



MARINE DRIVE ACADEMY NEWS

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Principal: Mr. A. Verge

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V5 Issue 3 January/February 2025

Thank You

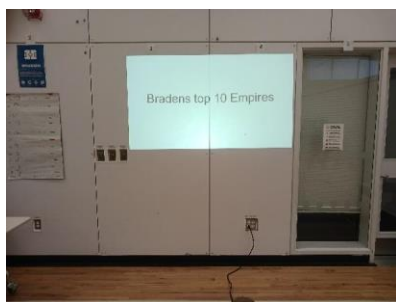
A big thank you to Gammons Home Hardware and St. Barbara Atlantic Gold Mining for their generous monetary donation towards our Christmas Breakfast for students.

ILT Program

On December 18th, the Junior High students of Marine Drive Academy displayed and showcased their skills and interests in the gym. This was part of their ILT (independent learning time) class, which provides them with an opportunity for discovery learning and independently learning about their own personal interests. All students grade 7-9 were expected to participate, and many did with great fervor.

Some features included:

- homemade smoothies
- Google slide presentations
- fitness displays
- astrology/horoscopes
- Solar system posters
- Sports statistics
- stop motion videos



MDA EXAM SCHEDULE - January 2025

	Monday, January 27	Tuesday, January 28	Wednesday, January 29	Thursday, January 30	Friday, January 31
AM 8:30-11:30	English 9 - Room 326 Pre Cal 12 - Room 320 Chemistry 11 - Room 317 Math 12 - Room 325 Study Hall - Room 116	Math 9 - Room 324 Math 10 - Room 320 Math 11 - Room 325 Study Hall - Room 116	English 12 - Room 306 Physics 11 - Room 320 ECM 11/12 - Room 326 Study Hall - Room 116	Science 10 - Room 317 and 325	Make-Up Day (Grades 10-12)
PM 12:30-2:30	Study Hall - Room 116	Study Hall - Room 116	Study Hall - Room 116	Study Hall - Room 116	Make-Up Day (Grades 10-12)

**** Please note: All Nova Scotia Virtual School summative assessments will be written on Thursday, January 23rd.****

GRADE 9 STUDENTS: Grade 9 students will study in their classes from 8:30-9:00. They will write their exam from 9:00-10:30. **Students are not permitted to leave the designated classroom until the end of the exam time.** Students will resume regular classes following their scheduled exams.

Notes:

- Students in grades 10-12 who are remaining in the building must go to study hall.
- In the event of a school closure, the exam schedule is adjusted by advancing it one day for each missed exam day



What's Happening in the Classroom with Ms. Marsha

Students in Grade P are so proud of the work they did to create a class Medicine Wheel

Donations

You can now make donations electronically to school fundraising initiatives using your SchoolCash online account.

What You Need to Know

- Donating through SchoolCash Online is easy and secure.

- A general donation link can now be found on the homepage of your school's website. You can also donate to the breakfast program by clicking change beside initiative: General Donation. If your school is doing a fundraiser for a specific initiative, they will share a unique link where you can donate.
- All donations submitted online are subject to a transaction fee of 4.6% of the donation amount, plus an additional \$0.12 which will be paid by the school. This means that when you donate \$20, the school will receive \$19.01. For more information on how the fee is calculated, [click here](#).
- An electronic tax receipt will automatically be emailed to you.
- You still have the option of donating to school initiatives directly using cash or cheque.

If you need support logging into your SchoolCash Online account or have questions about making a donation, please reach out to [the SchoolCash Online help desk](#).



Registration for 2025-26: Registration for new Grade Primary and Pre-Primary students will take place from February 1 to February 28th inclusive. Register online at <https://www.hrce.ca/families/student-registration>

Please pass this information along to any neighbors, relatives, friends, etc. who have children turning four (pre-primary) and five (primary) years before December 31, 2025.

Reminders:

Main Office

The Administrative Assistant, Mrs. Levy, is away from her desk from 11:00am to 12:00pm. If you call the school and leave a message during this time, please be aware, it will not be retrieved until after 12:00pm.

School Yard Safety: Vehicles are not permitted to drive up over the hill during school hours. This route is reserved for buses dropping off and picking up elementary students & emergency vehicles.

Morning Drop-Off Time: There is no supervision at the school until 8:10 therefore, students cannot be dropped off at school before the staff are available. Please do not drop students off prior to 8:10 as it poses a safety risk for students. Please take the first driveway to your left and park in the student pick up/drop off loop.

