



**Percy Baxter**  
*Middle School*

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780-778-3898  
[www.percybaxter.ca](http://www.percybaxter.ca)



# ROCK STARS REVIEW

## ADMINISTRATOR'S MESSAGE— Mrs. Rawluk, Assistant Principal

As we enter our final month of school for the 2020-21 school year, we recognize what a challenging year it has been for both students and staff. We want to extend a huge thank you to all parents for your continued support, patience and understanding as we navigated online learning and also with in-person learning protocols. We feel very fortunate to have amazing students, who were able to adapt to the changes and guidelines, and know this year will be one for the record books. We want to encourage all of you to continue to practice self-care as we bring this school year to a close. Please continue to monitor your child's progress as you stay connected with classroom teachers and also through PowerSchool.

The PBS Administration Team has begun planning for the fall, with our grade 6 and 7 students completing CTF Option requests via Google Forms. If your child has not completed this form, please have them contact the homeroom teacher. Our current Grade 8's have also completed option selections for Hilltop High School. It is our hope to be able to offer these courses in the upcoming school year.

We would like to reach out to the PBS families who may not be returning for the coming school year. Please consider letting us know by phone or email, if your child is not returning as it does help us to determine our staffing and programming needs for the upcoming school year. In the meantime, staff are working on transition planning and student support for our students, and we are accepting new registrations at this time.

Please continue to watch for emails, the PBS webpage, as well as information on our Facebook page for further updates regarding the end of the school year and the 2021-2022 school year.

As always, stay safe, stay strong, and remember, "an empty tank will take you exactly nowhere. Take time to refuel!". Author Unknown.



**Northern Gateway**  
Public Schools

Wanting to stay connected to Percy Baxter school? Look for updates and school news via the PBS Facebook page or [percybaxter.ca](http://percybaxter.ca)



# **Welcome to Hilltop Virtual Information Meeting**

*(FOR STUDENTS TRANSITIONING FROM GRADE 8 TO GRADE 9)*

**Wednesday, June 2 ,2021**

**7:00 pm**



Watch your email for a zoom link from Percy Baxter  
School to join the virtual meeting.

# IN THE SPOTLIGHT.....

## STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

ETHAN KANE

G  
R  
A  
D  
E  
  
6



CONNER PAUL

G  
R  
A  
D  
E  
  
7



LINCOLN BAKAAS

G  
R  
A  
D  
E  
  
8





## ONLINE SAFETY

Child-luring, cyber bullying, human trafficking, child pornography - just reading these words can make our skin crawl and spike fear into the very depths of our soul. Combine this with our already present anxiousness with all the hours our children are online with at home learning, video games and social media, it is no wonder we are stressing about our children and their safety online.

It is overwhelming and seems impossible to stay on top of the trends and ever changing technology. New web sites and advanced apps are emerging every day. Predators are zealous and creative in finding new ways to connect with and manipulate young people.

What are parents and caregivers to do? As a parent of four children, I have the same concerns and fears as you. In my research, I have found that [protectkidsonline.ca](https://protectkidsonline.ca) is your go-to resource for emerging issues, worrisome technology trends, and how to report cyber crime. Another excellent resource is the [Children, Youth, and Families Addiction and Mental Health site](https://www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca) ([www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca](https://www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca)). In fact, there is Zoom training titled *Technology & the Teenage Brain: Digital Wellness for Families* on **Tuesday June 8/ 21 6pm-7:30pm**. Go to <https://www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca/virtual-education> to register.

### PROACTIVE STRATEGIES TO HELP KEEP CHILDREN SAFE

The best way to protect children online is to start talking to them when they are young and keep an **open dialogue** with them as they grow. Talk to them about the dangers of the internet, the same way you talk to them about crossing the street safely and speaking to strangers. If you start young, it won't seem as awkward when they are older. Always reassure them that they can come to you when they need help, **NO MATTER WHAT**, without worrying about getting into trouble.

- If your children are older, begin that conversation today, even if it is uncomfortable. *It is never too late.*
- Equally important is **supervision**. Whenever possible, have your children engage in their online activity in a busy area of the house. *Secrecy is a breeding ground for dangerous habits.*
- **Have a plan with your children** on how they can respond and who to tell if someone online sounds "odd", shares or requests pictures or if something makes them feel weird.



