

BFEC News

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From the Principal

Hi everyone,

I want to welcome back our returning Falcons and to extend a warm welcome to our new Falcons joining us this Quarter. My name is Cathy Burton and I am the Principal at Bedford and Forsyth Education Centres. Two amazing Vice Principals and an equally amazing staff surround me at BFEC.

This newsletter includes information regarding important dates, events and general information about our school.

Families, parents and guardians can reach out to me through phone or email if you have any questions or interest in school events. My email address is cburton@hrce.ca and my desk number is 902-832-8630, extension 7509.



Academic Awards

Quarter 1

Congratulations to the **sixty** students who received Honors, High Honors or Principal list awards for Quarter 1. That means sixty of our students had an average of 80% or greater!



Quarter 2 Classes Begin

It has been a very busy start to the school year at BFEC! It is hard to believe that Quarter 1 classes have finished and that we are well into Quarter 2.

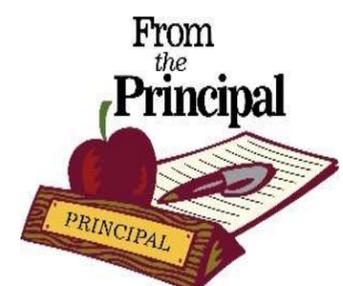
Expectations for students are for regular school attendance, being on time for classes, completing assigned course work and maintaining a positive and safe school environment. We want our students to be proud of their school, their community and to work towards graduation and transitioning to either the workplace or post-secondary options.

The staff of BFEC is here to support the learning and development of our students and to liaise and communicate with parent/guardians about learning. Please, do not hesitate to contact your teachers when you need extra help or support. Our social worker and guidance counsellors are available to support students and families.

I encourage you to log into the PowerSchool Student/Parent portal regularly to check attendance and marks (see Web-Based Student Information System below).

Please make sure that your most up to date address and phone number are in our system. I will be using Twitter, the school website, and School Messenger (the evening phone call system) to communicate with you on a regular basis throughout the school year.

Regards,
Cathy Burton
Principal
BFEC



School Closings and Delays

School Cancellations Due to Weather:

Nova Scotia winter weather can change quickly and can be challenging to predict. Below outlines the steps HRCE take when deciding whether to cancel school and/or bussing.

Guidelines for school and/or bus cancellations due to inclement weather

A 6:00 am announcement could be:

- ❖ All schools are closed for the day
OR
- ❖ Some schools (either individually or by family) are closed for the day
OR
- ❖ All schools are open, but some or all busses are not operating for the day
OR
- ❖ All schools are delayed in opening by 2 hours

If weather deteriorates, or is forecast to worsen throughout the morning:

An 11:00 am announcement could be:

- ❖ Bussed students will be picked up 2 hours earlier than their regular dismissal time
AND
- ❖ Walking students will be dismissed at their regularly scheduled lunch hour

Remember

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

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

- By 4:30 am, 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 to discuss details of forecast, level and type of precipitation and impact on road conditions;
- Stock Transportation consults bus drivers throughout HRM about 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 am, staff make recommendations to the Regional Executive Director (or designate), who makes the final decision and communicates it by 6:00 am.



Where can cancellation information be found?

Website: www.hrce.ca

Twitter: @HRCE_NS

Phone: 902-464-INFO (4636)

Local media outlets

Subscribe to email/text notifications at www.hrce.ca



Holiday Dinner Planning Underway

On December 17th the Dartmouth Campus will host our Holiday Lunch and then on December 19th. Bedford will do the same for their students. In the past this event was held at one site with both campuses coming together. Our numbers have grown significantly in the past few months and as a result we have changed to accommodate this. Besides a lunch there will be activities and "New to You" tables available for all students. This is a free event for all students and it is a lot of fun! We draw for prizes and gift cards throughout the day.

Regular classes take place both before and after the Holiday Lunch.

We are excited and looking forward to a wonderful time together.



General School Information:

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.

Daily Schedule:

9:20-9:40am- Students arrive for Breakfast Program

9:40am- 12:05pm- Morning Class

12:05- 12:40pm- Lunch

12:45- 3:10pm- Afternoon Class

Student Support:

Bedford Campus:

Vice Principal- Jamie Taylor
 Guidance- Lisa Ritcey
 Social Worker- Carol Boyd
 Resource- Elizabeth Sheridan
 YHC- Gina Makadris
 Administrative Assistant: Patsy Bartlett

Dartmouth Campus:

Vice Principal- Joanne Rushton
 Guidance- Shawn Mantley
 Social Worker- Carol Boyd
 Resource- Kathy Howes
 YHC- Gina Makadris
 Administrative Assistant: Annette D'Aguiar



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!



School Advisory Council

BFEC has an active SAC that meet six times each year. The council advises the school Principal throughout the year with school, HRCE and EECD related issues and topics. Please contact Cathy Burton if you are interested to be a part. Guest are welcome. Our next SAC meeting is January 16, 2020 at the Bedford Campus at 3:45pm. Students, parents, guardians, and community members are welcome. Any questions, please reach out to Cathy Burton (cburton@hrce.ca)

Important Upcoming Dates:

Tuesday December 17:

Dartmouth Holiday Lunch

Thursday December 19:

Bedford Holiday Lunch

Friday December 20:

Last Day of classes before Winter Break

Monday January 6:

School Re-opens

Thursday January 16:

Registration begins for Quarter 3

Monday January 27:

Quarter 2 exams begin

Friday January 31:

Assessment and Evaluation Day (no classes)

Monday February 3:

Quarter 3 classes begin

Thursday February 6:

Quarter 2 Report Cards

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



STUDENT LIFE



Bedford and Forsyth Education Center

Bedford Campus:

426 Rocky Lake Drive
Bedford, NS
B4A 2T5

Dartmouth Campus:

136 Pinecrest Drive
Dartmouth, NS
B3A 2J9

Phone: (902) 832-8630
Email: bfec@hrce.ca