



Antigonish Education Centre is located on 30 Appleseed Drive in the County of Antigonish bordering the Town of Antigonish. Antigonish Education Centre is a Primary - Four school, one of seven P3 schools opened in 2000 within the Strait Regional School Board.

This new school was built behind the existing St. Andrew Junior School. Antigonish Education

Centre combined the former Dr. Hugh MacPherson Elementary, Braemore Elementary and St. Joseph's Consolidated schools. This school shares services with the Town and County of Antigonish Recreation Programs, St. Ninian's Parish Religious Education Program, local Air and Army Cadet squadrons, Beavers, local 4-H Clubs, St. F.X. Service Learning (tutoring), Big Brothers Big Sisters, local sports teams such as volleyball, badminton and basketball, Art for Kids, and other community use such as: weddings, competitions, meetings and workshops.

Classrooms are equipped with current technology such as a pod of 5 computers, scanners, LCD projectors and VCR's. In addition to the classroom computers we have a lab with 25 computers. The school houses two



fully equipped music rooms, 2 art rooms, a large gymnasium with a divider curtain, multi-purpose room, cafeteria, performing arts room, a YSF room with kitchen and laundry facilities, sensory/active rooms, 2 conference rooms, photocopier/laminating rooms on each level, a large staff room, storage rooms in each wing, a number of rooms for program delivery such as: resource, 2

Reading Recovery training suites, speech and language, guidance, St. Martha's Mental Health and Psychological Educational services. The school has a well used library with many resources for students and teachers.

Teachers have access to peer mentoring in literacy and math as well as regional support in literacy, math and science. Programs and services offered to students include: French Immersion, YSF, speech and language, school psychologist, African-Canadian student support worker, Reading Recovery, guidance, resource, team meetings with school based personnel, outside agencies and parent(s)/guardians(s). We also have a Special Education program offered at Antigonish Education Centre.

We are fortunate to have a good working relationship with St. Francis Xavier University. They provide many opportunities for our students including: after-school tutoring programs, Education Department student teachers, Milk Energy Sports Fair, X-Chem, Human Kinetics Department staff and students offer dance and activity sessions, and classroom teachers bring in various professors as guest speakers. Teachers also have access to materials housed in the St. F.X. Teachers Resource Centre. Students are involved in an Adaptive Swim program and MAX program through St. F.X. as well as bowling and Special Olympics.

In 2000 when the Antigonish Education Centre officially opened the student population was 634 with 36 teaching staff. In 2010/2011 the student population is 525 students with 128 enrolled in French Immersion. Our staff is comprised of one principal and one vice principal, 35 teaching staff, one full time librarian, 14 teacher assistants, one building operator, 4 janitors, 2 daytime bus drivers with extra duties and 2 full time secretaries. We share the services of a school psychologist and 1 speech and language pathologist. The school has a full time, comprehensive guidance counselor. Antigonish Education Centre is a leader in student services delivery with a strong school planning team. The School Advisory Council and Parents Association meet on a regular basis at the school.



Events like UNICEF, skating program, Terry Fox, Jump Rope for Heart, and school activity days are strongly supported by parent(s)/guardian(s). Community businesses sponsor our birthday, helping hands and class recognition programs.



We have enjoyed students who come from a variety of cultural backgrounds. Ninety-five percent of our students are bused to the school. Antigonish Education Centre receives students from the communities of St. Joseph's, Lochaber, Ohio, James River, Addington Forks, Ashdale, Old South River Road, South River, Lanark, Lakevale, Livingstone's Cove, Cape George, North Grant, Pleasant Valley, Town of Antigonish, and some students from Pomquet and St. Andrews.

Antigonish Education Centre serves students from all socioeconomic backgrounds. The main industries in the Antigonish area are St. Martha's Hospital, St. Francis Xavier University, farming, fishing and forestry. We have a diverse population. There is a strong infrastructure and a wide professional base of residents. Upon

completion of grade 4, students move to St. Andrew Junior School for grades 5-8 and then to Dr. John Hugh Gillis Regional High School to complete grades 9-12.

Although we do not have organized school sports teams, students are offered opportunities to participate in cross-country events, school choir, sports field days, peer helper group and the grade 4 chess club. Our school choir regularly performs at Music Strait from the Heart, a musical event held in Port Hawkesbury each spring that invites participation from all P-8 schools within the Board.

During the 2005-2006 school year, P.E.B.S. was initiated at Antigonish Education Centre. The students and staff have been involved with numerous activities to constantly strengthen student behavior. Along with the P.E.B.S. initiative, teachers carry out Lion's Quest programs in their individual classrooms. The entire school also engages in Peaceful Schools activities at various times during the year.

