows students to familiarize themselves with the Historical Thinking Concepts by organically integrating them into the class discussions. Alternatively, it could be used as a conclusion to the course to assess which key elements of history were retained and deemed significant by students.

SCHOOL PHOTO RETAKES—NOVEMBER 4, 2016

Photo Retake Day will be held on the morning of **Friday, November 4**.

As well, any students who did not have their photo taken on the original photo days are asked to please have their photo taken on Friday.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING CANCELLATION/URGENT NOTICES FROM AVRSB

The Annapolis Valley Regional School Board is now using AlertSolutions to send messages about school cancellations or other urgent situations. Examples of these messages are school cancellations due to weather/road conditions or power outages. AlertSolutions is the system that many schools use to send information to parents/guardians by text, email and phone.

If you are a parent/guardian and have updated your contact information with the school this year, you will automatically receive these notices from AVRSB by text, email and/or phone, depending on the information you have provided and the contact preferences you have indicated.

If you wish to check or update your contact information or preferences for AlertSolutions messages, please use the Parent Portal online or contact the school office.

For several years, AVRSB has used a system called *Notify Me* to send these types of messages by text or email. *Notify Me* requires users to sign up to this service. AVRSB will continue to operate *Notify Me* so those who do not have parent/guardian information on file with a school—such as grandparents and childcare providers—can receive these messages. Where possible, AVRSB will take steps to ensure parents/guardians do not receive duplicate cancellation/urgent messages from AlertSolutions and Notify Me. You can unsubscribe or subscribe to *Notify Me* any time at <https://www.avrsb.ca/Content/notify-me>.

REPORT CARDS & PARENT/GUARDIAN-TEACHER VISITS

- **Report Cards** will be issued for Grade 9-12 on **November 17, 2016**.
- **Report Cards** will be issued for Grade 6-8 on **November 21, 2016**
- **Parent/Guardian-Teacher Visits** for all grades will take place on:
November 24 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. and November 25 from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m.
- **Early Dismissal** will take place on **November 25 at 12:15** due to the Parent/Guardian-Teacher Visits.

STUDENT-PARENT PORTAL FEATURES

Students and parents/guardians are reminded that there are many features in the portal which will help track the students' most up-to-date information:

- Students' schedules are available for the current week
- Attendance can be viewed
- Provincial assessment results can be seen for those students who have written a provincial assessment
- Senior high students' courses and marks/credits achieved can be viewed which includes up-to-date marks in their current subjects

All students have a login and password. If they do not have this information, they may come to the school office and request it. Students can share this information with their parent/guardian if they so wish, or a parent/guardian may come to the school office and request a parent/guardian login and password. When requesting a login/password, photo identification must be presented at the time of the request.

Please note that during certain reporting periods the student-parent portal may be shut down.

A REMINDER THAT MRHS IS A PEANUT FREE SCHOOL

Parents/Guardians are reminded to be very mindful to **NOT** send Halloween treats to school with their children that may contain peanuts/tree nuts. Thank you.

COUNSELLOR'S CORNER

● Applications to Post-Secondary Institutions:

Students and parents/guardians are reminded that applications to Nova Scotia Community College are accepted on a first come, first served basis. Apply NOW to avoid disappointment. This can be done online at <http://www.nsc.ca/admissions/applying/>. Also, be aware that "test drives" are available. Students may make appointments to go to the College to check out programs of their choice to see if they are a fit for them via the website.

Applications to universities can be made now with grade 11 marks for early admission. Many students, however, wait until they have first semester results before they apply. Students are accepted based on criteria such as averages and courses completed rather than first come, first served as with NSCC. Bear in mind that entrance scholarships and bursaries have application deadlines that are particular to each institution. Check websites for details.

● **Post-Secondary Visits** - to be held on **November 15** for high school students—10:45 to 12:00/6:45 to 8:30 pm—parents/guardians are invited to the evening session—Cafeteria

● Information for Mrs. Arthur:

Mrs. Arthur needs to know students' plans for after graduation. When students are accepted to and have decided to attend a post-secondary institution, please let Mrs. Arthur know for statistical purposes. Grade 12 students are also reminded to fill in the **Student Profile** sheets and pass them in to the main office. Extra forms are available in Student Services and in the main office. This valuable information is used throughout the school year to decide upon nominees for some awards, scholarships and bursaries.

● Student Assistance Presentation

Wondering about how to apply for a Student Loan? There will be an information session in the library on **February 22, 2017**.

● Scholarship and Bursary Information

Applications for scholarships and bursaries are coming in all the time. Please see Mrs. Arthur to get up-to-date information. Have questions or concerns? Come and talk to Mrs. Arthur. Have you won an award, bursary or scholarship? Please let Mrs. Arthur know.

EXPLORATORIES

Exploratories were held on October 26 for Grade 6 to 8 students. Sessions the students took part in were: Chess, Cooking, Nature Quest, Basketball, Zen Triangles, Crafts with Mother Nature, Plaster Masks, Build with Lego, Skating, Board Games & Cards, Hoopla Hooping, NSCC-Cosmetology/Amateur Radio/Facilities Maintenance/Lego Robotics/Java Graphics Programming/Photographic Tours of Sable Island/Webpage Programming.

