



GORSEBROOK JUNIOR HIGH COMMUNICATION PLAN 2024-2025

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At Gorsebrook Junior High School, we value the important partnership between home and school. Effective communication is a key component in developing this partnership. This brochure shows the different ways you can communicate with the school and how the school can respond to our community and its needs.

How to be an involved parent/guardian:

- Talk to your children regularly about school activities and experiences
- Contact teachers regularly - even when no problems exist
- Check in frequently with the PowerSchool Parent Portal
- Designate a specific time and place for homework
- Support your child with developing appropriate home study skills
- Be aware that your attitudes about school and teachers influence your children
- Keep the school informed of changes in contact information
- Become involved in school activities

Ways We Communicate

Student Success Plan, Conversations with students re: Code of Conduct, Parent/Teacher Interviews, Curriculum Night, Emails/Phone calls, electronic newsletters/notices, Twitter, Notes sent home, Individual Program Planning meetings, School Messenger, Parent Teacher Association meetings, Awards, PowerSchool, GJHS communication sign, Report cards, School website, School Advisory Council meetings

Student Assessment and Evaluation

Communication about student learning is important. Every effort is made by teachers to keep parents/guardians informed of ongoing student progress. Assessment and evaluation are essential components of teaching and learning, together these provide a basis to communicate student learning as well as to validate or inform instruction.

Teachers use a variety of ongoing/formative and summative assessment strategies to provide students with a range of opportunities to demonstrate their achievement of the provincial learning outcomes. Student marks are updated in PowerSchool in a timely manner throughout the school year. Parents/guardians and students can access marks in PowerSchool with their login information. We strongly encourage all parents/guardians to check PowerSchool frequently. If you require support with your PowerSchool access, please call the school.

Throughout the year there are three formal reporting periods (report cards). November, April, and June.

In addition, reports are sent home electronically for students with Adaptations and Individual Program Plans.

Reporting Student Achievement

Individual outcomes will be assessed on a 4-point rubric and term grades will be communicated by percentages for all subjects and grade levels.

Report Card Descriptors for Grades 7-9

90-100% - Demonstrates *excellent* understanding and application of concepts and skills in relation to the learning outcomes.

80-89% - Demonstrates *very good* understanding and application of concepts and skills in relation to the learning outcomes.

70-79% - Demonstrates *good* understanding and application of concepts and skills in relation to the learning outcomes.

60-69% - Demonstrates *satisfactory* understanding and application of concepts and skills in relation to the learning outcomes.

50-59% - Demonstrates *limited* understanding and application of concepts and skills in relation to the learning outcomes.

Below 50% - Has not met the *minimum* requirements of the course.

INS - Insufficient evidence to determine a grade.

IP - In progress until all components of the course are completed.

Homework

Homework will be assigned throughout the school year with the intent for students to practice new knowledge or skills, to enrich students' understanding of a topic and to prepare for future learning activities. Homework will be communicated through teacher websites, PowerSchool and/or Google Classrooms. As a parent/guardian, it is beneficial to receive updates from your child's Google Classroom, so you are aware of upcoming homework and assignments.

2024-2025 School Calendar

September 18th - Curriculum Night (6:30-7:30pm)
September 30th - National Day for Truth & Reconciliation (No Classes)
October 11th - PD Day (No Classes)
October 14th - Thanksgiving Day (No Classes)
October 17th - Bus Evacuation Drills (9:30-11:30am)
October 24th - School Dance (6-8pm)
October 25th - NSTU Conference Day (No Classes)
November 11th - Remembrance Day (No Classes)
November 17th - PTA International Night Potluck (6-8pm)
November 22nd - Assessment & Evaluation Day (No Classes) – Term 1 ends
December 4th - Parent Teacher Conferences (6-8pm)
December 5th - PD Day (AM), Parent Teacher Conferences (1-3pm)
December 9th - Band Concert (6:30-7:30pm)
December 18th - Grade 7 Immunization Clinic (AM)
December 20th - Last Day before Holiday Break
January 2nd - PD Day (No Classes)
January 3rd - First Day back after Holiday Break
February 6th - School Dance (6-8pm)
February 17th - NS Heritage Day (No Classes)
February 24th & 25th - School Musical (Evening)
March 7th - Assessment & Evaluation Day (No Classes) – Term 2 ends
March 10th-14th - March Break (No Classes)
April 3rd - PD Day (AM), Parent Teacher Conferences (1-3pm, 6-8pm)
April 18th - Good Friday (No Classes)
April 21st - Easter Monday (No Classes)
April 30th - PD Day (No Classes)
May 15th - School Dance (6-8pm)
May 19th - Victoria Day (No Classes)
June 6th - Grade 7 Immunization Clinic (AM)
June 26th - Grade 9 Closing Ceremony (10-11am)
June 26th - Grade 9 Boat Cruise (6pm)
June 27th - Assessment & Evaluation Day (No Classes)
June 30th - Last Day of School