

February 2, 2025

Hello West Bedford High Families,

We have reached the end of semester! We are proud of all our students in grades 9-11 on completion of their mid-year assessments and final exams in some of their courses. We wanted to take this opportunity to provide you with information as we begin the second semester.

Report Cards will be electronically e-mailed home on February 12, 2025 for all grades (7-11).

Please see information and important dates below for the upcoming weeks.

1. **Celebrate African Heritage Month 2025**

African Heritage Month in Nova Scotia, celebrated each February, honours the contributions of African Nova Scotians.

This year's theme, Legacy in Action: Celebrating Black Brilliance, highlights the achievements and resilience of African Nova Scotians, who have shaped the province's history for more than 400 years.

In schools, recognizing African Heritage Month is crucial for promoting cultural awareness and inclusion. It fosters understanding of the diverse cultural landscape of Nova Scotia, empowering African Nova Scotian students by reflecting their history and heritage in their classrooms. Highlighting their achievements serves as a source of inspiration.

African Heritage Month 2025 is an opportunity to educate, inspire, and celebrate the richness of African heritage in Nova Scotia every day.

Week 1 is a performance by Owen O'Sound Lee on Thursday. More to come!!

2. **Grade 9 School selection.** Reminder to all families that students in grade 9 will be receiving a google form in their homeroom classes this week to indicate which high school they are planning on attending next year. They will also select which program they are interested in taking, for example English or French at West Bedford or English or French at Charles P. Allen. This choice needs to be made prior to choosing courses for grade 10, as it needs to be set in our Power School Program so students are able to self-select the courses from the correct school the following few weeks. A reminder of the course selection timeline is below.

- Feb. 3-7: Grade 9 students choose between West Bedford High/Charles P. Allen and their program selection
- Feb. 10-21: School Counsellors/students review course selection papers in class and bring them home to get signed
- Feb. 24-Mar 7: School Counsellors/students enter selection into PowerSchool

3. **PowerSchool and Course Selection.** With high school course selection fast approaching, this is a reminder that students registering for grades 10- 12 **MUST** be able to log in to Power School Portal to complete their registration (at either high school) and to enter their course selection. Please check in with your child NOW and oversee that they can in fact do this. If they cannot, reach out to your child's homeroom teacher to get their Portal Access Letter as soon as possible.
4. **Curriculum Night for grades 10/11 second semester courses (February 6th – 6:30 to 7:30).** There will be a curriculum night for parents of students in grades 10/11 for new courses they have in second semester. Our curriculum night will be an open house. All teachers will be in rooms on the first floor and will have handouts available to you about their courses and answer questions related to curriculum. A list of where teachers are located will be posted that evening as you enter the building. Thus, you can move about from teacher to teacher at your leisure. Teachers will also put all this information in their google classrooms for those who cannot make it. You can find your child's teachers names in PowerSchool. Student council members will be there to help you find classrooms.
5. **Course Changes.** Course change requests will only be considered until the end of the school day on Thursday, February 6th. Students will need to meet with a school counsellor to make a course change request once classes begin this week, but it is important to note that changes will only be considered for the following reasons:
 - *Missing graduation requirements.*
 - *Required post-secondary pre-requisite.*
 - *If there is a duplicate course in a schedule.*

Teacher changes for the same course will not be accepted, nor will changes to match friend's schedules.

6. **Student council athletics.** Student council will be hosting a 'Swishmas' part two called HOOPENTINES on February 12th. This basketball 2 vs 2 king of the court will play out the same as 'Swishmas'. **BUT it will cost 5\$ a team** (\$2.50 per person). If you are interested, **sign up takes place Monday, Feb. 10th at lunch ONLY** then no more. Be sure to have your team pre-picked and 5\$ paid at time of sign-up in cash (or change).

Reminder to how it works:

- 7-9 grade participants will play on the farther side of the basketball court (half court).
- 9-11 grade participants play on the closest side of the basketball court closer to the windows (half court).
- The team to make the basket first stays on the court and the losing team goes to the back of the line, normal king of the court play.
- 3 pointers count as 2 tallies and 2 pointers count as 1 tally

Thus, your **GOAL** is to get as many tallies for your team in the 30 minutes of play.

There will be a **PRIZE** for all winners. Any further questions check in with the athletics lead, Madelyn Roberts, grade 10.

7. **YEARBOOKS! DON'T MISS OUT, GET YOURS TODAY! YEARBOOKS ARE NOW ON SALE AT THE LOW COST OF \$50. ORDERS CAN BE MADE DIRECTLY THROUGH JOSTEN'S USING THE FOLLOWING LINK:**

[West Bedford High School 2025 Yearbook](#)

8. **Girls Hockey at West Bedford (2025-26 school year).** We are still looking for girls Hockey coaches for next year. We are looking for applications for head coaches, assistant coaches, managers, and fundraisers. If you would like to get involved or know someone that does, please reach out to our Athletic director, Emily Bell, at Ebell@hrce.ca.
9. **Europe Trip Fundraiser.** Are you a coffee drinker? Like supporting local companies? WBH will be selling Sissaboo Coffee to support the upcoming Europe 2025 trip. Check out the offerings and get yours today! Payments can be sent through SchoolCash between January 27 – February 7 >>>>> [2025 Europe Trip Fundraiser](#)

Important Dates:

- **February is Registration Month**
- **February is African Heritage Month**
- **February 3: Semester 2 begins WBH**
- **February 3 - 7: Grade 9 students choose between WBHS/CPA (more info to come)**
- **February 6: Owen O'sound Lee performance for students**
- **February 4-14: Report cards go home**
- **February 6: Curriculum night (grade 10 and 11 only – semester courses) 6:30-7:30**
- **February 10 -21: Counsellors/students review course selection papers**
- **February 13: SAC meeting 6:00 – 7:00pm**
- **February 13: High School dance (grades 9-11) Time 7:30-9:30**
- **February 14: Valentine's Day**
- **February 17: Heritage Day (No classes)**
- **February 24 – March 7: Counsellors/students enter selection into PowerSchool**

Sincerely,

WBH Admin team