

BFEC News

For more information visit our website at bfec@hrce.ca

Follow us on Twitter @BFEC_HRSB



From Mrs. Burton's Desk.

Hi everyone,

It is hard to believe that Spring is just around the corner. I would like to welcome new students to our School and welcome back our returning students as well. It is a busy time for us at BFEC as we plan for Quarter 3 exams and our final Quarter that will begin on April 23. We are wrapping up our Student Success Plan and planning for graduation.

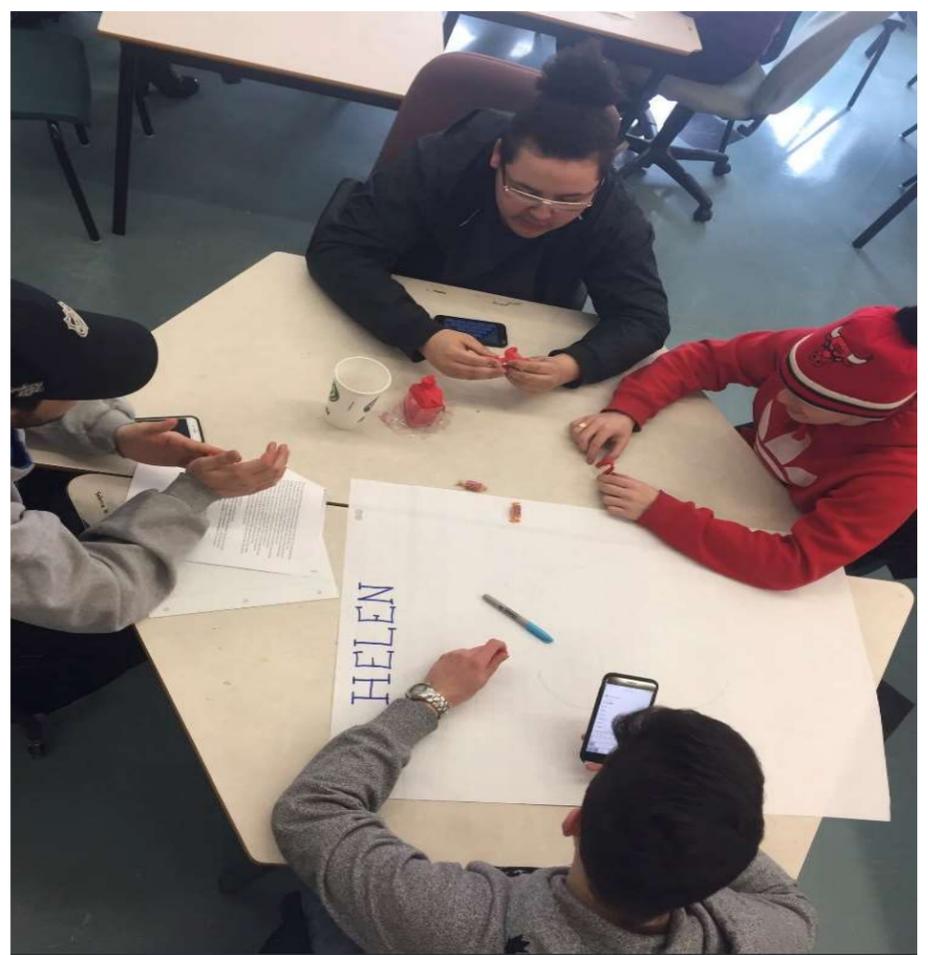
March Break will be a welcomed break for students and staff who have been working hard to be the best they can be (March 18 to March 22).

Please visit our web site and/or visit us at our web site (www.befec.ca) or follow us on Twitter (@BFEC_HRSB).

I can be located through the week at both the Bedford and Dartmouth campuses. My email address is cburton@hrce.ca and my desk number is 902-832-8630, extension 7509.

Quarter 2 Academic Awards:

Congratulations to the thirty students who received Honors, fourteen students who received High Honors and the thirty-five students who received Principal list awards for Quarter 2. That means seventy-nine of our students had an average of 80% or greater!



