

North Glenmore Gator Gazette



Phone: 250-870-5128

Website: www.nge.sd23.bc.ca

September 2015



Welcome Back

We are so pleased to see our North Glenmore families back at school! A special welcome to those of you who are new to our community. We hope you enjoyed a happy, healthy summer. We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere "Thanks" to our staff who dedicated many extra hours preparing the school for a new year, and to our PAC Executive who are already hard at work planning special events. We're off to a great start!

Jared Birkeland & Jordan Kleckner
Principal Vice-Principal

Class Organization

All class placements are tentative for the first week

Due to enrollment changes, students will not be placed into their new classes until the 2nd week of school. Students have returned to their last year's class, and are participating in a number of orientation activities this week.

SCHOOL FEES (PAY ONLINE)

School supplies payment will soon be available (**we will let families know when the system is active to make payments**) for parents wishing to utilize the plan. These will be basic supplies and are sufficient to last the year, if used with care. Cultural fees cover the bringing in educational entertainment. Participation in any of these programs is optional. Any parent wishing assistance, please contact our office.

Supplies	Cultural	TOTAL
\$30.00	\$10.00	\$40.00

To pay for fees, please go to our main website page and click on the 'Online Payments' button - or simply click the button here



Principal's Message

Dear Families of North Glenmore Elementary School,

As the new Principal at NGE I would like to introduce myself and say how excited I am to be opening up North Glenmore for the new school year. While we will continue to build on the successes of last year, we also have some exciting plans to move the school ahead even further with our continued focus on **partnering with Parents to improve student achievement in Literacy and Numeracy**. I feel very lucky to have landed in a place with such a sense of caring, commitment, and community involvement.

On behalf of all of us here at NGE I would like to extend an enthusiastic **welcome** to our returning families and a special welcome to those families who are new to the school. We hope that everyone had a fun, safe, relaxing summer, and that many special memories were created.

We have been preparing for the return of your children for some time. **Brendalee Robinson**, our head secretary, has us completely organized and ready for the start-up (thanks Brendalee!). We are looking forward to an exciting, productive and learning-filled year. The school is looking amazing thanks to our school custodial staff who have been hard at work throughout the summer cleaning and repairing so that our school will sparkle for the fall. **Jordan Kleckner**, our Vice-Principal, has been helping me prepare the school for a smooth start-up, and our teaching staff have been hard at work preparing for the year ahead. The classrooms are inviting places, the books are beckoning, and the pencils are sharpened and ready to go!

As a community we can look forward to new opportunities and promise as we launch into a brand new school year. Our welcoming and friendly staff continue to endorse an "open door" policy and want you to feel welcome at your neighborhood school – stop by to say hi, to ask questions, or to provide feedback.

Sincerely,

Jared Birkeland,
NGE Principal



Staff List for 2015-2016

Name	Tentative Assignments	Room
Mrs. C. Nye	K	11
Mrs. C. Wright	K	9
Mrs. Sandvold*	K	7
Mrs. M. Ringguth	1	8
Mrs. C. Bassett-Smith	1	10
Mrs. S. Palahniuk	1	6
Mrs. K. Kohlen	2	12
Mrs. K. Manduca	2	14
Mrs. Lwowski*	2/3	5
Ms. L. Draper	3	17
Mrs. S. Hanson	3	15
Ms. L. Romano	3/4	16
Mrs. H. Letkeman	4	19
Mrs. A. Siemens*	4/5	21
Mr. S. Smith	5	Mod. 23
Mrs. A. Harms	5	Mod. 22
Mrs. S. Bowen	5/6	3
Mr. B. Owens	6	1
Mrs. A. Zwaagstra*/ Mrs. Davies	6	4

Name	Assignment
Mr. J. Birkeland*	Principal
Mr. J. Kleckner	Vice-Principal
Mrs. R. Robinson	Administrative Assistant
Mrs. C. D'Orazio	Office/Library Assistant
Mrs. S. Horning	Teacher/Librarian
Mrs. L. Lesiuk	Learning Assistant Teacher
Mrs. H. Gatti	Learning Improvement Support
Mrs. I. Wong	Music/Drama/PE Teacher
Mrs. S. Weststrate	Music/Drama Teacher
Mrs. D. Labrecque	Certified Education Assistant
Mrs. J. Bomford	Certified Education Assistant
Mrs. J. Vos	Certified Education Assistant
Ms. L. Dranchuk	Certified Education Assistant
Mrs. L. McLeod	Certified Education Assistant
Mrs. T. Brent	Certified Education Assistant
Mrs. S. Caig	Certified Education Assistant
Mrs. E. Whitham	Certified Education Assistant
Mrs. M. Fleming*	Certified Education Assistant
Mr. D. Glasscock	Day Custodian
Mrs. G. Yamniuk	Night Custodian
Mrs. C. Snyders	Noon-Hour Supervisor
Mrs. C. Tonn	Noon-Hour Supervisor
Mrs. K. Rixin	Noon-Hour Supervisor
Mrs. S. Hayes	Noon-Hour Supervisor
Mrs. C. Perrett	Noon-Hour Supervisor
Mrs. D. Ikesaka	Noon-Hour Supervisor

