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<http://www.stkh.k12.nf.ca>

Dear Parents/Guardians:

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all of you back for another school year. I hope that this past summer provided an opportunity for everyone to take some time to relax and enjoy the warm weather. What follows is some important information that you need to be aware of as we begin the school year. Starting new is an excellent opportunity for all of us to commit to an even better year than last. As we start this year, I hope that everyone will build on our previous successes and strive for an even better year to come.

Sincerely,

Tony Power,  
 Principal

### High School Textbooks

All authorized textbooks and supplementary resources supplied by the Department of Education are provided to high school students free of charge. Students will be issued books by their subject teachers with the expectation that they will be kept in good repair. Students are responsible to maintain the books and return them at the end of the year as they were issued. Students should refrain from marking in the books or damaging them in any way. Replacement of lost or damaged books will be the responsibility of the individual student. *Any students with outstanding books from last year, will not be issued new ones until the former are returned or replaced.*

### H1N1 Influenza Information

With a new school year beginning and the presence of the H1N1 influenza virus in the province, the Department of Education and the province's five school districts, in consultation with the Department of Health and Community Services, are assisting individual school communities in building awareness, providing information and promoting basic infection control practices to help prevent or limit infections from occurring in schools.

*Members of school communities are encouraged to practice the three Cs:*

- Clean:** wash hands thoroughly and often with soap and water or hand sanitizer
- Cover:** cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or arm as opposed to the hands which frequently touch other surfaces and people
- Contain:** if you are sick, you should stay home so the illness is not spread to others

More important information is posted on our school's website.

### St. Kevin's High Book Bags

Please consider purchasing a St. Kevin's High book bag. It is a Landmark sport back pack available at Universal

Corporate Wear, 484 Main Road, Goulds, for \$30. It comes with our maverick logo and student's name embroidered on it. For every bag purchased, \$5 is donated to our school.

### Electronic Device Policy

The increased usage by high school students of cell phones, ipods, MP3 players, etc. has led to the need for a clear policy regarding their appropriate use in school. Text messaging, cell phones ringing, or music playing during instruction are disruptions to the teaching and learning process, and not an appropriate use of these devices during the school day. Students' focus should be on the curriculum; they should not be communicating with others, listening to music or playing games.

Any parent or guardian needing to contact a student can do so by contacting the main office. Students should not be disturbed by cell phone calls. ***Cell phones must be turned off and stored away.*** Cell phones have many added features which can facilitate cheating or allow others to be photographed or video taped without their consent or knowledge. These activities are illegal.

***MP3 players, ipods, or discman must be stored in a locker or book bag out of sight.*** They should not be visible or connected, and turned off. Teachers do not have the time to question each student as to whether or not a device is actively being used or not. ***If a student is wearing an electronic device, it will be considered to be in use.***

With all rights come responsibilities, and the privilege to bring an electronic device to school, carries with it responsibilities governing its appropriate use. Students and staff deserve to have their privacy respected and their right to an uninterrupted education secured. ***Any student found in violation of this policy will face the following consequences...***

First Infraction... The electronic device will be confiscated by the teacher and brought to the office, where the student may claim it at the end of the day. If a student refuses to hand over the device, the parent/guardian will be contacted and the student sent home. Second Infraction... The electronic device will be confiscated by the teacher and brought to the office. Parents/guardians will be contacted by the classroom teacher and informed they may retrieve the device by picking it up at the main office. Third Infraction... The student will face a suspension and the privilege to bring the electronic device to school will be revoked for the remainder of the school year.

### **Orientation Night**

On Tuesday, September 22 we will be holding an Orientation Night for parents and guardians of students attending St. Kevin's High. The evening will begin at 7:00 pm in our school gymnasium. Please bring along your son or daughter's timetable, as well as be sure to know the name of their homeroom teacher. After a brief introduction, parents and guardians will follow an abbreviated version of the student's timetable, meeting all their teachers.

### **Supplementary Exams**

Students who wish to write non-public supplementary exams will do so on Wednesday, September 9 at 11:00 at the high school. Registration forms are available at the Main Office. The cost is \$30.00 per course.

### **Smoke Free Policy**

All schools under the Eastern School District are smoke and tobacco free. This smoke free environment shall be inclusive of all its facilities, properties, activities, programs and functions. We ask for your support in this regard. Students found in violation of the policy will be given a warning prior to disciplinary action. Failure to comply with this policy will result in suspensions.

### **Provincial Student Leadership Conference**

St. Kevin's High School is hosting the 20th annual Provincial Student Leadership Conference from October 15 to 17, 2009. The theme of the conference is "The Spirit Stampede." Close to 400 participants, chaperones and guests will be attending this conference. If you are able to help billet students, or would like to get involved, please contact Mr. Galloway or Ms. Davis. Businesses are also invited to become sponsors. Any businesses who would like an information package on how they can support the PSLC, please contact the Main Office.

### **Allergy Alert**

In conjunction with being smoke and tobacco free, St. Kevin's High School is also a scent free building. Many people are extremely sensitive to perfumes, colognes, aftershaves and other scented products. Please do not wear them at any time in the building to ensure no student has a life-threatening reaction.

Finally, all members of our school community need to be aware that due to students with severe **fish, kiwi and nut** allergies, these food products are not permitted in the school.

### **School Website: [www.stkh.k12.nf.ca](http://www.stkh.k12.nf.ca)**

St. Kevin's High School maintains a current website with all the necessary information students and parents need to be aware of. Our handbook, style guide, calendar and permission slips can be downloaded online. All newsletters can also be found there.

### **Level One October Progress Reports**

Level One students will receive an early indication of how they are adjusting to high school, with the distribution of a Level One Progress Reports prior to November Report Cards. Level One Progress Reports will be distributed on Tuesday, October 13.

### **Emergency Treatment**

Should a student require emergency treatment while at school, and a parent or guardian are unable to be contacted, the administration will authorize medical emergency treatment as necessary, with the parents or guardians accepting responsibility for any cost(s) incurred.

### **School Council**

Any parents or guardians who are interested in serving on St. Kevin's High School Council are asked to contact the Main Office at 745-9731. Our first meeting will take place in early October.

### **School Photos**

Students will have their school photos taken on September 30 and October 1. It is important that students are in school and prepared for their photos. These photos are printed on their student ID cards which are issued to students free of charge in October. Students also have the option to purchase a package of their prints from Provincial School Studio. More information will be available by mid-September.

### **Advanced Placement Psychology 4220**

St. Kevin's High, through the Eastern School District will be offering a Distance Learning Program in Advanced Placement Psychology. The course is again being offered this coming year to full time, Level 3 students at our school. Students need to have an overall average of at least 75%, and internet access. Students will receive two high school credits if they obtain at least a level 2 on the College Board Exam. If students obtain at least a level 3, they will receive an exemption for Psychology 1000 and credit for Psychology 1001 at Memorial University. The cost break-down, and registration information will be available on the Eastern District website and at our school in the next couple of weeks. If you are interested, please let Mr. Power know.

### **H1N1 Information**

In conjunction with the Eastern School District, St. Kevin's High School is taking steps to prevent the spread of the H1N1 virus and lessen the impact on our students and staff. Our focus will be on the three Cs: Clean, Cover and Contain. More information can be found from a link on our school website. In addition to raising awareness, hand sanitizers will be placed in various locations throughout the school. Custodial staff will increase their inspection of washroom facilities in addition to the daily cleaning of doorknobs, handrails and other high traffic surface areas.

### **District Digest**

The Eastern School District's regular publication *District Digest* is now available. There is a link on our school website that will take you to the digest. The issue contains information on H1N1, School Board Elections and much more.