

GEARY GAZETTE

At Geary Elementary Community School:

"We C.A.R.E."

September 8th, 2016

<http://geary.nbed.nb.ca> & twitter.com/gearygators

WELCOME BACK

As the 2016/2017 school year begins, G.E.C.S. staff want to assure you that the safety and well-being of your children is our number one priority. With the support of our families we begin yet another exciting year of learning. Every child can be successful in education with your help. The staff look forward to meeting you at **Meet the Teacher Night on Thursday, September 15th, 2016**. It is so great to be back at school!

G.E.C.S. STAFF include:

Bonnie Worrall	Principal
Debbie West	Admin Assistant
Tinika Lowe	Kindergarten
Lindsay Peters	UNB intern (K)
Heather Doherty	Kindergarten/Grade 1
Amanda McFadzen	UNB intern (K/1)
Stacey Killam	Grade 1
Ashley Smith	Grade 1/2
Ted Beach	Grade 2
Jennie Howatt	UNB intern (2)
Susan Robichaud	Grade 3
Charles MacTavish	Grade 3/4
Tonya Crowhurst	Grade 4
Wendy Peters	Grade 5
Ryan Gallan	STU intern (5)
Mike Lanteigne	PE
Mary MacLeod	Resource
Karyn Hamilton	Guidance
Marjorie Gorospe	Community School Coordinator
TBD	Library Worker
TBD	Kindergarten Support Worker
Sandy Chappelle	EA
Sarah Dykeman	EA
Carolyn Gallant	EA
Jennifer Gardner	EA
Monica Humphrey	EA
Danielle Jessop	EA
Bonnie Lively	Headstart Early Years Educator
Suzanne MacDonald	Headstart EA
Marsha Storey	Headstart EA
Brad Walsh	Daytime Custodian
Carla Haley	Evening Custodian

IWK hat day!

Every Friday our school will be involved in an IWK Hat Day. Children can wear a hat on Friday but they must pay a quarter for the privilege. During the IWK Telethon, in the spring, our students and staff will donate the funds they have raised. This is quite a commitment from our school community and builds global citizenship in our students. Thank you for the support you show to this worthwhile cause.

Playground

As you walk around the school, you will see that we are in the process of putting our K-2 Playground back together. This past summer we tendered for 3 new play structures. Two of these will be in the K-2 Playground, while the third structure will be outside the Headstart classroom, in the alcove. The total cost of the new equipment and installations is 80 000.00. We have several partners helping us to cover the costs to restore our playground. Major contributions are coming from EECD, Geary Home & School, Geary Headstart Inc., ASD-W, GECS and United Commercial Travelers. We are very grateful to these partners. Thank you all for the tremendous support

Agenda

The G.E.C.S. agenda came home with your child at no cost to families. Your Home and School Association generously provide this communication tool. Notes to and from the school should be placed at the front of the agenda. There is a "fair notice" letter from Superintendent David McTimoney in regard to respectful communications and expectations. When you have concerns at school please talk to your child's teacher first. The teacher knows your child best and they are close at hand. Administration will help support but only after the classroom teacher has been notified. Additional resource, literacy and guidance support are available at the school so please keep us informed! As well, the classroom teacher will be in touch if additional intervention is required to support your child. We know that you have many questions at this time. As the new school year begins and vital school community groups begin the task of supporting the children, we will have the answers to your questions. We look forward to working with our PSSC (Parent School Support Committee); H & S (Home and School); Geary Headstart; and our new Community School Coordinator, Marjorie Gorospe. **The breakfast program will begin on Monday, September 26th.** Please remember that the Home and School Association is looking for support with the Hot Lunch Program.

The search is on for a new Hot Lunch Coordinator before we can even begin to offer hot lunch again this school year.

Enjoy the warm weather! The children will be home this evening with stories of the school community and we are thrilled to be part of this!

Busses and Safety

It is very important that we all follow bus zone rules. Buses will drop the children off at the main entrance, next to the school. You will notice the concrete (Jersey) barriers that have been placed here. Cars do not come into this busses only zone (right lane).