Celebrating Student Success:

At BFEC we have PEBS draws weekly for students who teachers nominate for positive and effective learning behaviors. We also celebrate Student of the Week and Monthly Attendance with certificates of recognition.



HRCE and Community Information

Partial or Complete School Closures due to Inclement Weather:

Student safety is the first priority of the Halifax Regional Centre for Education (HRCE) when making school cancellation decisions. Our schools will be kept open except under extreme circumstances to provide the option of attendance for all, but the decision to attend school during inclement weather conditions is the responsibility of each family. HRCE staff begins to gather information from various sources starting at 4:30 am. Staff consults with Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) staff on road conditions, local weather services, and Stock Transportation. By 5:30 am, staff makes a recommendation to the Regional Executive Director (RED) based on the information gathered. The RED makes the final decision based on this information. If it is safe to have students and staff on the roads and sidewalks, then schools will be open. If not, all or some schools may be closed depending on the weather and road conditions in different areas of the region. If schools are closed for the day teachers assigned to effected schools will work from home.

For full day closures of all or some schools, the decision will be announced as close to 6:00 am as possible. Announcements will be:

- Posted on the HRCE’s website (www.hrce.ca);
- Posted on the HRCE’s Twitter account (HRCE_NS);
- Recorded on the HRCE’s School Cancellation Information Line 902-464-INFO (4636);
- Shared with subscribers to the region’s email and text notification system; and
- Communicated to local media outlets.

Guidelines for Early School Closure

If conditions deteriorate throughout the day, the RED may close schools early when weather or road conditions are considered to be a threat to the safety of students and staff.

In the event of early school closure due to deteriorating weather conditions, the Director of School Administration (or designate) will send an e-mail to all principals as close to **11:00 AM** as possible regarding information about an early school closure. February 2019

If forecasted inclement weather is imminent later in the day, at **6 a.m.** an announcement could be made to inform parents/ guardians of an early school closure and/or to inform parents/ guardians that a decision will be deferred until no later than **11:00 a.m.** following further examination of developing conditions.



On school days when conditions exist that it is not safe to open schools at the regularly scheduled time but it is predicted that conditions will improve a **2 hour** delayed opening may be considered. Delayed openings would be considered when severe weather has concluded but snow clearing or other operations require additional time. Delayed opening may also be considered when the physical plant is experiencing an issue (power, water) and additional time is required to prepare the facility for opening.

In the event of a delayed opening the following will apply:

- School opening will be delayed 2 hours
- School bus pick up times will be delayed 2 hours
- Student supervision begins 20 minutes before the delayed start time
- Lunch times will not change
- Dismissal time will not change

In the event of a delayed opening, BFEC will be open for at 11:40am.



Intimate Images and Cyber-protection:

The rapid growth of smart phones, social media and the anonymity of the online world has created increasing opportunity for cyberbullying and the unwanted sharing of intimate images. The impacts of these behaviours can be devastating for victims. Supports are available. For more information please visit novascotia.ca/cyberscan . If you believe your child is a victim of cyberbullying, or that an intimate



School Advisory Council:

BFEC’s School Advisory Council meets monthly. The SAC’s main role is to assist the school’s administration in making decisions and to support the work of HRCE and EECD.

BFEC has been granted some funding we are to use to support student achievement. The council has decided that the funds will assist the school’s efforts to provide flexible seating so students can learn in a space that is comfortable and productive. Please stop in to see some of our new purchases.



Healthy Living Grant :



A group of teachers recently applied for a Healthy School Grant and we are excited to share with you that we were successful. We are converting a room at the Dartmouth site and have called our room and program The Falcon Fit Pit. We are offering Yoga and Combat Cardio at noon hours and thank to this grant we will be able to add to our program so our students can be involved in our programs.



Work It Grant:

Out with the old and in with the new! This year the focus of our Workit Grant is the kitchen at the Bedford campus. It has been well loved and used for many years and it's time to brighten it up. The Home Renovation 12 class lead by Mr. Lawlor and Mr. Allen have been hard at work giving the kitchen a fresh, new look. When complete, the kitchen and cabinetry will be given a fresh coat of paint, a new counter top, back splash, sinks, hardware, curtains, you name it! Can't wait to see the finished product!

