

Northern Highlights



Community Update

Week of October 2nd, 2023

School Address

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Trustee: Bob McRoberts

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| DATE | ACTIVITIES | UPCOMING |
|--------------------------------|---|---|
| Monday Oct. 2nd Day 4 | Intermediate Band Practice - Woodwinds (lunch recess) Intermediate Girls Volleyball Practice (lunch recess) | Oct. 9th - Thanksgiving - No School Oct. 10th - Photo Day |
| Tuesday Oct. 3rd Day 5 | Intermediate Band Practice - Bass & Percussion (lunch recess) Bill Crothers S.S. Info Night - General Presentation (7:00 pm) | Oct. 11th - Central Area Cross Country Meet Oct. 13th - Pizza Lunch Starts |
| Wednesday Oct. 4th Day 1 | Grades 4-8 Cross Country Practice (lunch recess) Intermediate Band Practice (3:15-4:15 pm) | Oct. 19th - Chanie Wenjack Walk Oct. 20th - PA DAY |
| Thursday Oct. 5th Day 2 | Intermediate Girls Volleyball Practice (lunch recess) | Oct. 24th - Regional Cross Country Meet Nov. 2nd - Photo Retake Day |
| Friday Oct. 6th Day 3 | Grades 4-8 Cross Country Practice (lunch recess) | Nov. 12th - Significant Faith Day - Diwali (Hinduism) Nov. 16th & 17th - Parent - Educator Interview Evening Nov. 17th - PA Day - Interview Morning Nov. 23rd - Grade 7 & 8 Immunization |

INFORMATION & UPDATES

MEET THE STAFF NIGHT: It was wonderful to see so many families on Thursday Evening for our Meet the Educator Event. It was wonderful to be able to greet you and share information about programming. We know that a strong home / school partnership is a critical part of a successful student learning experience. Thank you to all the families who have also made purchases from our school book fair. The Book Fair has generated almost \$7000 in sales, the proceeds from which will be used to support student literacy initiatives in the Learning Commons (Library), and throughout the school.

TERRY FOX UPDATE: Our NLPS Terry Fox walk was on Thursday, September 14th. We had wonderful weather to complete our 3km walk through the Aurora Arboretum. So far, we are off to a great start raising almost \$3000. Let's keep the momentum going. Please consider making a donation at: <https://schools.terryfox.ca/NorthernLightsPSAurora>.

FRIDAY PIZZA LUNCHESES: Thank you for your Pizza Lunch orders (the deadline is today and no late orders will be able to be accommodated). The Pizza Program will start Oct. 13th. Block 1 - Friday Pizza Lunch Dates: **October 13, 27 / November 3, 10, 24 / December 1, 8, 15**

VOLUNTEERS IN EDUCATION: Research shows that parents and community engagement increases student achievement, well-being and success. If you are interested in volunteering in our school community please view the following [link](#) for more information.

INTERNATIONAL WALK TO SCHOOL MONTH: International Walk to School Month (IWALK) is an annual celebration of active transportation that takes place around the world throughout the month of October. IWALK Month officially launches October 4, 2023. When walking to school, here are some important safety tips to remember:

- Look all ways before you cross the street
- Always STOP, LOOK and LISTEN before crossing

- Cross at intersections and crosswalks, when possible
- Always make eye contact with drivers before you cross the street
- Obey traffic signals and signs
- Use a sidewalk if there is one

For anyone who can't walk or cycle to school every day, we encourage you to try choosing an active mode of travel two or three times a week, or consider parking and walking a block to decrease the pollution and improve safety around your school. If you choose to drive, please be mindful of students who walk and cycle, drive slowly and be highly vigilant of your surroundings.

BENEFITS OF ACTIVE SCHOOL TRAVEL INCLUDE:

- Improved student academic performance by making students more alert and better prepared to learn
- Improves both physical and mental health
- Reduces traffic congestion and improves safety for everyone in school zones and around our school community
- Improves air quality
- Encourages social interaction and improves social skills

EQAO RESULTS FOR OUR GRADE 3 and 6 STUDENTS: Children that attended Northern Lights last year and participated in EQAO will receive their Individual Student Report by the end of next week. The Individual Report will be sent home with your child(ren) and will provide families with their child(ren)'s assessment results in Language and Math. If your child(ren) attended another school last year, your results will be sent to you from your previous home school.

STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION NEWSLETTER: The October Edition of our YRDSB newsletter focuses on the benefits of gratitude for parents and students alike. To access this month's newsletter and better understand the impact of gratitude [click on the following link.](#)

***INFORMATION FROM PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF THE NORTHERN HIGHLIGHTS**

GRADE 8 HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION NIGHTS: If you have a child that is currently in Grade 8, and would like to learn more about your local high schools, we encourage you to attend the Grade 9 information sessions at G. W. Williams Secondary School, or if you are considering applying for a transfer, Aurora High School. Information sessions will be held at:

- Bill Crothers SS (Sports Based High School Program) on Tuesday October 3, at 7:00
- Dr. G.W Williams on Thursday October 12th (for the International Baccalaureate Program)
- Dr. G.W Williams on Thursday November 2nd, 2023 at 6:30 for information about Grade 9
- Aurora High School on Wednesday November 29th, 2023 from 6:30pm to 8:30 pm

If you have a child that is currently in Grade 8, please ensure to attend one of the information sessions mentioned above to learn more about your child's options in high school and selecting a pathway.

BOOK OF FORMS: We ask all families to complete the book of forms that was sent out to families earlier in September which include: the Start-Up Permission Form (mandatory), a Student Information Consent Form (mandatory), a Request for Faith Accommodations Form and a School Council Nomination Form. **Student GAPPS login information** will be required for families to complete the forms.

