

January 5, 2025

Hello West Bedford High Families,

Happy New Year. Hope everyone had a great holiday break with your family. We are glad to be back and getting into our routines again. Please see information below on some important topics and dates for the month of January.

1. **Mid-Year Summative Assessments(Grades 9-11).** Students in grades 9-11 will be writing mid-year assessments from January 27 -30. Other courses prior to assessment week will be conducting process exams in their courses. This is common in all high schools depending on the nature of the course.

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.

****Due to grade 9 assessments not being final assessments other possible exceptions can be made, but must be approved through your child's Vice Principal. See information below to contact VP.**

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.

If a student cannot make an assessment time for a major reason (medical), arrangement and approval must go through West Bedford High admin team. Please contact your child's VP by Friday, January 17th.

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More info on mid-year summative assessment procedures, conflicts, etc. will be sent in our next memo. **Schedule will be out later this week.**

2. **Grade 10 Parent session Wednesday January 22 (6:30 -7:30pm).** We will be hosting a grade 10 information session for parents of current grade 9 students to discuss what West Bedford High offers, discuss the FIT (Flexible Instructional time) model and answer any questions you may have. This session is for parents only as students will be getting their own sessions at school through our school counselors. Here are a few things we offer:
- Flexible Instructional time (FIT model)
 - Teacher advisors
 - AP (Advanced Placement courses) Check out - <https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/> if you want to learn more prior to our session.
 - Academic and Advanced courses
 - O2 (Options and Opportunities program), French Immersion, Skills trades, i.e. Construction and Manufacturing (metal work/welding), and more...

Important Dates:

- **January 22: Grade 10 Parent session (for current grade 9 students) 6:30 – 7:30 pm**
- **January 27: International Holocaust Remembrance Day**
- **January 27: Family Literacy Day**
- **January 27 – 30: Mid-year assessments (grades 9-11)**
- **January 31: Assessment and Evaluation Day – no classes**
- **January 29: Lunar New Year**
- **February 3: Semester 2 begins WBH**
- **February 4-14: Report cards go home**
- **February 6: Curriculum night (grade 10 and 11 only – semester courses) 6:30-7:30**
- **February 13: High School dance (grades 9-11) Time TB**

Sincerely,

WBH Admin team