As well, we have been fortunate to receive a PDAF Grant to help purchase new items for the new kitchen. So far we have purchased a popcorn cart and accessories, 3-D pancake printer, Kitchen Aid and attachments, new pots and pans and various other kitchen accessories. Can't wait to get started cooking in the new space!



Learning at BFEC

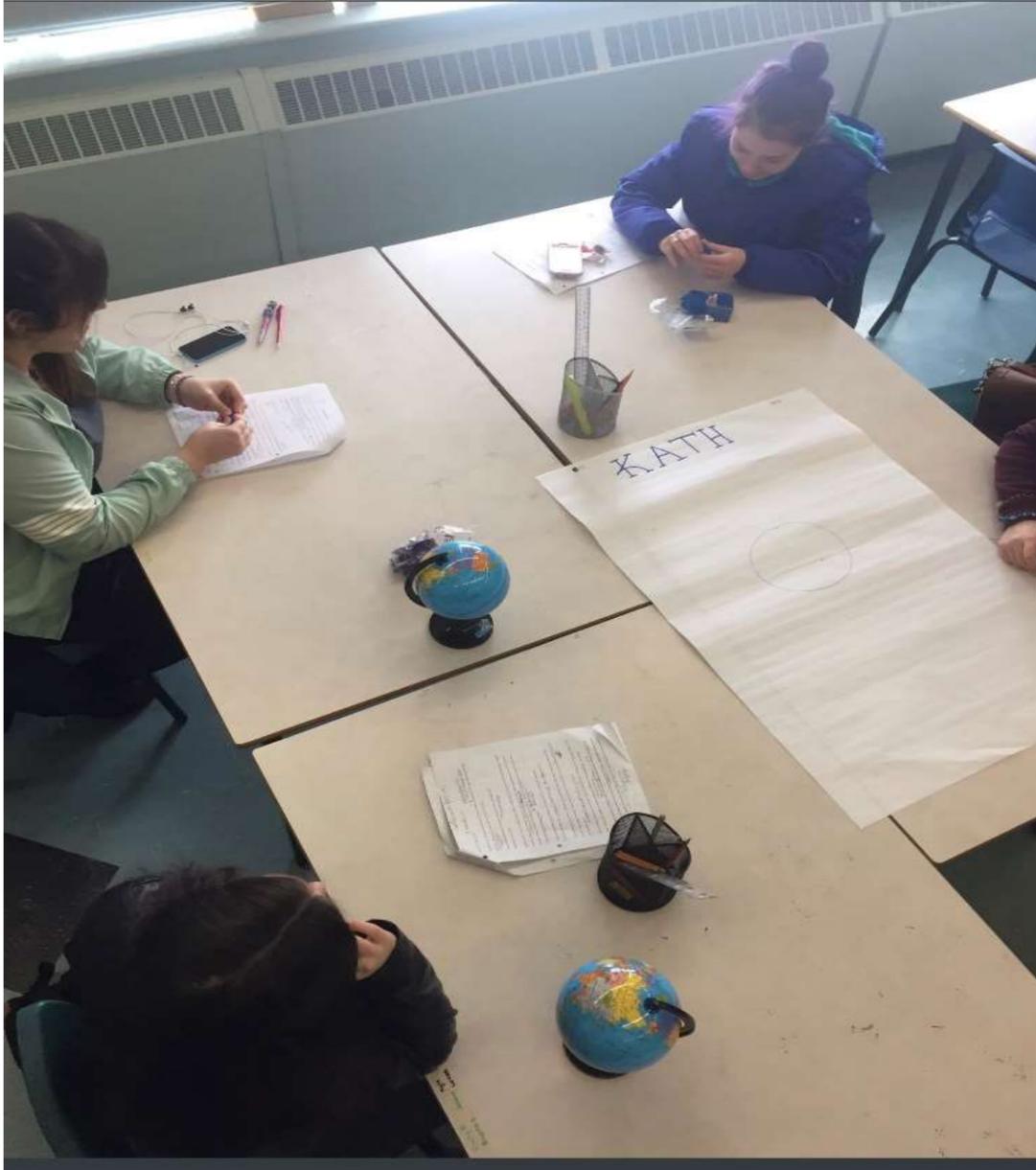
Currently we are running 20 courses between the two campuses. Our students are learning about anything from Food Science, House Design, African Canadian History, English to Math. Students learn in many different ways and our teachers assess learning in different ways. Our teachers are using technology to assess learning through observation and conversation. Ask your teacher about i