Students Being Picked Up: Students in Gr. P-12 being picked up must be signed out at the office. If someone other than the parent/guardian is picking up a student, the office requires a **note or phone call** from the parent/guardian giving the individual permission to take the student. Pre-Primary students being picked up by a parent/guardian or someone other than the parent/guardian must contact the Pre-Primary teacher(s) at 902-885-2777 ext:1591221.

After School Activities

To ensure the safety and security of our elementary students, we require a **written note** signed by parent(s) or guardian(s) if a child is going to an activity after school. For example, an after-school program with Parks and Recreation requires a written note

Notes must be written on a separate piece of paper, as they are filed at the office.

Reporting an Absence for PP-12 Students: For students' safety, it is very important that you contact the school if your student will be absent or late for any reason. Please call 902-885-2777 and extension 1 to report an absence. **Leave your name, the student's name (first & last) and the reason for the absence.** Leaving a message will avoid the school calling home. The absence line is available 24/7.

Students Arriving Late: We, at times, have students arriving late. Research shows that there is a correlation to academic success and student attendance. We are seeking parent/guardian support in having this improve. Classes begin at 8:30 AM. When students arrive late it is very disruptive to the learning in the classroom as it requires the teacher to stop instruction to record attendance, while the other students are waiting to re-engage in the lesson. We look forward to this situation improving, with your support.

If a student does arrive late due to an appointment or unforeseen circumstances, they must report to the main office to sign in.

Schoolcashonline

Our school will post items (ex: yearbook orders) for purchase and assign school fees relevant to students. You can make all purchases and payments from your phone, tablet or computer.

To get started, we ask all families to register for SchoolCash Online as soon as possible. It's free and takes less than two minutes. You will receive an email once items are posted for purchase. **(To receive email notifications please click "My Account – Manage email notifications")**

Visit <https://hrce.schoolcashonline.com/> and click *Register* to get started.

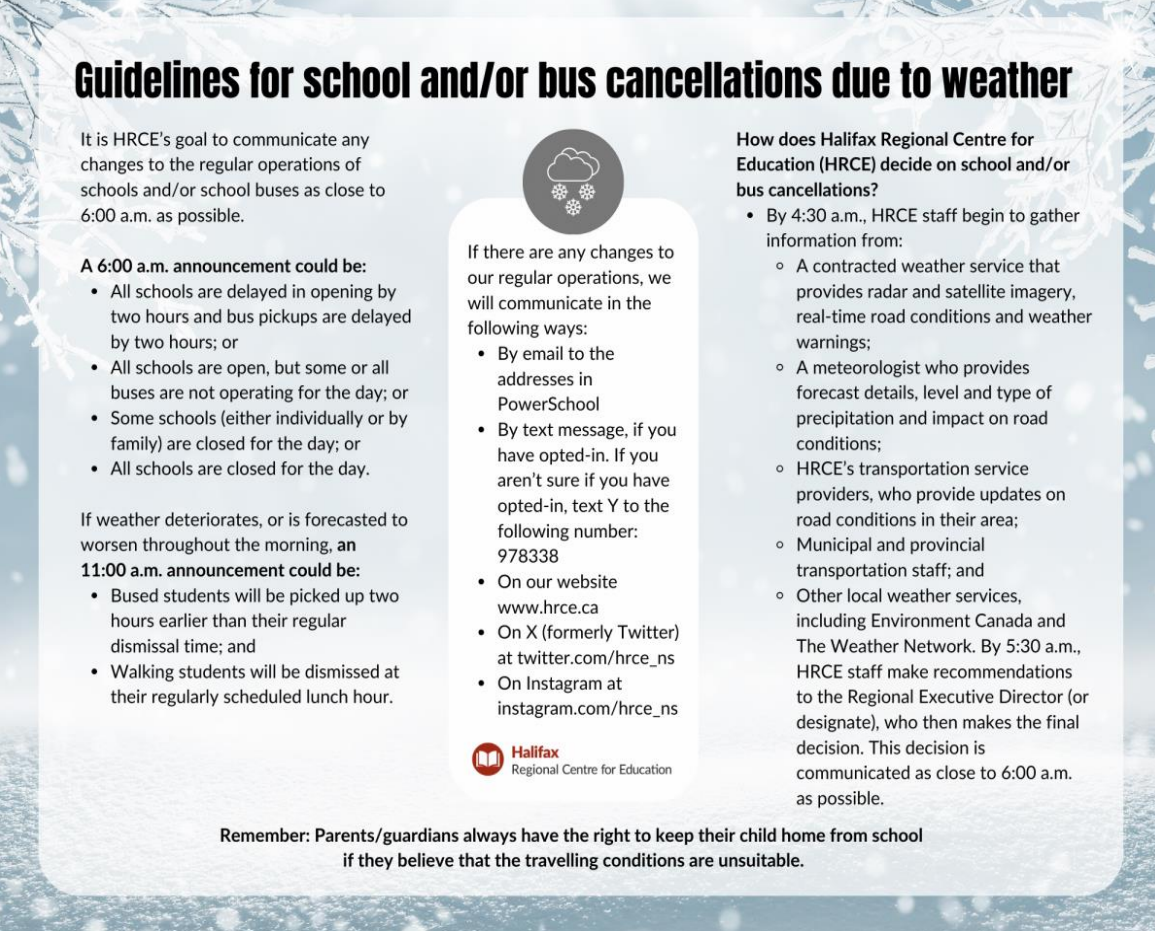
Need support? Connect with the SchoolCash Online help desk at schoolcashonline.com/Home/Support

