



Principal: Mark MacPhee

GORSEBROOK JUNIOR HIGH

5966 South Street, Halifax, NS

<https://gbf.hrce.ca/>

Twitter: @GorsebrookJHS

902-421-6758

Vice Principal: Patricia Fee

School Counsellor : Mary Mallon

September 2024

Dear Parent & Guardians,

Welcome back to a new school year! We hope you had a restful summer. We are looking forward to welcoming your children to our school on September 5th. The information below should answer the most common questions you have. We look forward to your support in our efforts to support your child's learning and development.

Kind Regards,

Mark MacPhee

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Principal

Class Change Requests

Many factors go into placing your child into the classroom they are assigned to. We consider academics, behavior, gender balance, and learning needs to name a few. We must consider each of these factors both individually and for the class as a collective when making decisions. We will only look at making a class change if it is an extraordinary situation and even then, only at the end of September once our class sizes have been finalized. Many of our classes are already at cap which doesn't allow for any movement at all. We appreciate your understanding and support in this matter.

September 5th – 1st day for Students

We ask that on the first day of school all students gather behind the school by Gorsebrook Park. At 8:30 we will start calling kids in by grade level. Parents are not permitted to follow their children into the school. Students will go the gym where we will welcome them and after that, their homeroom teachers will call out their name and take them to the classroom. They will remain in their homeroom class until 10:40 and then move into their scheduled classes for the remainder of the day. We know many students will be nervous and we will be attentive to their needs as they settle into a new school.

Our bell schedule can be found at: [Gorsebrook Bell Schedule](#)

Safe Arrival/Attendance

If your child is going to be absent from school, please call 1-833-582-6940 or go online at: [Safe Arrival Sign In](#)

Please note, you can only mark your child absent for a full day. If they arrive to school later in the day we will go in and edit their attendance.

If your child needs to leave school early, we must have notification from a parent or guardian. Please e-mail gjh@hrce.ca or call 902 421 6777, option 0 to speak to Ms. Daley.

Please note PowerSchool is not available for login access until Sept 5th.

Late Arrivals

Please help us in establishing a routine that allows students to arrive to school on time. We have many parents dropping their kids off late each day. Please plan ahead for traffic. These late arrivals mean your child misses instructional time with their teacher and it is a disruption to the learning of all students in their classroom.

School Supplies

Our school supply list can be found at: [Gorsebrook School Supply List 7-9](#)

School Fees

There are no school fees for the 2024-2025 school year. From time to time student may be required to pay fees to attend trips or athletic fees. We recommend you sign up for school cash online as that is how we collect money. The school cash website is at: <https://hrce.schoolcashionline.com/>

School Population Growth

Our school population continues to grow. As of Aug 30th we have 382 students. We appreciate your patience as we work out any issues that our increased enrollment may present.

Cell Phones

A communication about Gorsebrook Junior High's Cell Phone Directive was sent out to all parents and posted to our website on August 29th. A copy can be found here: [Cell Phone Directive](#)

Lunch

All students are allowed to stay at school for lunch. A form will be sent home to all parents asking you to indicate whether you want your child to stay or leave (or both) at lunch time. Students will eat in their home room classes. We do not have a cafeteria or microwaves so students should bring their lunch with them. We will have the option to buy pizza once per week but it won't be starting until October. More information will come out in the weekly memo about how to sign up if you are interested.

School Photos

Our photographer will be at the school on the morning of September 9th to take school pictures. Information on how to order the pictures will follow.

Curriculum Night

Curriculum night will be September 18th from 6:30-7:30. All parents are invited to attend. More information will follow in the weekly memo.

School Musical

The school musical tradition at GJH will continue with the production of *13JR* in February 2025. The show is scheduled for February 24th & 25th. Auditions will be held Monday, Sept 23rd after school. More information to follow in the weekly memo.

Power School Enrollment

By logging onto to your own private online account, the new student-parent portal will enable you to see attendance, grades, assignments, teacher's comments, and school bulletins – in real-time. You'll be able to access the portal at home, work, school, or the public library – wherever there is Internet access.

[Parent Login to PowerSchool](#)

Weekly Memo

Our school sends out a weekly memo on Friday with information about upcoming events. Please keep an eye on your inbox. Reviewing this information weekly is appreciated. Students also receive a copy to the GNSPES account and a copy is posted on our website.