

November 24, 2024

Hello West Bedford High Families,

Please see the below information for the upcoming weeks.

1. **Report Cards.** Our first report cards will be sent out Wednesday Nov. 27. This will be sent through email and will contain a link to your child's report card and the instructions on how to access it.
2. **Attendance (grade 10/11).** Students are expected to be in their scheduled classroom for all set classes. Student success is directly linked to the relationship built in the classroom setting. This can only occur if students attend classes. Our grade 10 and 11 flexible model builds in a proactive intervention by having FIT (Flexible instructional time) that is different from any other high school in the province. Students in grade 10/11 are not sitting in set classes all day, thus when they have set class, it is even more important they are attending to get that vital instruction. As outlined in the [Student Attendance and Engagement Policy.pdf](#), teachers have already sent home emails/calls about student absence at the 5% and 10% marker. Once students get past this point, administrators take on communication with student and family. Please know that an administrator will be contacting home in the next few weeks for any students with excessive absences. If absenteeism continues, we will be enforcing consequences in line with the Provincial *Code of Conduct* and *Student Attendance and Engagement* policies. Please talk to your student about the importance of attendance. If you receive an automated call for an absence, speak to your child and help them understand the risks and consequences of non attendance. Again, West Bedford High is the only high school that provides students FIT time. This feature of our school is a built-in proactive strategy of attendance support. Skipping classes is an unacceptable behaviour.
3. **Library (Grade 10/11).** Our library is once again becoming an area where some students are beginning to hang out and not use it as a place to work. Many of our students who use this area as a workspace are getting frustrated by the noise and disruptive behaviours. We will be diligently enforcing the use of this space as a quieter, academic space over the next few weeks to ensure it is being used appropriately. If students want a space where they can be a little louder while working, the cafeteria is the space to be. Students who do not adhere to this will have the privilege of using the library removed for a period of time and home will be contacted. Please discuss this with your child.
4. **Parent/Teacher Meet. Parent/teacher is Thursday, December 5th at 1:00 -3:00pm and 5:30 to 7:30pm. A link to sign for an appointment will be sent out this Thursday evening.**
5. **Band Concert.** The Band Concert is on Wednesday, December 11th... Doors open at 6:15pm, concert starts at 6:30pm. For more details: <https://sites.google.com/gnspe.ca/westbedfordband/concert>

6. **High school (grades 9-11) summative assessments January 27-30.** Please take note of the following important information regarding formal examinations and attendance. Summative assessment events are a standard assessment and evaluation practice for all high schools in Nova Scotia. For this reason, HRCE plans a final exam schedule in their annual calendar which is published in the spring of the previous academic year. Given that exam dates are published well in advance, it is expected that family vacations, or other non-medical absences will be scheduled around this important assessment time. Absence for any reason other than a medical excuse will not be considered an acceptable reason for not writing an exam. Exams will not be proctored at an alternate location.

There may be instances when the school is closed during the scheduled exam day due to inclement weather, a power failure, or other unforeseen circumstances. Exams will be moved forward a day when a situation like this happens. It is important to understand that the student must be present to write the exam on the rescheduled date. Please take this into account when planning and scheduling family vacations around exam time.

Note: Where a student misses an examination without an acceptable excuse as defined above, a mark of zero will be given. International students will receive a zero on their exam if airline tickets are booked early and the student misses an exam.

7. **Grade 7/8 Spirit week.** The grade 7/8 student council will be hosting their first Spirit Week next week, November 25-29. All grade 7's and 8's are encouraged to participate! The days are as follows:

- Monday - Pyjama/Cozy Day
- Tuesday - Anything But A Backpack Day (Please remember to adhere to the school's Code of Conduct)
- Wednesday - Tourist Day
- Thursday - Dress to Impress
- Friday - Flip Around Friday (Teachers dress like students, students dress like teach

8. **Grade 7 and 8 Intramural Gym Time.** Now that the weather is changing, we are very excited to announce that starting up of the grade 7 and 8 intramural days in the gym during lunch. Students will have 15 minutes to eat their lunch in the cafeteria prior to entering, and then they will have 30 minutes in the gym. The following

-Mondays from 12:45-1:15 - Grade 8

-Fridays from 12:45-1:15 - Grade 7

*Intramurals will follow the sport that is currently being played during Phys Ed classes, and all of the same rules apply. Absolutely no food or drink (other than water) in the gymnasium, and any student looking to participate must have proper footwear. **Space will be limited to 50 students and it is first come first serve.**

9. **GRADE 7 PARENT INFO ON IMMUNIZATION CLINICS Nov. 29:** Public Health is organizing the immunization clinics through their facilities electronically, so we won't have to send out forms to be returned. You probably have already received the info or you will very soon, and if you have questions, please contact Public Health at 1-844-491-5890 or visit <https://www.nshealth.ca/public-health/immunizations> . If your child is sensitive to needles, you are able to pick up a freezing patch, EMLA, at your local pharmacy.
10. **Girls Group - Women's and Children's centre Drive.** Girls Group is asking all students and staff to bring non-perishable food donations, clothes donations, and other wanted donations listed on chrysalishouseassociation.org to the Youth Health Center or Ms. Drew's room (1056) in honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month."
11. **Education First Tour March Break trip 2025 has openings!** WBH students in grades 10/11 will be traveling to London-Paris-Barcelona in March. This is a change from the original itinerary, and as a result, we have some extra spots available if students (grade 10 or 11) are interested in joining us for this 10-day trip from March 6-15, 2025. The itinerary link with full trip details is attached below. The entry deadline is December 6— contact group leader Michelle Trueman (truemanm@hrce.ca) with any questions.

Itinerary Link: <https://www.eftours.ca/tour-website/2719102HS>

Ms. Trueman and Mr. Boyce – group

12. **School Clothing orders. Orders due Friday November 29th. See our Website for details.** <https://wbh.hrce.ca/wbh/news/2024/wbh-school-clothing-order-form>
13. **Homework Hub.** Homework Hub continues to be available to all Nova Scotian students from grades 4-12. The Homework Hub provides electronic textbooks, instructional videos, vocabulary review, practice questions, and live tutoring. Tutors at The Homework Hub are all Nova Scotia teachers. **Students can find the link on their GNSPES launch page. Grades 7-12: Sunday-Thursday 5:30-9:30 pm**

Important Dates:

- November 27: Report Cards go home
- November 29: Grade 7 Immunization Clinic
- December 5: School-Based PD - No Classes ***AM only
- December 5 : Parent/Teacher Conference 1 - 3 pm & 5:30 -7:30 pm

Sincerely,

WBH Admin team