If you are dropping your child off at school, go beyond the busses (through the left hand lane) to the Community Use of Schools entrance. There are several parking spaces here intended for parent drop-off. Headstart children will typically be brought in to the school, by the parent and should use this entrance. Older children can be independent with drop-off. They should follow the sidewalk next to the school to the main entrance. At bus times, children should never be dropped off at the main door, as they would have to potentially pass between busses. We want to eliminate the risk of this happening.

If you have taken your child to an appointment. Please park your vehicle in the drop-off zone and come into the school using the main entrance. All doors are locked at 9:00 a.m. for student safety. Signing your child in and out is required for student safety. Thank you for your attention to this request.

Reference Policy 550-1

This policy deals with the primary and alternate stops being the same days from week-to-week, and details the requirement for schools to use a student identification mechanism for grades K-5 students to ensure that students are placed on the correct buses and dropped off at the correct stops. Also included in this policy is the concept that there is no transportation provided for occasional drop-offs for any grade level of student (e.g. birthday parties, visiting a friend, sleepovers, etc.) Also, for students in grades K-2 and 3-5, it is "best practice" for the parent/guardian/caregiver to be visible at the afternoon bus stop location. If you need to make a change to your child's alternate or primary stops, you need to do so in writing, in advance.

If you have any questions in regard to bussing you can check out the Anglophone West School District website at: www.asd-w.nbed.nb.ca

You will find up to date information in regard to bussing at transportation on this website. **The Transportation Information Line is:**

(506) 453-5454 or 1-888-388-4455.

A Note from Geary Elementary Community School's Guidance Counsellor – Karyn Hamilton

Once again this year, GECS will have guidance counselling support for all grade levels. Through the guidance program, support is provided to teachers in their planning and implementation of personal development curriculum (Zones of Regulation, WITS, Be Safe Kit). The Guidance program also includes

individual planning and support for some children. Throughout the year, various groups are offered in 6 week blocks for children that may need extra support in specific areas such as: divorce/separation, worry/anxiety, friendship skills, anger/frustration, loss of a loved one and others as need arises. Support is also offered to students one-on-one in some cases. School guidance counselling is intended to be short-term counselling with a solution focused approach. Referrals can be made to outside agencies if a student requires additional supports. At GECS, we have guidance counselling support two days a week (Tuesdays and Thursdays). If you would like to discuss specific supports, contact Karyn Hamilton at the school or by email- karyn.hamilton@nbed.nb.ca

Bell Times 2016-2017

Monday - Thursday	8:35	Buses Arrive Students go to Class Breakfast Program
	8:45	Instruction Begins
	10:35 - 10:50	Recess
	12:05 - 12:25	Lunch
	12:25 - 12:45	Noon Recess
	2:05	K-2 Dismissal
	3:20	3-5 Dismissal
Friday Only	8:35	Buses Arrive Students go to Class
	8:45	Instruction Begins
	10:35 - 10:50	Recess
	12:15	K - 5 Dismissal
	Have a Great Weekend ☺	

Friday, Sept. 9 th	Registration/Transportation /Flouride forms are due back School Supply Fees are due
Wednesday, Sept. 14 th	Community Food Smart Orders ready for pick up - 1:30-6:30 @ Lions Club
Thursday, Sept. 15 th	Meet the Teacher Event 6:30 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 26 th	Breakfast Program Starts
Thursday, Oct. 6 th	Professional Learning- NO SCHOOL for student
Wednesday, Sept. 28 th	Home & School Meeting @ 6:30
Friday, Oct. 7 th	Professional Learning- NO SCHOOL for student
Monday, October 10 th	Happy Thanksgiving Day! NO SCHOOL for student
October 11-14	Registration for Kindergarten 2017-2018
October 11-14	Safe Schools Week
Tuesday, October 25 th	Harvey Studios - Picture Day

G.E.C.S.: 357-4071