

WEST BEDFORD



ELEMENTARY

50 Broad Street
Bedford, NS B4A 0T4
902-405-0337, wbs@hrce.ca

Principal: Susan Casey

Vice Principals: Courtney Smith
: Joanne Treen

Monday, May 12, 2025

Hello WBS Families,

I am urging all families to please follow the parking procedures for WBS. We continue to have concerns for student safety as vehicles are still entering areas where they shouldn't. Our School Liaison Officer and other HPD Officers will be on our school grounds over the next few weeks to ensure vehicles are following the expectations. Please note that tickets may be issued for vehicles driving/parking in areas they shouldn't.

We have tried to avoid the step of issuing tickets and fines, but we feel that this is where we are now after months of reminders and communication outlining the expectations. We take student safety seriously and do not want to see any child injured.

Please follow our parking expectations so you can do your part in keeping all students safe!

Warm regards,
Susan Casey

1. WBS Parking Update: This is a reminder to our families that we have parking procedures in place at WBS to ensure our students remain safe when they are on the school grounds.

- a. **The Emergency Vehicle Loop- outside the blue doors-** this loop is for Excel drop off (7:30-8:00 am) and pick up (4:00-6:00 pm) and after-school childcare vans (2:00-2:30 pm) only. For all other vehicles, please do not use this loop to drop off or pick up your student AT ANY TIME.
- b. **Accessible Parking-** We have designated spots for those with an accessible parking pass. These spots are in the center of the emergency vehicle loop. Accessible Parking Passes must be clearly displayed.

- c. **Parking out back-** NO VEHICLES are to go to the side of the school building (by the field) or around to the back of the building. Our special transportation buses go around back to drop off and pick up students from our learning center. We have had several cars back there pull around the buses to enter or leave while students are getting on and off the buses. This area is for staff parking only and the special transportation buses.
- d. **Parking the Pre-Primary Zone:** Only families with a purple parking pass for Pre-Primary should be parking alongside the curb by our playground.
- e. **Lower Parking Lot-Family/Visitor Parking:** Parking for vehicles is in the lower parking lot. There are visitor parking spots available along the perimeter of this lot. In the mornings (8:05am), there is a student drop off loop in the lower parking lot monitored by staff. This is the only parking lot open to family/visitor vehicles.
- f. **Upper Staff Parking Lot-** The upper parking lot is for staff vehicles only. Please DO NOT enter this area.

When everyone respects these parking procedures it allows our students and staff to be safe while on the school grounds. Please support our school community by following these expectations.

(Please note: failure to follow these procedures or if the actions of the driver are disrespectful towards staff, tickets/fines may be issued).

2. **Home & School Association:** The next Home and School meeting will be on **Tuesday, May 20, 2025**, at 6:00 pm in the cafeteria.
We have a major Home and School Event coming up- volunteers are welcome!



3. **SAC:** The next SAC meeting will be on **Thursday, May 22, 2025 from 6:30-8:00 pm** in the WBS seminar room. We are joining with WBH SAC for the first hour.

Did you know that you can read the SAC summary minutes posted on our website? Visit wbs.hrce.ca – heading “For Students and Families”- SAC (the current minutes posted are September to November 2024).

4. **Want to communicate with WBS?** We work hard to establish positive relationships with families. We recognize that communication is the foundation for this. If you have questions about your child's school experience, please follow the following communication plan:

- First, reach out via email or phone call to your child's teacher- Your child's teacher will often have the information you are seeking.
- If your concerns were not addressed by the teacher, please reach out via email to your child's Vice Principal- Courtney Smith supports students and families in Primary to Grade 3; Joanne Treen supports students and families in Grades 4 to 6.
- If your concerns were not addressed, please reach out through email to the School Principal, Susan Casey.

Given the number of students and families we support, we are not able to have unscheduled meetings. Please reach out to WBS staff members via email to schedule a meeting date and time. Email addresses can be found on our school's website under staff directory. www.wbs.hrce.ca

5. **Moving? Or have moved?:** Please ensure that you have completed the Student Change of Address Form. This is the expected practice to ensure that students are attending the correct catchment area school.

The 2024 – 25 HRCE Current Student Change of Address Form- This form needs to be completed if:

- you are moving within the 24-25 school year and will need to register for a different school within HRCE: or
- you are moving within the 24-25 school year, but the address is still within the catchment of the current school.

Click [here](#) to complete the Current Student Change of Address form.

6. **Safe Arrival Number:** If your child is going to be absent for the any part of the school day or arrive late, please call **Safe Arrival: 1-833-582-6940**. Please note if your child will be late arriving to school you must select that they will be absent for the day. When they arrive our admin team will update their attendance.

7. **2025-26 EXCEL registration**

The EXCEL Before and After Program is a recreation based, fee-for-service before and after school program run by Halifax Regional Centre for Education. For more information about registration, fees and programing, please [click here](#).

If you have additional questions, please contact the EXCEL Before and After Program

Registrar's Office: Kimberly Lozon at 902-464-2000 ext. 2787 or excelregistrar@hrce.ca and Gail Hartling at 902-464-2000 ext. 2236 or excel@hrce.ca.

8. Here are some dates you may wish to know and acknowledge in May

- 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 is Black Excellence Day
- May 11-17 is Education Week
- May 17 is International Day against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia
- May 25 to 31 is Nova Scotia Access Awareness Week

Upcoming Dates for May 2025

May 19th- Victoria Day- **School is Closed**

May 20th- Home & School meeting 6-7 pm

May 22nd- SAC meeting 6:30-8:00 pm

May 30th- Set up for the Spring Fling 6:00-9:00 pm

May 31st- WBS Spring Fling 11:00-2:00 pm

Upcoming Dates for June 2025

June 25th- Grade 6 Closing Ceremony (morning)

June 27th- Assessment & Evaluation Day- No school for students

June 30th- Last Day of School