

Update message - April 28, 2024

Dear WBH Wolves and families,

Please review the information below to help plan for the coming week and what is happening at West Bedford High.

- Last Weeks News (grade 7 and 8 coming part of the high school).** We know the message sent out by HRCE last week has created a lot of uncertainty for families, as many are looking for information on how all this will work. Please know that we will be working on this over the next few weeks and have more answers for you in the coming weeks. Couple of things to point out at this time:
 - Grade 7 and 8 have technically already been on our side and moving through the building to classes on the lower level all year. We will continue to do our best to keep it this way. We will maintain our spaces for high school. What I mean is we will do our best keep 7 and 8 in the spaces they already exist. Our wings will remain the same, we also get the CPA wing back and a possible modular. Our spaces that high school students go for flex will continue to be those spaces for high school.
 - The impact will be on how we schedule our gym, how we structure lunch, and bussing and this is what we will be working on with HRCE over the next few weeks.
 - Many schools throughout the province work this way and I will be reaching out to those schools to see what is really working for them and things to think about. Eastern Shore District high school here in HRCE will be opening next year, combining the old high school and Gaetz Brook Junior high in a new 7-12. Many private schools also operate this way.
 - Junior High and High school sports will still be separate. In a 7-12 school, students in grade 7-9 can try out for both high school and junior high sports. We will be running both.
 - Clubs and other extracurricular activities will also run at each level.
 - We have built a great thing here at West Bedford and you and your children have helped us do this and we are committed to making this all work to best of our ability. Please feel free to reach out to me with your questions and concerns and I will compile them and answer them to the best of my ability as we figure things out. Thank you for all of the support you have given us this year, it has been truly appreciated.
- Student Success Survey.** Will be completed this week. Grade 10 students will complete Tuesday morning during TA time and grade 9 will complete in English or math class as they have these courses every day.
- Logo and School colors.** We listened to your feedback and the new logo and colors will be unveiled this week. Our SAC parents and students have approved, as well as student council. Please check our social media Instagram (wbh_hrce) page this week for the reveal. We want to thank our very own Sophia MacAulay (grade 10 student) for inspiring the redesign with many images she had created and Jostens for taking this and all the other feedback and putting it together.

4. **May 15 is Black Excellence Day.** Celebrating Black Excellence Day on May 15, 2024, within Halifax Regional Centre for Education is important for several reasons:

- **Representation and Recognition:** 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 educational system.
- **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.
- **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.
- **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.
- **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.

For more information and activities to help mark the day, [click here](#).

5. **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 (gnspes.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 7-12 on school nights 5:30 to 9:30 p.m.
- Grade 4-6 Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

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

6. **Cultural Fair.** We had a very successful cultural fair this past week and it was beautiful seeing the pride in our students showing who they are and the diverse cultures that exist within our

school. We are so proud of our students and staff who made this happen. Please check out the Instagram page (student.life_wbhs) for some videos and pictures from that day.

7. **Athletics Fundraiser. New April jackpot.** We have joined the Sport Nova Scotia on a monthly online 50/50. All monies raised in the name of West Bedford will go to our sports teams next year. We will need to be purchasing new uniforms, with school logo and colors, for the next year. This is a great way to fundraise for all of our teams at West Bedford High school and for potential community members to win some cash. <https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/sportns/3339>
8. **Daily Announcements and other info.** Posted daily on our website. <https://wbh.hrce.ca/> . Also please check our Instagram account (wbh_hrce) for up to date information.

Important dates and acknowledgements

May is Asian Heritage Month

May is Canadian Jewish Heritage Month

May is Hearing and Speech Month

May 2 Grade 9 information session (current grade 8 – postponed)

May 5 Red Dress Day

May 15 Black Excellence Day

May 16 School Dance

May 17 International Day against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia

May 20 Victoria Day (no classes)

May 26 -June 1 National AccessAbility Week

Sincerely,

WBH Admin Team