



Dear ESC Families,

I'm very happy to introduce myself as the new **Acting Principal of Eastern Shore Consolidated School**. An exciting new chapter is underway as two wonderful school communities have come together. We have a special chance to continue building something new—a caring and welcoming place where every student can learn, grow, and belong.

In my first few weeks, I'll be spending time getting to know our students, staff, and families. I want to listen and learn about what makes this school community great and how we can make it even better together.

Thank you for the warm welcome I've already received. I'm proud to be part of this amazing community and excited for the year ahead!

Warmly,

Kelly Zinck

Acting Principal, Eastern Shore Consolidated School

Important dates to remember in November

- **Sat., Nov. 8:** Indigenous Veterans Day
- **Tues., Nov. 11:** Remembrance Day - No classes PP-12
- **Nov. 13-19:** Transgender Awareness Week
- **Nov. 17-20:** Report Cards (High School)
- **Fri., Nov. 21:** Assessment & Evaluation Day - No classes for 7-9s
- **Nov. 24-Dec. 3:** Report cards (Junior High)

November 8 is Indigenous Veterans Day

Indigenous Veterans Day is an important occasion to honour the sacrifices and contributions of First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples who have served in the Canadian Armed Forces. Recognizing this day in schools is especially significant, as it provides students with the opportunity to learn about the often-overlooked histories and experiences of Indigenous veterans. By commemorating Indigenous Veterans Day in our schools, we ensure that younger generations understand the vital role Indigenous peoples have played in defending Canada, while also promoting respect, reconciliation, and a more inclusive understanding of Canadian history. This recognition helps strengthen empathy, respect for diversity, and a greater appreciation for the many ways in which Indigenous peoples have shaped our country.

November 11 is Remembrance Day

Remembrance Day holds an important place in our schools as it provides a meaningful opportunity for our students to learn about the sacrifices made by veterans and all those who have served in times of conflict. Through ceremonies, discussions and creative projects, we demonstrate respect and gratitude for the freedoms Canadians enjoy. Observing Remembrance Day also helps students connect with Canada's history and reinforces the values of peace, tolerance and community responsibility.

We will be holding a Remembrance Day ceremony for students on November 7th. Many thanks to the team of teachers who have planned and arranged this important event.



November 13-19 is Transgender Awareness Week

Transgender Awareness Week provides an important opportunity to strengthen understanding and respect for the transgender community, to encourage inclusivity in our schools and to promote safe environments where all students feel valued and supported. Learn more [here](#).

NS Lunch Ordering Information

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PARENTS

- Go to www.nslunch.ca
- Order Now- Halifax Regional Centre for Education
- My NS Account
- Sign into your My NS Account or scroll to the bottom to create account (follow steps on screen). Once account is created move to the next step.
- Add diner
- Enter your student's information. You will need their student number to validate. You can find this in your PowerSchool, on any past report card or by calling the main office 902-342-4004 ext 0.
- Once your profile is created, you can then order

INSTRUCTIONS FOR STUDENTS

- Go to www.nslunch.ca
- Order Now- Halifax Regional Centre for Education
- GNSPES
- Login
- Add diner
- Enter your information- you will need your student number to validate your account. You can find this in your PowerSchool, on any past report card or by stopping into the main office
- Once your profile is created, you can then order (when the ordering window is open)

Learning more about the Student Attendance and Engagement Policy

Did you know? [The Student Attendance and Engagement Policy](#) guides our approach to attendance and is in place to support all students.

The policy states that regular, punctual attendance supports academic success, responsibility, and preparation for the future.

Ensuring regular attendance is a joint effort between students, families and schools. As a parent/guardian, you play an important role by monitoring attendance, communicating with the school when your child is absent, and supporting your child's regular attendance.

What Should You Know?

- **Communication about absences**
 - Schools will monitor attendance and lateness.
 - All absences must be communicated to the school, following the school's procedure.
 - If absenteeism or lateness reaches 10% of class time, the school will begin to engage more actively with the student and family.
 - If it goes beyond 15%, more targeted supports may be used (counselling, referrals, community supports).
- **High school credit requirement**
 - For Grades 10–12, students must attend at least 80% of class time to earn the credit
 - If more than 20% of class time is missed, and efforts to improve attendance haven't succeeded, the teacher may recommend "loss of credit." The principal makes the final decision.



What You Can Do:

- Monitor and encourage punctual, consistent attendance
- Maintain open communication with the school when absences or challenges arise
- Work with school staff to understand supports or accommodations for your child
- Be aware of the thresholds (10%, 15%) and possible consequences (intervention, loss of credit in high school)
- Remember: the policy allows flexibility. If your child has a legitimate reason for missing school (health, family issue, etc.), schools are encouraged to take a supportive approach.

Planning for Inclement Weather

Did you know? HRCE takes great care when making the decision to alter the regular operations of schools and school buses in the event of severe or inclement weather.

It is HRCE's goal to communicate any changes to the regular operations of schools and/or 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 busses 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:**

- Bussed 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.

How will I find out?

- 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 the HRCE website](#)
- [On Instagram](#)

Please remember: As a parent or guardian you always have the choice of whether or not to send your child to school. For more information on how HRCE manages during inclement weather, visit hrce.ca/families/cancellations.

AI and Your Child's Learning

HRCE teachers and staff are introducing students to artificial intelligence (AI) in safe and meaningful ways that build awareness, creativity, and critical thinking. Together, we can help our learners understand how to use AI responsibly and confidently in their education and everyday lives. This informational sheet provides you with starting points for conversations about AI and learning

[Click here](#) to download the document.



You're invited to HRCE's Job Fair!

In an effort to recruit employees and support our ongoing commitment to diversity, HRCE is hosting a **Job Fair**. Open especially to those of African Nova Scotian and Mi'kmaw/Indigenous ancestry, as part of our strategy to increase under-represented groups in our workforce, we welcome all candidates to attend.

There will be several representatives from Human Resource Services, Excel, Operations, Pre-Primary and our Diversity Team who will host booths and answer questions regarding working with HRCE and the various casual, part-time and full-time roles we have.

The date and location of the event is as follows:

- Thursday, November 20 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
- Zatzman Sportsplex Thistle Room