THANK YOU to author, advocate and artist, Guyleigh Johnson for stopping into the Dartmouth Campus to share her writing and her journey. She is an inspiration to all of us and we appreciate her willingness to advocate for youth in our community! Grateful!



Food Science Class:





Health Center Update

BFEC is happy to announce that a new Youth Health Center Co-ordinator has been hired. Unfortunately, this person will not begin with us until September. In the meantime, we would like to welcome Sharyn Chapman to our BFEC family. Sharyn is a retired School Health Center Coordinator who last work at Auburn. She will be with us one day per week for the remainder of the school year. For those who have had the privilege of meeting her, her positive energy and smile on her face is appreciated!

In the meantime, if students have an urgent need they are encouraged to visit their Guidance Counsellor or the Social Worker at each campus if they are in need of support.

School Hours

The school doors are open at 9:20 am each morning and there is limited student supervision at this time. Students who arrive to school in the morning are to be in the cafeteria or foyer (Bedford) or in the student lounge (Dartmouth) under teacher supervision. There is no supervision after 3:20 pm each afternoon. All students must be off school premises unless in a school supported extra curricular activity.

What's After Graduation?

What's myBluePrint?

Lots of BFEC students, at both campuses, are up and running on "myBlueprint"! MyBlueprint is a new comprehensive education and career/life planning online program for students that is being implemented across Nova Scotia. This program allows students to discover their learning and personality styles, interests, and motivation factors which lead to job specific compatibility surveys for their occupation matches. There is a high school course planner which allows students to visually plan for graduation requirements and see their eligibility for post-secondary education and employment in Canada. MyBlueprint also includes the most current information about post-secondary opportunities including: specific program requirements, tuition cost, and links to program information allowing students to compare local and province-specific information on apprenticeships, programs. Guidance counsellors, Mr. Mantley and Ms. Ritcey, love talking to students about life after graduation and are excited to keep exploring myBlueprint with BFEC students!



What's After Graduation?

As you make your way through high school, it's important to plan what you are going to do after graduation! There are many options available to you including: heading straight to the work force, attending trades programs, colleges or university. Guidance counsellors Mr. Mantley and Ms. Ritcey can help you with that!

If you have no idea what you would like to do, we can complete some simple assessments of your interests, abilities and skills together that might give you some ideas about suitable career options. If you know what you want to do and where you want to go, we can help with applications, references and looking at funding options.



Stock Bus

Bus Schedule for Bedford Campus

Complimentary Bus Transportation

BFEC has a complimentary shuttle service that runs throughout the day to our Bedford site. Please see the schedule posted on our school website. There is no bussing at our Dartmouth location.

Student Success Planning

Student Success Plan (SSP) is a mandated component of school administration at the Halifax Regional Center for Education as part of realizing the HRCE's belief that all students can learn and all schools can improve.

The process identifies areas for growth within the school in consultation with all stakeholders along the lines of literacy, numeracy and effectiveness within the community. From this consultation, goals are developed with the intent that data will be collected in a variety of ways throughout the year to explore what progress is being made towards reaching these goals and how it can be enhanced.

SSP data is collected by a team of staff members and reported to staff, students and parents/guardians through a number of channels (staff meetings, assemblies, newsletters, email distribution list, website.)

BFEC continues to work on two goals. These are:

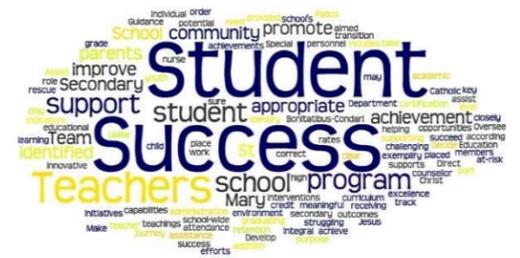
Goal 1: To improve student's ability to effectively communicate their understanding using a variety of forms across all content areas.