GRAD FEES

A reminder to grads that grad fees of \$50.00 are due as soon as possible.

These fees help with the cost of grad all-nighter, prom and safe grad activities.

Prom tickets are included for the grad and their date in the cost.

GRADE 10 MATH AND MATH AT WORK 10 HOMEWORK HUB

WENT LIVE ON OCTOBER 19

Students enrolled in Math 10 and Math at Work 10 are now able to log on using their GNSPES account and access free online tutors between 5:00 and 9:00 p.m. Sunday to Thursday.

Students received the necessary information to log on from their teacher.

YEARBOOK NEWS

Great News! 2017 yearbooks will be on sale from **November 9 to 23** at both middle level and senior lunches in the main lobby. Books can be purchased for a price of \$37 or \$40 for a personalized book. Non-personalized books can be reserved with a down payment of \$20 upon ordering, with the remainder due upon pick up of the book in June. However, all personalized books must be paid in full when ordered. We are also excited to be offering sales online. Please see the school website to make your online purchase. Yearbooks make excellent Christmas and graduation gifts. Don't miss out!

This fall the yearbook committee will be collecting grad baby photos, graduation photos (if you would like a different one from the school photographer) and grad write-ups. Please listen for deadlines and further details on the school announcements.

Please contact Ms. Lemon or Alissa Balcom should you have further questions, or you can contact the yearbook committee any time at yearbookmiddleton@gmail.com.

BAND NEWS

A huge THANK YOU to all Band families who have supported the recent band fundraisers, namely the Pie and the Paint Night fundraisers. Thank you to Cheyenna Scott-Banks for organizing these events.

Band parents/guardians—your continued support is appreciated! All funds raised go directly to supporting the amazing MRHS Band!

The next band event is a Ticket Auction on **November 26 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.** in the Band Room. There will also be a bake sale and 50/50 draw. Thank you to Shelley Bent for organizing the ticket auction. Live music will be performed by our very own Jazz Band!

GRADE 6 NEWS

We would like to welcome the 6th Graders to MRHS. Students chose a colour family and created art around their name. While this welcome may be a bit late, it is nice to recognize all students with a piece of art they have created to place onto the 6th grade bulletin board.



The Grade 6 students would like to thank Mrs. Johns for coming in to speak on the "Lost Teachings" - a book that recognizes the importance of communicating and preserving core values so that they do not become lost in culture. The students were very engaged in the books Mrs. Johns was reading and the personal stories she shared.

MAGAZINE CAMPAIGN

Total sales for the magazine campaign were just over \$10,000. The school will receive 40% of the total sales. A huge **THANK YOU** to parents/guardians and community members who supported this fundraiser. Top senior seller was Jillian Morse. Top junior seller was Mercy Jenereaux. Top class sales was 7M. Great job!

SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR NOVEMBER

- November 3—School Dance
- November 10—Remembrance Day Assembly for students and staff
- November 11—Remembrance Day—No School
- November 15—Post-Secondary Visits—10:45-12:00/6:45-8:30 p.m.—cafeteria
- November 17—Report cards sent home for Grade 9-12
- November 21—Report cards sent home for Grade 6-8
- November 24—Parent/Guardian-Teacher visits for all grades (6:30-8:00 pm)
- November 25—Parent/Guardian-Teacher visits for all grades (1:00-3:30 pm)/Early Dismissal at 12:15 pm
- November 30—Regional Inservice (No School for students)/WE Day

ANNAPOLIS VALLEY REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD

SURVEY ON FRENCH IMMERSION

Parents/Guardians, students and school community members are invited to share comments on French immersion in AVRSB through an online survey in November. The feedback collected through this survey will be considered during a review of the board's French Immersion policy and administrative procedures over the coming months.

Throughout November, any interested individuals can go to <http://fluidsurveys.com/s/avrsbimmersion> to complete a survey, or visit an AVRSB school to access the survey.

UPCOMING MONARCHS HOME GAMES

Senior Boys Volleyball

→ November 5—Home Tournament

Girls Hockey

→ November 4—6 - 6th Annual Hockey Tournament (Fri—2:30 pm/Sat—4:30 & 7:30 pm)

→ November 22—MRHS vs BRHS—7:25 pm

→ November 29—MRHS vs CK—7:25 pm

COMMUNITY NEWS

Valley Speed Skating—The Annapolis Valley Speed Skating Club will be holding an after-school program which is **FREE** to all school-aged children! It will be taking place at the Credit Union Centre-Kingston on Fridays starting November 18 from 4:45 to 5:45 pm. The club will supply the skates, but ask that students bring their own helmet, thick mittens and warm clothes to wear on the ice. The club has a few helmets to lend if needed. If students are interested in trying this sport or just love to go *fast*, the club would love to see you there!