We hope that *SchoolCash Online* makes paying school-related fees more convenient!



Cold Weather Reminders: As the weather continues to get colder, we remind you that our P-6 students will be going outside for fresh air and exercise during recess and lunch. Please ensure that children are dressed appropriately for the weather and prepared to stay outside for approximately 30 minutes at lunchtime. **Please ensure that all outerwear is labeled with a child's name or initials, so it can be returned to the owner if found.** Please put extra pants,

socks, and mittens in your child's backpack for wet/snow days! Once the snow comes, students who wish to play in the snow will require snow pants.



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.


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.

 Halifax Regional Centre for Education

Midday Closure

If the weather deteriorates, the HRCE can decide to dismiss students early. In the event of an early dismissal, the decision will be communicated to all schools as close to 11:00 a.m. as possible.


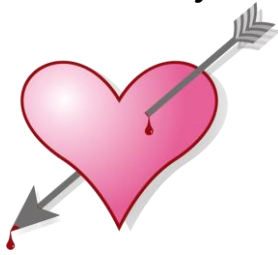


- Bused students will be picked up two hours earlier than their regular dismissal time; and
- Non-bused students will be dismissed at their regularly scheduled lunch hour.

In the event of an early dismissal, students in grades pre-primary to 6 will not be released from school unless parents/guardians or designates have been notified by the school.

If you have a child in junior high or high school, you should prepare and discuss a plan for what to do if schools close early.

Parents/guardians are reminded to ensure that your child(ren) are properly dressed for the weather conditions.

Dates to Remember

<p align="center">January</p> 	<p align="center">February</p> 	<p align="center">March</p> 	<p align="center">April</p> 
<p>Jan 2nd – P.D. Day NO CLASSES for PP-12</p>	<p>February is African Heritage Month</p> <p>Feb 1st-28th – Registration for 2025-26 (Pre-Primary & New Primary)</p>	<p>March 7th – Assessment & Evaluation Day P-12 NO CLASSES for PP-12</p>	<p>April 3rd – PD Day NO CLASSES for PP-12</p>
<p>Jan 3rd – First Day Back after Break</p>	<p>FEB 3rd – Semester 2 begins</p>	<p>March 10th -14th – MARCH BREAK</p>	<p>April 18th – Good Friday NO CLASSES</p>
<p>Jan 15th – Bullying Presentation for Gr. 3-6 students presented by the RCMP</p>	<p>Feb 17th – Heritage Day – NO CLASSES for PP-12</p>	<p>March 24th – Gr. 7 Immunization</p>	<p>April 21st – Easter Monday NO CLASSES</p>
<p>Jan 23rd - Virtual School summative assessments</p>	<p>Feb 20th – Sr. High Curriculum Night 6:00-8:00pm</p>		<p>April 30th – PD Day (am) Parent Teacher (pm) 12:30-2:30 & 6:00-8:00 NO CLASSES for PP-12</p>
<p>Jan 27th-30th - Exams</p>			
<p>Jan 31th - Exam Make up Day (Gr. 10-12)</p>			