Goal 2: To improve student achievement in literacy and mathematics with formative assessments.

Update:

In February, we met as a staff and teacher leaders led the staff through professional development around tools and strategies to support assessment through conversations and observations.

In April, Social Worker Carol Boyd will lead Professional Development around Trauma Informed Practices and Dr. Alexa Bagnell will work with staff around supporting students with anxiety in the school setting.



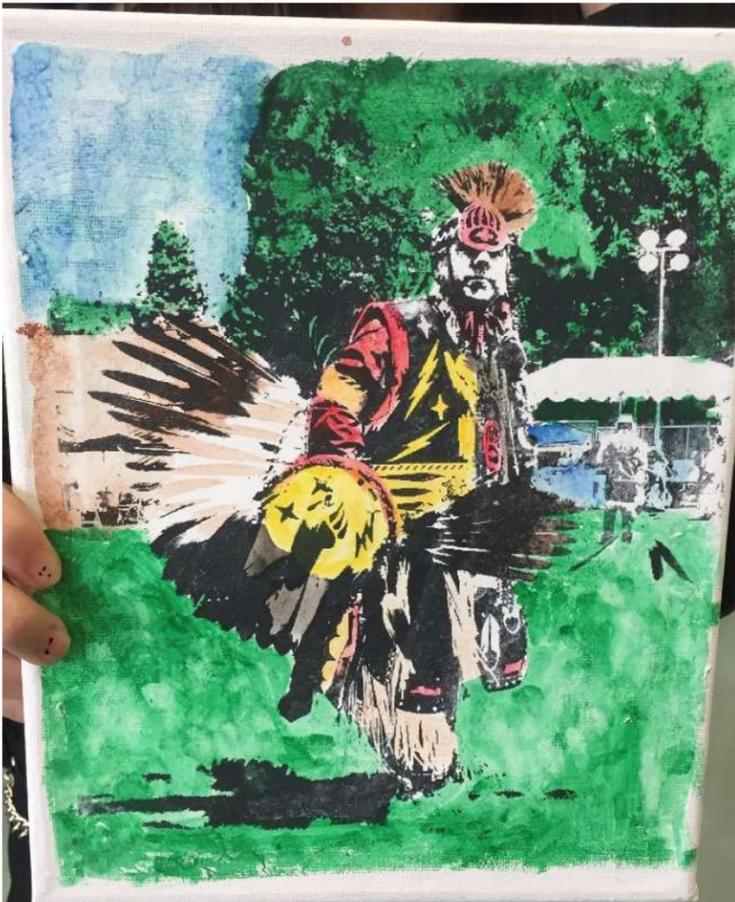
BFEC Breakfast Program:

Bedford and Dartmouth campuses are both running a very healthy and busy breakfast program. Healthy meals to start the day is a great way to fuel learning. We would like to thank all of our supporters and contributors for their continued shared belief around the value of Breakfast! A thank you as well to staff who arrive early and help feed our learners! Thank you! We also have snacks available through the day for our students!

Upcoming Dates

Important Upcoming Dates:

March 12- Course Selection begins
March 18 to 22- March Break
April 4- Quarter 4 Registration Begins
April 17 and 18- Quarter 3 Exams
April 19- Good Friday (no classes)
April 22- Easter Monday (no classes)
April 14- Report Cards distributed.
April 25- Registration for Quarter 4 ends.
April 29- Parent/Guardian and Teacher Meetings 6-8 pm
April 30- Parent/Guardians and Teacher Meetings 1-3pm



Bedford and Forsyth Education Center

Bedford Campus:

426 Rocky Lake Drive
Bedford, NS
B4A 2T5
Phone: (902) 832-8630
Email: bfec@hrce.ca

Dartmouth Campus:

136 Pinecrest Drive
Dartmouth, NS
B3A 2J9
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