- Be sure your younger children know to always ask your **permission** before they share pictures or video chat with anyone.
- All electronic devices have **control features** that you can put time limits on apps, block sites, music and apps, restrict mature or adult content, etc. If you are unsure how to do this, call your service provider or have a friend help you.

[ProtectKidsOnline.ca](http://ProtectKidsOnline.ca) gives further suggestions:

- Be involved in what your child is doing on and off line.
- Set up parental controls: use filtering software and set time limits on the devices your child is on.
- Always supervise young children when they are online. Having parental controls on a device does not guarantee complete safe viewing. Supervision is still key.
- Have regular conversations with your child about healthy relationships and healthy sexuality to help them make sense of media messages.
- Talk opening and honestly about the hidden messages in media such as gender stereotypes, glorification of violence, power and control.
- Know your child's username and passwords.

Let's face it, we are all spending A LOT of time online these days, not just children. It is a struggle to keep our lives balanced with our online work and responsibilities and other tasks that don't require a screen. With the return of warm weather, longer days and more choices of outdoor activities, we can all benefit from powering off our devices and getting some fresh air to work and play and have fun together.

*This article was submitted by Tammy Charko BA, BSW, RSW. Tammy is Northern Gateway Public School's Student Support Facilitator. She is a support for schools, students, parents and caregivers to encourage success in school. Tammy advocates for students and provides a link between the student and other supports within the community. Tammy has been a social worker for more than 20 years and is a mother to 4 teenagers.*





# LIBRARY NEWS



**Please return all library books by June 11th.**

**Check out books on Sora instead!!!**

\* Add your free public library card to the app to have access to even more\* books.

**Have a great summer!**

OverDrive Education

## Read Instantly

Borrow ebooks & audiobooks on Sora, the student reading app.

**Sora**

Available on the App Store | GET IT ON Google Play





**Grades 6-12**

**Snacks  
Provided**

**FREE  
TRANSIT**  
to and from the  
program.



MillarCentre



allanjeanmillarcentre

Join us for some **FUN OUTDOOR** programs!  
Pre-registration is required.

**FREE  
Program**

## RACE THROUGH THE WOODS

Race through Centennial trail and see if you can find all the clues to solve our final puzzle! Prizes for the winner! Meet at the Allan & Jean Millar Centre. In the case of cancellation participants will receive instructions to complete the race between June 3 - June 10 for prizes.

DATE: **THURSDAY, JUNE 3**  
TIME: 3:45-5:15PM  
MIN 4/MAX 8 | COURSE ID: 7252

## BEACH TOWEL TIE DYE

Join us to make your own personalized tie dye beach towel! Meet at the Allan & Jean Millar Centre. In the case of cancellation kits will be provided to participants.

DATE: **TUESDAY, JUNE 8**  
TIME: 3:45-5:15PM  
MIN 4/MAX 8 | COURSE ID: 7251

## PAINT POUR

Our leaders will show you how to **+MORE** make your own paint pour masterpiece and finish the afternoon off with some exploding chalk bombs! Meet at the Allan & Jean Millar Centre. In the case of cancellation kits will be provided to participants.

DATE: **THURSDAY, JUNE 10**  
TIME: 3:45-5:15PM  
MIN 4/MAX 8 | COURSE ID: 7253

## Scooter AND Skate

Try out your skateboarding and scooter skills at Rotary Park. Limited number of scooter and skateboards available to lend. Meet at the Rotary Park Pavilion. Door Prizes!

DATE: **THURSDAY, JUNE 17**  
TIME: 7:00-8:00PM  
MIN 4/MAX 8 | COURSE ID: 7190

**Note: Scooter and Skate is for ages 10-14.**



All programs are outdoors so make sure to dress for the weather.  
Register by calling 780-778-3637 or go to [rec.whitecourt.ca](http://rec.whitecourt.ca)

Contact the Allan & Jean Millar Centre at 780-778-3637 for more information.



