

# DARTMOUTH SOUTH ACADEMY



## Newsletter #7-March 2020

Dartmouth South Academy  
111 Prince Arthur Avenue  
Dartmouth, NS B2Y 0C5

<http://dsa.hrce.ca>

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Principal: Adrienne Blumenthal

Vice Principal: Norma MacIntyre

### Pre-Primary/Primary Registration

As of March 1st, we have 29 Primary Students and 18 Pre-Primary Students registered for the school year 2020-2021. It is imperative that parents of pre-primary children who will be 4 on or before December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020 and primary children who will be 5 on or before December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020 register their children now. Our staffing allocation is based on these numbers!

### End of the Day Pickups

While we understand that it is necessary to pick children up early from school occasionally, please keep in mind that it is a disruption in the class and interrupts student learning. Your co-operation on this matter would be appreciated.

### Orientations

Our Primary Orientation will take place on May 19<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm (for parents) and our Grade 7 Orientation will take place on May 26<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm (for parents) – more information to follow.

### Please Note – Breakfast Program

The Breakfast Program will be using reusable dishes after March Break. Students will no longer be able to get disposable spoons from the library for recess or lunch. Please ensure you pack the necessary utensils with your child for recess/lunch.

### Administering Meds at School

Medications can only be given at school if the child's name and dosage is on the original label that is on the bottle. We can't have over the counter medications sent to school with students as it poses an obvious risk to others. Before prescribed medications can be given by staff to students, there are forms that are required to be filled out by parents. Please do not send medications in prior to filling these forms out. Thanks for your co-operation.

### Dates to Remember

March 16 – 20<sup>th</sup> – March Break (no classes)

March 25<sup>th</sup> – Assessment & Evaluation Day (no classes)



### Bell Times

**Morning Attendance – 8:55-9:00 am**

**Recess – 10:30 – 10:45 am**

**Lunch – 12:00 – 12:55 pm**

**Afternoon Attendance – 12:55 – 1:00 pm**

**Dismissal P-8 – 3:00 pm**

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## School Closure for Inclement Weather

The Halifax Regional Centre for Education takes great care when making the decision to alter the normal operations of schools in the event of severe or inclement weather. Decisions on school closures and/or bus cancellations are posted on the board's website at [www.hrce.ns.ca](http://www.hrce.ns.ca), on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/HRCE\\_Official](https://twitter.com/HRCE_Official), recorded on 464-INFO (4636) and communicated to all local radio stations. You can also receive notice of school bus cancellations by e-mail or text message by following the link on the front page (left side) of the HRCE website. If you are interested in learning more on how decisions regarding closures and cancellations are made, visit

<http://www.hrce.ns.ca/content/id/1137.html>

When we are at school and have to make decisions, please know that we consider all of the following factors before deciding whether it is safe for children to be outdoors in the cold.

Are the students dressed in warm clothing, with good protection for their heads, hands and feet?

How long will the students be outside?

Will they be standing still or active and generating heat?

Is the area exposed to the wind? Is it sunny or shaded?  
(The sun may lessen the effects of the wind chill a little.)

**Please make sure to send your child to school with appropriate clothing for the weather.**

## Delayed Opening due to Inclement Weather

If weather conditions warrant, the Halifax Regional Centre for Education could implement a delayed opening. Delayed openings would be considered when a severe weather event has concluded but snow clearing or other operations require additional time. Delayed opening may also be considered when the physical plant is experiencing an issue such as a power outage or loss of water and additional time is required to prepare the school to open. If this was to occur, school would be delayed by two hours. In our school, this means our first bell would ring at 10:50 and classes would begin at 11:00. Grade 7 and 8 students would proceed directly to their third period class. If Stock Transportation is operating, the expectation will be that students are picked up two hours later than their regularly assigned time pending any weather-related delays. Our lunch, afternoon schedule and dismissal times will remain at their regularly scheduled times. The Excel program will be cancelled for the morning only.

## Health and Wellness

The following steps are important preventing the spread of common respiratory illnesses, such as influenza, as well as COVID-19.

- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water or use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
- Cough and sneeze into your elbow or a tissue. If using a tissue, immediately place it in a waste disposal and wash your hands.
- If possible, stay home when ill with fever or cough, if this is not possible, limit close contact with others.
- Limit touching your eyes, nose and mouth
- Don't share items that may have saliva on them such as, drinking glasses and water bottles.
- Frequently clean surface like taps, doorknobs and countertops.
- Use of masks by the general public for respiratory illnesses such as influenza and COVID-19 have not been shown to be effective in preventing virus spread and are not recommended for prevention.

Further information on COVID-19 is available on the Nova Scotia government website <https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus>