

May 4, 2025

Hello West Bedford High Families,

Great to see so many families at parent teacher and hear so many positive comments about our teachers, the integration of junior high and high school and how the new model of learning at the high school has been a game changer for many of our students. Thanks for your feedback!!

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

- 1. Cultural Fair.** On Wednesday May 7, 2025 (during periods 1, 2 and 3) in the Cafetorium we are celebrating all of our unique and beautiful cultures that reside at WBH. Classes will come down and show their appreciation for these cultures and the students that have worked hard to put this culture fair together. There will be music, food and art displayed.
- 2. Provincial Assessment Grade 8- Reading, Writing, Math.** During the last week of May, our grade 8 students will participate in a provincial assessment of literacy and math skills. This will happen during morning class time between May 26-29. Students do not need to prepare for this assessment outside of the school day. Teachers have been teaching with this assessment in mind all year and will engage in more direct conversation and practice throughout May.

More information will be shared with families in next Sunday's communication to families.

- 3. May 15 is Black Excellence Day.** What is Black Excellence Day? In essence Black Excellence Day is about acknowledging, celebrating, and uplifting Black contributions while fostering a more inclusive and equitable environment. The following are ways you celebrate the fourth annual Black Excellence Day:

Celebrating achievements: Black Excellence Day provides an opportunity to celebrate the achievements, contributions, and successes of Black individuals within the community. It highlights the talent and accomplishments within the Black community, ensuring that Black students have an opportunity to highlight all their positive contributions within the education system.

Promoting equity and inclusion: Recognizing Black Excellence fosters a culture of equity and inclusion within schools. It sends a message that all students, regardless of their background, have the potential to excel and make valuable contributions to society. By celebrating diversity and promoting inclusivity, schools create a more welcoming and supportive environment for all students.

Education and awareness: Black Excellence Day serves as an educational opportunity to raise awareness about the rich history, culture, and achievements of Black people. It provides a platform to share stories of resilience, innovation, and leadership, helping to combat stereotypes and promote understanding and appreciation of Black heritage.

Empowerment and inspiration: By celebrating Black Excellence, students are inspired and empowered to pursue their own goals and dreams. Seeing examples of

successful Black individuals from various fields, such as science, arts, politics and sports, can motivate students to strive for their own excellence.

Community engagement: Black Excellence Day can serve as a platform for community engagement and collaboration. It provides an opportunity for schools to partner with local organizations, leaders, and activists within the Black community to organize events, workshops, and discussions that promote dialogue and understanding.

Overall, celebrating Black Excellence Day within HRCE schools is important for fostering a culture of inclusivity, empowerment, and appreciation for the diverse talents and contributions of Black individuals.

- 4. Access Awareness Week.** Access Awareness Week takes place annually during the last week of May to raise awareness about disability, access and inclusion. This year, Access Awareness Week runs from May 25-31, and the provincial theme is "Our Voices, Our Votes: Disability Rights in Action." The provincial Accessibility Directorate is providing all HRCE schools with posters to help bring attention to the importance of removing barriers for people with disabilities. The posters are being mailed directly to schools from the directorate and should arrive in the coming days. For 38 years, Nova Scotians have organized community events, flag raising, forums, and concerts during Access Awareness Week to bring attention to the importance of removing barriers for people with disabilities. More information can be found [here](#).

- 5. West Bedford Theatre Production 2025-26 school year.** West Bedford High School is excited to announce that next school year, we will be putting on our very first theatre production to showcase the many skills and talents of our students. This performance will highlight the creativity, hard work, and dedication of our students, and we can't wait to share it with our community. We look forward to bringing together students, teachers, and families for an unforgettable experience that celebrates the vibrant spirit of our school. Stay tuned for more details – we can't wait to see you there! If you have any questions or are interested in helping out, please email Rebecca Engram at rengam@hrce.ca

6. Homework Hub: Finish the year off strong!

Did you know your student has access to Homework Hub? Finish the year off strong with the help of experienced tutors!

GNSPES Access: Easy access to online resources and tutoring through your GNSPES account (gnspe.ca) by clicking on the Nova Scotia Homework Hub icon.

24/7 Access: Anytime access to video tutorials, practice questions and vocabulary review.

Bilingual tutors available for students in:

Grade 4-6 Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 5:30 to 7:30 pm.

Grade 7-12 on school nights 5:30 to 9:30 pm.

[Watch this video](#) to learn more about Homework Hub!

Important Dates:

- **May is Asian Heritage Month**
- **May is Canadian Jewish Heritage Month**
- **May is Polish Heritage Month**
- **May is Speech and Hearing Month**
- **May 5 is Red Dress Day**
- **May 15 Black Excellence Day**
- **May 11-17 is Education Week**
- **May 17 is International Day against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia**
- **May 19: No classes for PP-12 for Victoria Day**
- **May 25 to 31 is Nova Scotia Access Awareness Week**

Sincerely,

WBH Admin team