# June 2021

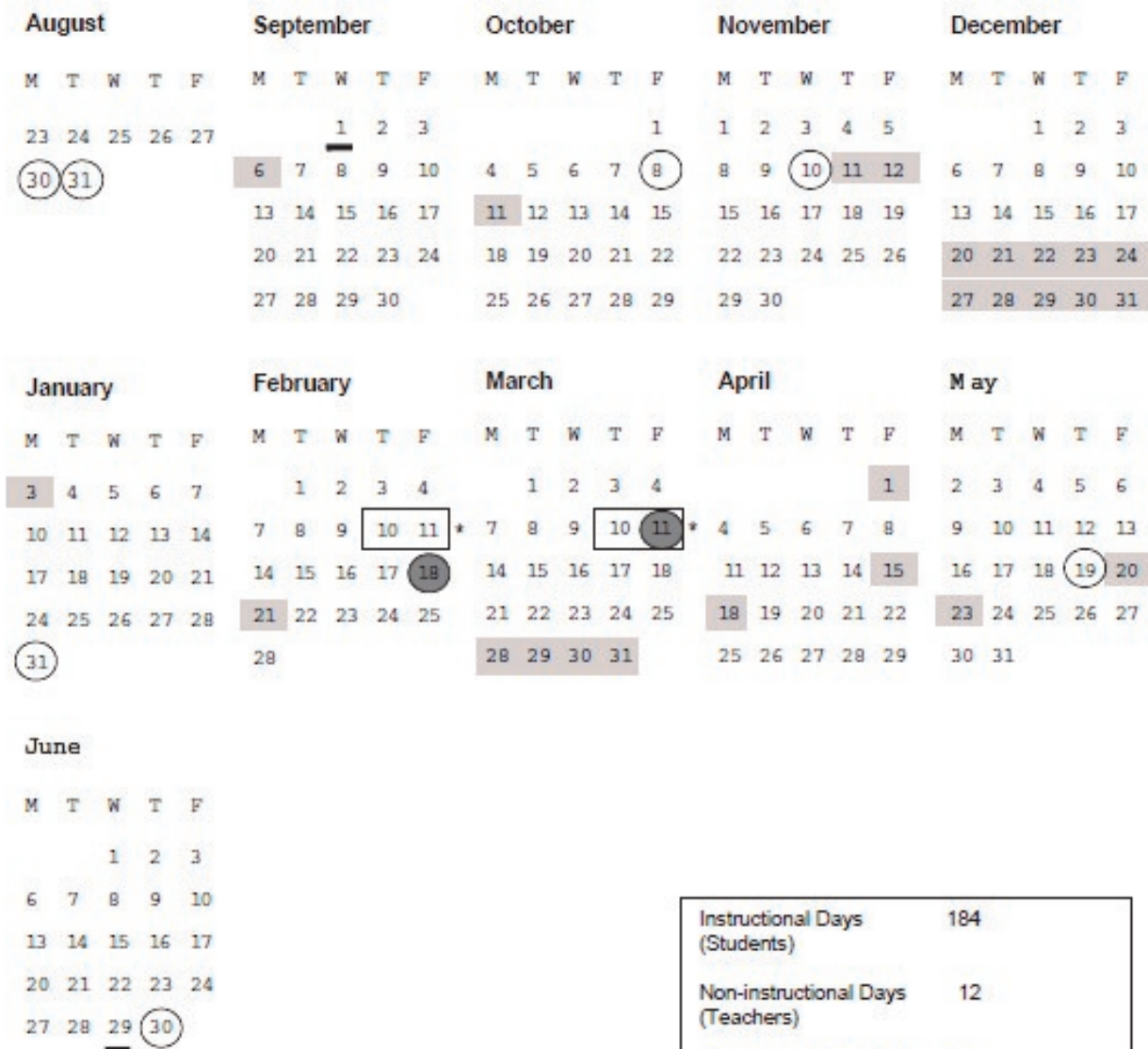
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 GRADE 8 HILLTOP 7pm ZOOM MEETING	3	4 SCHOOL WIDE BBQ LUNCH	5
6	7	8	9 SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING 7pm	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 NATIONAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY	22	23 LAST DAY OPTION CLASSES	24	25	26
27	28 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL	29	30			





# Northern Gateway Public Schools

## 2021-2022 Official School Year



Instructional Days (Students)	184
Non-instructional Days (Teachers)	12
Total Operational Days	196
First and Last Day of Instruction for students	—
Vacation/Days in Lieu For Parent-Teacher Interviews	—
Teachers' Convention	— *
February 10 & 11 – Onoway to Fox Creek	
March 10 & 11 - Valleyview	