****Welcome to our new or returning Gator Staff!***

North Glenmore

*Regular Bell Schedule



Grades K - 6

Call to class	8:25am
Morning Classes	8:30am - 11:00am
Lunch Play Time	11:00am - 11:30am
Lunch Eating Time	11:30am - 11:52am
Call to class	11:53am
Afternoon Classes	11:58am - 2:30pm
Recess	1:30pm - 1:45pm
Dismissal	2:30pm

Student Absences

Please call our office at 250-870-5128 when your child is going to be ABSENT or LATE. Our answering machine is on 24/7. Please leave your child's name, teacher and reason for absence. Should you not call in, we make every effort to contact you at home/work to determine the whereabouts and safety of your child.

SAVE THE DATE! (Formal invite coming soon)!

On **Friday, October 9th** (Professional Development Day) we will be hosting our very first NGE Appreciative Inquiry Summit! Staff, parents and community partners will be invited to come together to celebrate our strengths and build our vision for the future! We are hoping to have many parents/guardians attend, as we need to hear what is most important to you in the education and well-being of your children. Students will also have a chance to provide input, prior to the event.



Why an Appreciative Inquiry Summit?

Research shows that when organizations come together as a community to build upon strengths, positive change and growth increases, and improvements are made in the areas that matter most to people. An Appreciative Inquiry (A.I.) Summit provides a framework to do just this. We start by uncovering and focusing on our strengths. From there, we collaboratively develop a meaningful vision and set of goals. By bringing our community together in this way, we ensure that everyone has a say in the future of our school.

We will be sending out more details around our Summit (including how to register) soon. Stay tuned!

Text Message Reminder Updates

Throughout the year, we will periodically be sending out text message reminders and updates using the 'Remind' webtool.

If you'd like to sign-up to receive these updates,

simply text @northglen to [250-999-0511](tel:250-999-0511).



Maximum Learning Time

From time to time we all forget things. Should you find the need to drop off forgotten items for your child such as lunches, books, etc., please drop them in at the office rather than going to the classroom. We will page into the classroom at the next non-instructional break. Fewer interruptions mean maximum learning.

Volunteer & Criminal Record Checks

If you are planning to participate in activities in your child's classroom or help with fieldtrips, a Criminal Record Check **must** be completed. This is mandatory for all volunteers, and is paid for by the district. Note: volunteer record checks are only accepted if completed within the last 5 years.

Record checks completed by other organizations are not accepted. We strongly recommend you complete one right away, as the process can take a few weeks before it is finalized (we can't permit volunteers in the school or on fieldtrips until the finalized record check is received).

Please pick up your forms at the school office.

GATORS IN THE NEWS!

If your child has accomplished a special achievement or participated in a special event outside of school (e.g. winning a tournament, a special dance performance) please let us know! We are happy to celebrate with your family by sharing your Gator News on our daily announcements!



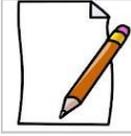
Noon Hour Supervisor Applications

Parents often ask about the process to apply for a Noon Hour Supervisor position. If you are interested in becoming a spare supervisor in the future, when openings arise, please ask at our school office for an application form.

Please note that this is a CUPE Union position. Applicants must provide references and go through an interview and selection process.

Student Verification Forms

Verification forms will be going home next week. They must be filled out at the beginning of each year by **every** family in order to confirm or provide new contact information. If this information should change throughout the school year, please contact the office to update.



Litterless Lunch

At North Glenmore we proudly take on the environmental challenge of implementing our own **Litterless Lunch Recycling Program**. We ask that whatever comes in your child's lunch bag goes home in their lunch bag, including empty juice boxes and food wrappers. In this way, we will create far less garbage at school and you will have a better idea of what your child is finishing for lunch. Our students are excited about highlighting one of our school respect rules, Respecting Your Environment, by contributing to a Green School each and every day.



CULTURAL PERFORMANCES



School District #23 provides cultural performances throughout the school year. These performances are always entertaining, and include a learning component for students beyond appreciation for the arts. Parents are always welcome to attend - we will include the performances on our monthly calendars.

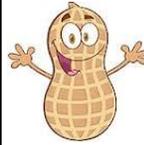
Water Advisory



We are still under water advisory. We will supply bottled drinking water for students until further advised.

Please send a full water bottle (with your child's name on the bottle) to school each day so we may reduce our paper cup use. Your child's teacher will make a plan for water consumption.

NUT ALLERGIES



We have an increasing number of students with severe allergies to peanuts and nut products. We have several students with this life-threatening health issue. In some cases, even a tiny amount of accidental exposure to nuts can result in an anaphylactic response. Peanut and other nut butters pose a particular threat since they are sticky and traces can be transferred outside the classroom to common areas such as the library, the computer lab and the playground. In the interest of the health and safety of these children, we ask all families to avoid sending foods containing nuts to school. We also have some students with other life-threatening allergies (e.g. dairy, eggs). Special letters may be sent home for these classes.

