



February 2025 Newsletter



92 Colby Drive
 Dartmouth, NS B2V 1J7
 Phone: 902-464-5152
 Fax: 902-464-5154

HOW TO REPORT AN ABSENCE: If your child will be absent, please let us know by using one of the following methods:

- **Toll-Free Number**—Call 1-833-582-6940 to report an absence using an automated system.
- **PowerSchool Parent Portal** — Log into <https://sishrsb.ednet.ns.ca/public/> and access the SchoolMessenger website to report an absence.
- **SchoolMessenger App**—Download the SchoolMessenger app for Android and iOS devices and sign up using your PowerSchool username (full email address).

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 Pre-Primary & Primary Registration Begins (online)	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 CVES PTO Dance Late French Immersion Info Astral Drive Jr. (6pm)	14 Happy Valentine's Day	15
16	17 Heritage Day No Classes	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28 Pre-Primary & Primary Registration Ends	

Guidelines for school and/or bus cancellations due to weather

It is HRCE's goal to communicate any changes to the regular operations of schools and/or school buses as close to 6:00 a.m. as possible.

A 6:00 a.m. announcement could be:

- All schools are delayed in opening by two hours and bus pickups are delayed by two hours; or
- All schools are open, but some or all buses are not operating for the day; or
- Some schools (either individually or by family) are closed for the day; or
- All schools are closed for the day.

If weather deteriorates, or is forecasted to worsen throughout the morning, an **11:00 a.m. announcement could be:**

- Bused students will be picked up two hours earlier than their regular dismissal time; and
- Walking students will be dismissed at their regularly scheduled lunch hour.

Lunch at Colby Village starts at 11:30 am



If there are any changes to our regular operations, we will communicate in the following ways:

- By email to the addresses in PowerSchool
- By text message, if you have opted-in. If you aren't sure if you have opted-in, text Y to the following number: 978338
- On our website www.hrce.ca
- On X (formerly Twitter) at twitter.com/hrce_ns
- On Instagram at instagram.com/hrce_ns



How does Halifax Regional Centre for Education (HRCE) decide on school and/or bus cancellations?

- By 4:30 a.m., HRCE staff begin to gather information from:
 - A contracted weather service that provides radar and satellite imagery, real-time road conditions and weather warnings;
 - A meteorologist who provides forecast details, level and type of precipitation and impact on road conditions;
 - HRCE's transportation service providers, who provide updates on road conditions in their area;
 - Municipal and provincial transportation staff; and
 - Other local weather services, including Environment Canada and The Weather Network. By 5:30 a.m., HRCE staff make recommendations to the Regional Executive Director (or designate), who then makes the final decision. This decision is communicated as close to 6:00 a.m. as possible.

Remember: Parents/guardians always have the right to keep their child home from school if they believe that the travelling conditions are unsuitable.

FEBRUARY IS REGISTRATION MONTH

Do you have a child who will be starting pre-primary or primary this fall? It's time to register!

Registration for the 2025-26 school year begins on February 3. To ensure we have the right staff and supports in place for September, it is important that we gather enrolment numbers now. **Please note: It is not necessary to register students who are currently attending Pre-Primary and will be continuing at the same school for Primary in September.**

Tip: Before you begin, make sure you have the following documents in electronic form (image, PDF or Word document):

- Proof of identity/age with one of the following: birth certificate, passport, immigration papers, or legal adoption papers) if you are new to the HRCE;
- Proof of home address (a recently dated official government or utility document with your current address that includes your name and date, such as water bill, power bill, internet bill, home fuel bill, a tax receipt, property assessment or a mortgage contract)

Visit the [HRCE website](#) for more information and to enrol your child during the month of February through PowerSchool Enrollment!

Don't have a child to register? Maybe you know someone who does! Please help us spread the word and pass this information on to friends, neighbours or relatives who will be looking to register for the fall.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS

HRCE recognize their responsibility to ensure that all students attending HRCE schools are protected by taking reasonable precautions to screen volunteers who may be working with students without direct supervision of staff. In accordance with Nova Scotia's Provincial [Volunteer Background Check Policy](#), prior to volunteering with the Halifax Regional Centre for Education, all volunteers will provide:

1. A completed Child Abuse Register search, which can be found [here](#)
2. A certified and true copy of a Criminal Records Check with [Vulnerable Sector Check](#) available [here](#), from your local Police or RCMP detachment or through online organizations endorsed by Nova Scotia law enforcement agencies

Please note: the Child Abuse Register Search and Criminal Records Check must be issued in the three months preceding volunteering and updated every three years.



AFRICAN HERITAGE MONTH

This year's African Heritage Month provincial theme, Legacy in Action: Celebrating black brilliance highlights the living legacy of black Nova Scotians, honoring the impact and perseverance of the long-standing community. It highlights the greatness we hold, the paths we lead through our deep connection with our elders, storytelling, the rhythms of change, and the ability to look back to move forward.

Looking for ways to recognize and celebrate African Heritage Month?

- Attend events happening throughout the month at your local [Halifax Public Library](#).
- While you're at the library, [borrow books](#) that will inspire the whole family to learn more about African heritage.
- Visit local heritage sites, such as the [Black Cultural Centre](#), [the Africville Museum](#), and the [Black Loyalist Heritage Centre](#).

STUDENTS GOING HOME FOR LUNCH

Just a reminder that if your child is going to be going home during lunch, they need permission from a parent/guardian. Please ensure you call, email or send in a note to the teacher and/or office giving permission for your child to leave school property. If this is a daily occurrence, one note or a phone call to the school stating they have permission to go home daily is fine. Students who do not have permission will not be permitted to leave school property.

PTO VALENTINE'S DANCE

Join us for a night of fun as we kick up our heels and dance the night away!! The CVES PTO Valentine's Dance will take place on Thursday, February 13th from 6:00 to 7:30pm at the school. Tickets are \$3.00 each (plus fees) in advance via SchoolCash Online, or \$5.00 each at the door. SchoolCash sales will close at noon on Wednesday, February 12th. All students MUST be accompanied by an adult and everyone entering the dance must have a ticket.



IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Many students are arriving late to school on a daily basis. We ask that students arrive to school on-time for the first bell at **8:25 am**. When students arrive late to class, it is not only disruptive to the late student, but also the rest of the class.

Parents/guardians are [not permitted](#) to park in the school parking lot.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation in these matters.