



HIGHLAND PARK JR. HIGH SCHOOL
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Carla Christianson **Sheldon Lucas**
 Principal Vice-Principal

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Principal's Message

It is hard to believe that we are well into October already! I have enjoyed getting to know our students and working with staff to maintain such a positive school culture.

In September we welcomed our new grade seven students to the school and had a very successful first dance.

As we move into the next part of our school year, I am delighted to get to know the wonderful community we have at Highland Park Junior High. Our staff and students collaborate daily in a spirit of inquiry and together they place student learning and achievement at the center of all we do.

Please remember to check our website for our calendar of events, homework pages, general information and daily announcements. As we continue our efforts to be environmentally responsible, most of our communication will be electronic and on the website.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

We're on Twitter!
<https://twitter.com/Hpjhdragons>

Parents as Career Coaches

Studies have shown that parents play a very important role in decisions our children make in terms of career choices. Parents as Career Coaches will provide you with the information, strategies and practical tools to help your child make informed academic, training and career choices. 98% of parents who have attended Parents as Career Coaches rated the program as either "excellent" or "good". We hope you will attend the upcoming session on **Monday, October 17th from 6:30-8:45pm**, so you can assist your child throughout their career journey. **Please call the main office to reserve your spot at 902-493-5124**

Lunch Time Groups

Monday	Chess Club
Tuesday	Art Club/ Intramurals
Wednesday	We Act/ GSA
Thursday	Intramurals
Friday	Lunch Band

Take Our Kids To Work Day

TOKTW day is **Wednesday, November 2nd** and is open to all grade 9 students. Students will have the opportunity to job-shadow a parent, family member, neighbour, or community member for the day and learn about the world of work! Students who need help finding a placement should see Mr. Lang as soon as possible. Please bring in your consent forms!

Teens Now Talk XPO

The grade 9s will be attending this year's XPO at the Halifax Forum on **Wednesday, November 16th**. This event is an opportunity for our students to learn more about educational options, careers and trades, and community supports. Consent forms will be sent home soon. Please return them to Mr. Lang as soon as possible.



School Advisory Council

The 1st Highland Park Junior High SAC meeting of this school year will be on **Tuesday, October 18th at 6:00pm**. All meetings are open to the public to observe and we welcome all parents and community members to join us at our meetings.

We Act / GSA

HPJH's GSA (Gender and Sexuality Alliance) has been up and running since September and we're looking for more members. All students are welcome to participate no matter their gender or sexual orientation. This is a great opportunity to meet new people, learn about LGBTQ issues or have questions answered about health related topics. We meet **every Wednesday at lunch** in the Youth Health Centre. Contact Mrs. MacIsaac or Ms. Danch for more information.

Homework and Extra Help

Teachers offer extra help at lunch and after school. Please check the website for extra help times. We encourage you to check with your child each night to see if he/she has any homework. Our school website and teachers websites are also available for homework and school information. Also, don't forget to log into your Parent Portal on PowerSchool to check on your child's progress.



Coffee House

HPJH will be holding a fundraising "Halloween Coffee House" on **Wednesday, October 26th at 7:00 pm in the school gym**. The admission cost is \$3.00 for adults and \$2.00 for students and seniors. There will be performances by our school band, some singers and some soloists! Come on out and enjoy this fun evening of musical entertainment!!!



Medic Alert

The Canadian MedicAlert® Foundation is a charitable organization which is the leading provider of emergency medical information services linked to customized medical bracelets and necklaces. We are pleased to be able to offer MedicAlert memberships to students (from age 4 to their 14th birthday) through the *No Child Without*® program in select schools. The financial support of the Government of Canada and Lions Clubs allows students to receive the MedicAlert membership for FREE. More information can be found at www.nochildwithout.ca.

School Clothing

We have extended our clothing order until **Monday, October 24th**. Please let the office know if you are going to place an order so we can send the order off ASAP at 902-493-5124

Athletic News

HPJH Athletics is in full swing as both the Girls and Boys Soccer teams finished their seasons with winning records. The Touch Football team has also finished up their regular season and is awaiting the results in hopes of a playoff berth. Players for both the Boys and Girls Volleyball teams have been selected and will start their game action **October 24th and 25th**. The excitement is building with Basketball just around the corner starting sometime in November, so please keep up to date. Be sure to follow all HPJH athletic news through our athletics link located on our website and follow our Twitter handle [Dragons@HPJH_Athletics](https://twitter.com/Dragons@HPJH_Athletics). Anyone interested in helping coach our teams please contact Mr. Jerrett at kjerrett@hrsb.ca



Touch Football News

Highland Park Junior High fielded a touch football team this year, the first one in several years. With a current record of 2 – 3 – 1, the team has more than held its own against more experienced teams. We would like to thank all of the players and coaches who have given their time and skills to make this happen.



We're on the Web!
<http://hpjh.ednet.ns.ca>

Mi'kmaq Heritage Month

October is Mi'kmaq Heritage Month in Nova Scotia. The goal of the month is to help Nova Scotians build awareness of Mi'kmaq history and heritage, and to increase understanding of the province's rich Mi'kmaq culture. There are 13 Mi'kmaq bands of varying sizes in Nova Scotia, all have populations living on and off reserves. There are also many native-rights organizations in the province and other regions of Atlantic Canada, dedicated to protecting the culture and heritage of aboriginal people. Today, aboriginal identity continues to be distinctly linked to the land through culture, language and traditions. Many students in Nova Scotia take part in Mi'kmaq Heritage Month lessons and the activities schools have prepared.

Some other items to note...

As always, please feel free to contact your teacher should you have any questions or concerns. In addition, we are always available in the office to help you should you require it! Please go to our website for all notices, announcements and general information that you may need. The Staff Directory is listed under the Contact Us tab at the top of the website with email addresses and websites (if available) for all staff. Not all notices will be handed out as a paper copy, but they will be posted on the website. The monthly newsletter will be posted at the middle of each month and other notices will be posted as needed. Please check the website often and if you are finding it difficult to access the webpage and would like paper copies of notices, etc. please contact the office at 902-493-5124 and we will provide them for you!

No Scents Makes Good Sense

We do want to take this opportunity to remind parents and students that this school is



SCENT FREE! We are discovering that a lot of students are carrying AXE and other body sprays in their backpacks. From time to time these products are getting sprayed in the hallways and washrooms. We have some students who are very allergic to scents and have to go home if they are affected by it. Please have a discussion with your son or daughter and make sure these products remain at home! Thanks for your cooperation with this!

Important Upcoming Dates

October 17th - Parents as Career Coaches Session (6:30-8:45pm)

October 26th - Coffee House (7:00pm)

October 28th - Provincial Conference Day (No Classes)

November 11th - Remembrance Day (No Classes)

November 14th - Assessment/Evaluation Day (No Classes)

November 21st - Report Cards go home this week

November 23rd - School Dance (6:30-8:30pm)

November 30th - We Day at Scotiabank Centre

November 30th - Parent-Teacher Night (6:00-8:00pm)

December 1st - Morning PD and Parent Teacher in the afternoon (1:00-3:00pm) (No Classes)

December 12th - Holiday Concert (7:00pm)

December 21st - Last Day of School before the Holiday Break