



Sackville Heights Elementary

January 2024

Principal: Ms. Rachael Webster
Vice Principal: Ms. Lisa Gray

Admin Assistant: Mrs. Holly Pelley

Sackville Heights
1225 Old Sackville Road
Middle Sackville,
Nova Scotia B4E 3A6

Phone:
902-869-4700

Email:
shes@hrce.ca

Safe Arrival:
902-869-4700 option1
svesa@hrce.ca

Website:
http: sve.hrce.ca

Principal's Message

Happy New Year and Welcome back!

We would like to thank all staff, students and parents and guardians for making our Holiday concerts such a wonderful event. Our music team did a fabulous job organizing the songs, technology and the logistics for the afternoon and evening concerts.

We are very thankful for all the support we receive from the community in supporting our students and school not only in December but throughout the year.

Rachael, Lisa and the Staff of Sackville Heights Elementary

Parking Lot

With the snow now here, we wanted to again share with you expectations for using the parking lot.

For morning drop off: In the morning, students should be arriving by bus or being dropped off in the drop and go line. If you would like to walk your child to the school and require parking, you must park in the church parking lot. Please do not park in the parking lot in the morning. Many of our staff start at different times of the morning and cannot access parking spaces, especially now with the snow blocking several of the spots.

For afternoon pick up: Please do not block in cars. Thank you for being mindful of staff who have finished their day and are trying to exit the parking lot. As well, if you are in the drop and go line, please do not park and leave your vehicle there while you collect a child as the flow of traffic cannot continue.

Check out the new HRCE.ca!

Last winter, we asked staff, families, and SACs for feedback on our website. We used that input to build a new family-focused site that prominently features the information our communities need most.

You'll notice:

- Fewer pages – we deleted outdated information.
- A clean, modern look and feel – it's an easy-to-navigate, user-friendly experience.
- Significantly improved accessibility – this is better for our community members who use screen readers and translation services.

Reminders

Jan. 2 Back to School

Jan. 15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Jan. 16 SAC Meeting at 5:30pm
PTO Meeting at 6:30pm

Jan. 22-26 Literacy Week

Jan. 27 Family Literacy Day

Cafeteria

We are happy to announce that the cafeteria will be open as of tomorrow, Wednesday, January 3rd.

SAC and PTO Meetings

Our January SAC meeting will take place on January 16th at 5:30 pm.



Important weather reminders

Did you know? HRCE takes great care when making the decision to alter the regular operations of schools and school busses 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 our website www.hrce.ca
 - On X (formerly Twitter) at [Twitter.com/HRCE_NS](https://twitter.com/HRCE_NS)
- On Instagram at www.instagram.com/hrce_ns/



It's important to always have a plan in place for childcare in the event of any cancellation.

For more information on how HRCE manages during inclement weather, visit www.hrce.ca/families/cancellations.

January 27 is Family Literacy Day

Family Literacy Day takes place each year on January 27 to raise awareness about the importance of reading and engaging in other literacy-related activities as a family.

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This year's theme, in honour of Family Literacy Day's 25th anniversary, is let's have a party! Make food, sing songs, and play games. The possibilities for learning are endless.

We will celebrate by having a literacy week January 22-26th. More information to come.

Sackville Food Programs

We know that the cost of food and food insecurity is an issue in our community. Attached is information provided by the Food Security Network to help families access nutritious food in our area.

The Cobequid Food Security Network was established in September 2022. It is a coalition of organizations and individuals working together to advocate to eliminate food insecurity within our community; create opportunities for dignified access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets the dietary needs and food preferences of clients; and enhance community collaboration to improve food security service, education, and awareness.

