



FOREST HILLS SCHOOL
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<http://web1.nbed.nb.ca/sites/district8/schools/fhs/Pages/default.aspx>

Ms. Erika Brown, Principal

Mrs. Sacha Koumbias, Vice-Principal

Mr. Paul Hickey, Vice-Principal

We Build Inclusion, Capacity, and Learning Communities

April 2019

Forest Hills School became a UNESCO Associated Schools Project Network candidate school in the Fall of 2018. UNESCO ASPnet is a program that was established to encourage schools worldwide to educate students on issues related to UNESCO's overarching goal of 'promoting peace and international understanding'. UNESCO schools are encouraged to participate in a minimum of two thematic projects associated to UNESCO ideals and visions throughout the school year. The theme for the 2018-2019 school year is Reconciliation.

On May 29th, fifteen middle school students from Forest Hills School will be participating in a week-long exchange with fifteen middle school students from Alaqsite'w Giptu School in Listuguj, QC. FHS students will travel to Listuguj on May 29th and return to Saint John with Listuguj students on June 1st – the exchange will wrap-up on the morning of June 5th. The overarching goal of this initiative is to create space for dialogue and discussion while focusing on the importance of cross-cultural understanding. We aim to provide both groups of students with an opportunity to see the world through a different lens while taking steps towards reconciliation. To prepare the students for this experience, we will establish a means of communication prior to our departure via Skype and/or e-mail correspondence. Students from Forest Hills School will also learn about the Peace and Friendship Treaties as well as Mi'kmaq history, traditions and culture leading up to the departure.

In addition to Science and Social Studies curricular outcomes, this experience will teach exclusively towards the Sustainability & Global Citizenship competency. This competency involves reflecting on and appreciating diverse world views and perspectives. Learners will come to understand Indigenous worldviews, traditions, values, customs and knowledge. Students will learn to respect Indigenous culture,

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rights and experiences. They will be able to acknowledge and understand the implications of the Peace and Friendship treaties. They will build an appreciation for the contributions of Indigenous peoples. They will strive to be leaders in reconciliation by acknowledging the land, language and history of the Mi'kmaq, Wolastoqey and Peskotomuhkati and will accept and respect the perspectives of these peoples.

The exchange will be a unique and engaging experience for all those involved. While in Saint John, students from Listuguj will be billeted with families from Forest Hills School. Tentative activities for their stay with us will include:

- Hopewell Rocks
- St. Andrews – Huntsman Marine, Kingsbrae Garden, Ministers Island, Indian Point
- Historical tour of Saint John
- NB Museum
- Reversing Falls/Stonehammer Centre
- Wolastoq Park
- Wolastoq & Kennebecasis River Tour
- Brother's Island
- St. Martin's Sea Caves
- Fundy Trail Parkway

With transportation, planned activities and meals - this is going to be a costly initiative. In attempt to reduce costs for the students participating in this exchange, we are reaching out to our community seeking additional support – either financially or through donations to this initiative (food, activities, etc.) – anything will help. We would like to acknowledge the help and support of the following local businesses for their financial support, donated services and time:

Stonehammer UNESCO Global Geopark, Canaport LNG, Port Saint John, Hickey Bros/DKI and Hemmings House Productions. If you would like to join our list of community partners, please contact Tomalyn Young at Forest Hills school for additional information at Tomalyn.young@nbed.nb.ca or 506-658-5338.

Sincerely,

Tomalyn Young (Teacher)

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