Medical Alert Students

All students with potentially life-threatening medical conditions and those who require medication at school should update their 2015-2016 documents on file at the school office as soon as possible.

Insurance

School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan) does not insure expenses for student injuries that occur on school grounds or during school activities. Parents/guardians can voluntarily purchase private accident insurance at a reasonable cost.

Application forms for a program underwritten by Industrial Alliance Insurance and Financial Services (KIDS PLUS Accident Insurance) are on the school community board outside the office.

Liability

The school does not assume responsibility for loss or damage to personal property brought to school. Valuable items such as collectors, electronics or specialty clothes and jewelry should be left at home. Bicycles should be securely locked. **Please label student belongings.** This helps us to return lost items to rightful owners. Iron-on labels are recommended for clothing. These can be purchased at most fabric stores.

Effective Behaviour Systems (EBS)

The first week of school, our primary and intermediate students will be circulating through teaching stations, learning the behaviour expectations of our school and reinforcing our Code of Conduct:

***Respect Yourself, Respect Others,
Respect Your Environment***

SEPTEMBER 2015 SCHOOL BUS TRANSPORTATION FOR 2015-2016

Parents, guardians, and students are reminded that students must be registered riders with bus passes in order to ride the school bus. Friends and clients of afterschool care are not eligible for school bus service at any time during the year unless they are registered riders. Alternate forms of transportation need to be arranged for after school social plans and daycare arrangements. In cases of financial hardship, application for subsidy shall be through your school Principal. This is a good time to review the safety rules for bus riders. These rules are posted on the transportation website at:

<http://www.sd23.bc.ca/ProgramsServices/SchoolBus/Safety/Pages/default.aspx>

Online applications (<https://ereg.sd23.bc.ca/transportation/>) for courtesy riders submitted will be confirmed this month on a space available basis by our transportation office. The number of courtesy seats will depend on the number of seats remaining on each route after eligible riders have been accommodated. Priority is given to students based on the age and the distance between home and school within the catchment area.

Due to the volume of applications for courtesy rides, it may not be possible to contact each applicant individually. If you have not had a courtesy application confirmed by October 15th, it may mean that there are no additional seats available. However, if you believe that there is space still available on a school bus passing through your neighbourhood, please contact Transportation at 250-870-5151. Phone lines are open between 9:00am and 1:00pm Monday through Friday.

Please note that courtesy seats are subject to cancellation at a week's notice should seats be needed for additional eligible riders.

For more information about school bus transportation, please visit our website at <http://www.sd23.bc.ca/ProgramsServices/SchoolBus/Pages/default.aspx>



The Central Okanagan School District's Appeals Process

The School District Appeals Policy states that, "A student or a parent of a student who is entitled to an educational program in School District No. 23 may appeal a decision of an employee of the Board of Education which significantly affects the education, health or safety of the student".

For a complete description of the Appeals Policy along with the recommended steps to follow in attempting to solve a problem, please refer to Policy 460 - Appeals, that can be accessed from the 'Policies' link under the Board of Education heading on the School District's homepage www.sd23.bc.ca

The Central Okanagan School District's Financial Hardship Clause

Within School District Policy 425—Student Fees (see www.sd23.bc.ca), the Board of Education has indicated "that a student will not be excluded from any educational program due to financial hardship".

This clause in the policy provides for the private and confidential consideration of financial circumstances of individual student and families, while preserving the dignity of families who may be unable to pay.

Please contact the school principal if you are facing a financial hardship that may restrict the ability of your child to access a school program.

2015/2016 Local District School Calendar

NORTH GLENMORE ELEMENTARY 2015/2016 SCHOOL CALENDAR	
Days in session	191
Number of days of instruction	184
Number of non-instructional days	7
School opens	Tuesday, September 8 (8:30-11:15am)
District Half-Day (staff training for new Student Management System)	Friday, September 18 (8:30-11:00am)
Home/School Conferences for NGE	October 1 & 2 (Early dismissal @ 12:30pm)
Administrative Implementation Day	Friday, October 9
Thanksgiving Day (school closed)	Monday, October 12
Teacher Professional Day	Friday, October 23
Remembrance Day (school closed)	Wednesday, November 11
Last school day before Winter break	Friday, December 18
Winter vacation period (school closed)	Monday, December 21 - Friday, January 1
Schools reopen after Winter break	Monday, January 4
Home/School Conferences for NGE	February 4 & 5 (Early dismissal @ 12:30pm)
Provincial Family Day	Monday, February 8
Teacher Pro D/Support Staff In-Service	Friday, February 19
Last day before Spring vacation	Friday, March 11
Spring vacation period (school closed)	Monday, March 14 - Monday, March 28
Good Friday (school closed)	Friday, March 25
Easter Monday (school closed)	Monday, March 28
School reopens after Spring vacation	Tuesday, March 29
Victoria Day (school closed)	Monday, May 23
Last Day of School for Students	Wednesday, June 29
Administrative Day (students do not attend)	Thursday, June 30
School closed	Thursday, June 30
HOME OF THE GATORS	