

1. **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 senior high schools 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. Please pay **ASAP**.
2. **Grade 8 and 9 Reconfiguration.** Students will continue to follow the schedule of the original homeroom for the next 2 days. Many teachers teach both junior high and high school courses and there is still some work to be completed in this area, thus all schedules and homeroom classes are to remain the same until this is completed.
3. **Grade 10/11 schedule and course selection update.** See attached. [Grade 10 and 11 update.docx](#)
4. **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.
5. **School Attendance procedures.** 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.

6. **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
7. **Calling all volleyball coaches!!** Our junior high girls and boys volleyball teams are in need of coaches. The level of commitment would be approximately two months from start to finish. Games would be once or twice a week, and one practice per week. Please contact Emily Bell at ebell@hrce.ca if you are interested.

8. School Bus Safety Week

October 21-25, 2024 is School Bus Safety Week in Nova Scotia!

Did you know that more than 30,000 HRCE students ride the school bus every day?

School Bus Safety Week is a great time to remind students, families and schools of a few daily safety tips that everyone can follow to ensure all students get to school safely.

Bus Stop Safety

Be on time for the bus and please don't run to/from the bus.

Stand back off the road and don't push or shove when waiting at a stop.

Always cross in front of the bus. Walk three metres (10 feet) in front of the bus to a point where you can see the driver and wait for the driver's signal to cross. Proceed to the centre of the road, STOP, LOOK & LISTEN and cross the road when it is safe.

Never crawl under a school bus or cross the road behind the bus.

Know the danger zones around the bus.

School Bus Safety

Please respect and listen to the driver and avoid distracting them.

Please keep noise levels to a minimum.

Do not stand or move seats while the bus is in motion.

Never put your hands, arms, feet or head out of the bus window.

Ask the driver for permission before you open the bus windows.

Do not throw anything inside the bus or out of the windows.

Keep the aisle clear at all times when the bus is in motion.

You can find out more information about School Bus Safety Week, including more safety tips, [here](#).

9. What is SchoolsPlus?

SchoolsPlus is a confidential, free service available in every school in Nova Scotia. Our goal is to build positive relationships between families, schools, and communities. We can help families navigate complicated situations when they are involved with many different services. This helps ensure everyone is communicating clearly and working on shared goals. SchoolsPlus can also help connect families to community resources and offers mental health support in schools. Contact the SchoolsPlus Facilitator for your school to make a referral. You can find additional information [here](#).

Important Dates:

[October is Mi'kmaq History Month](#)

- October 1: Treaty Day
- October 3rd – SAC meeting
- October 4: National Day of Action for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls
- October 8: Curriculum Night 6:30 -8:00.
- October 10: Junior High School dance (**grade 7&8 only**) 6:30 -8:30
- *October 11: Professional Learning Day (no classes for PP-12)*
- *October 14: Thanksgiving (no classes for PP-12)*
- *October 25: NSTU Conference Day (no classes for PP-12)*
- October 31: Diwali