

Hello West Bedford High Families,

Please see the below information for the upcoming week.

1) **Grade 8 and 9 reconfiguration and grades 10/11 Course requests**

Timeline: New teachers will be hired in the next week as long as applicants are qualified for new positions. New classes will be created, and schedules will change.

What this will mean for Grade 8 and 9 students A new grade 8 and 9 class will be created from students currently enrolled in 8-1 to 8-4 and 9-1 to 9-8 and all English classes will follow a new schedule. This will create smaller class sizes in both grade 8 and grade 9.

Our teachers will be mindful of creating a new class that balances students' diverse learning needs, while also taking social considerations into account. We thank you in advance for your cooperation with this and will update those impacted as soon as possible.

What this will mean for students in Grade 7-11 With the additional homeroom for grade 8 and now 9 we will have course changes that impact the entire school. At the same time we added additional sections of some courses to better address course requests for the senior high level (10 and 11). New schedule is on target for Tuesday, Oct. 1. If a student in grade 10/11 ends up in a new course that better matches their course selection, they will not be responsible to complete any of the work completed so far, they will start with what the teacher and class are currently doing.

2. **Curriculum Night (date changed).** Tuesday, Oct. 8th 6:30 to 8:00pm. We have changed the date of curriculum night due to the addition of two new homeroom classes and the affect this will have on our students' schedules. We want to make sure you are sitting in front of the teachers your children will have and not come in this week, only to have it change in the next few days.

3. **Casual Student Monitor Position. We are currently seeking a person interested in a casual Student Monitor position at our school.** This position is 6 hours each day from Monday to Friday. See attached job description and qualifications. If you are interested, please reach out to Sean MacDonald (principal) at macdonalds@hrce.ca for more details. [Student Monitor job description.pdf](#)

4. **High School Attendance.** Students who are attending West Bedford High (Grades 7 – 11) are not on the Automated Attendance System that some of you may have been used to at the Elementary level. To report an absence, please call 902-405-0442 and press (1), or send an email to wbhsa@hrce.ca. When leaving a phone message please provide student's full name, homeroom/TA, etc.

If a student needs to leave during the day parents must call in and students can then sign themselves out in the main office. The absence is put into Power School as an unexcused absence until a parent calls to excuse it. Parents will receive phone calls for any unexcused absences at the end of the day.

5. **Student Fees (overdue).** We still have many students who have not paid their student fees. We have one of the lowest student fees of all students in HRM. These funds are used directly for students and events that occur over the course of the year. Students cannot participate in school sports, clubs, etc. if fees have not been paid. Student fee - \$10.00 – please pay through school cash online. If you cannot pay through school cash online, you can pay by cash or cheque at the school.
6. **Boys High school Hockey Tryouts (grades 9-11).** This is only open to grades 9-11 due to safety of our players. (2nd tryout). *All players from first tryout are welcome back for final tryout.*

Cost: \$37.25 (please pay on school cash online – this includes 4% fee using school cash (\$35 for ice time)

Time: **Monday September 23rd, from 7:45-9:45 pm**

These tryouts will take place at the Greenfoot Energy Center in Arena B.

7. **WBS school song event (see attached flyer).** WBS would like to invite their former students in grades 7-9 WBS students to attend the song/video premier of the WBS school song. Last year, students participated in the creation and production of a school song "Build a Better Place" in partnership with East Coast musicians, Keith Mullins, Morgan Toney, Ryan Roberts, and D.O. Gibson.

[Video Premiere Flyer.pdf](#)

This school community event will take place outside on our school field Monday, September 23, 2024 from 7:00-8:00 pm (bring a blanket or lawn chair).

8. **Hold and Secure.** We will be conducting our first Hold and secure drill this week. Teachers have covered this in the first week of school but will review this again multiple times this week prior to the drill.

9. **Spirit week!!** Student Council is super excited to share that we will be having our first spirit week from Monday, Sep 23- Thursday, Sep 26th.
 - MONDAY - SPORTS SWAG DAY (wear anything sports related)
 - TUESDAY - TWEEDLEDEE AND TWEEDLEDUM DAY (twin day)
 - WEDNESDAY - ON WEDNESDAYS, WE WEAR PINK (wear pink)
 - THURSDAY - DRESS TO UNIMPRESS (wear pjs and comfy clothes)

This spirit week will also include some lunch time events! We would like to see lots of participation.

10. **National Day for Truth & Reconciliation 2024. HRCE honours National Day for Truth & Reconciliation 2024** - "The day honours the **children** who never returned home and **survivors of residential schools**, as well as their **families** and **communities**. Public commemoration of the tragic and painful **history** and ongoing **impacts** of residential schools is a vital component of the **reconciliation process**."

Please join us in honouring TRC by wearing an [Orange Shirt](#) on [September 27th](#) (day of observance - school closure September 30th).

11. **Lunch time cutlery.** Many students who are coming to school with a packed lunch are not bringing cutlery with them. Please ensure your child has what they need in their lunch bag to eat their food. The cafeteria will not be providing cutlery to students who bring their own lunch, it is intended only for those who purchase a lunch from them.

Important Dates:

- September 27th - Orange Shirt day
- September 30th – National Day for truth and Reconciliation (no classes)
- October 5th – SAC meeting
- October 8th – Curriculum Night 6:30 -8:00.
- October 10th – Junior High school Dance (grade 7&8) 6:30 – 8:30