

Dear Sunnyside Families,

We are a week away from the first day of the 2023-2024 school year. It is so exciting to be welcoming all our new students and their families to the wonderful Sunnyside Elementary School community, and to be welcoming back all of our returning students and their families. The transition period that begins at the end of August as we are all getting ready to go to school is an energizing time of year.

As you begin to prepare for the school routines, we have information to share with you. We will be sending more information next week and in the following weeks as needed.

Important Upcoming Dates:

September 7	First day of school for students
September 14	Stand Up Against Bullying Day (Pink T-shirt Day)
September 20	SAC meeting (6-7 pm)
September 20	HSA meeting (7-8 pm)
September 28	Curriculum Night
September 29	Orange T-Shirt Day (observed at school)
September 30	Truth and Reconciliation Day
October 2	No school for Truth and Reconciliation Day
October 4	School Picture Day

How do I contact the school?

210 Eaglewood Dr. Bedford, NS (Eaglewood)

21 Perth St. Bedford, NS (Fort Sackville)

Main Office: 902-832-8983

Safe Arrival: 1-833-582-6940

Website: <https://sss.hrce.ca/>

Email: sunnyside@hrce.ca

Twitter: @SunnysideEleme1

How do I find out what class my child is in?

Teachers will be emailing families of their students early next week to inform them of their placement. You can also check PowerSchool after 3 pm on Sept. 1 when the parent/guardian portal reopens. If you do not have a PowerSchool account, or have forgotten your password, the instructions to reset your password are linked on the Powerschool site. Be aware, that we may need to make changes after Powerschool opens. Please wait until you hear from your child's teacher to share their placement information with them.

The creation of class lists is always a collaborative task. Teachers, including classroom, specialists, and support staff, worked closely together to balance our classes last spring. They take many factors into account when making up lists, including class caps, strengths and needs of each student, healthy peer support, etc. We cannot accommodate requests for class changes at this time; however, if you have a concern about your child's success at school this year, please reach out to the teacher once you know which class your child is in.

How do I know what supplies to send with my child?

Supply lists are available on the school website here:

<https://sss.hrce.ca/sss/parents/supply-lists-2023-2024>

Our Home and School Association is providing most of the school supplies for students this year. We greatly appreciate their support. If you have any difficulties finding any of the school supplies, please contact the school and we will ensure that your child has all required items.

What are the school hours?

Our school hours have changed slightly this year.

FORT SACKVILLE SITE

8:45—Earliest students can arrive

9:05—Classes begin

12:05-1:10—Lunch

3:10—Dismissal

EAGLEWOOD SITE

8:55—Earliest students can arrive

9:15—Classes begin

12:15-1:00—Lunch

3:00—Dismissal

How do I know what bus my child will be taking?

You have or will be receiving communication from BusPlanner to inform you of your child's bus routes and times. As we have 2 sites, we work with the transportation department to communicate which students will be attending each site to ensure they know who needs to be dropped off and picked up at each site. All buses will be going to both sites each day.

What do I do if my child is going to be absent or late for school?

Families are asked to report student absences (and lates) through School Messenger. You can: (1) phone a toll-free number, (2) login to School Messenger or (3) download an app to report your child's absence from school and these options are available 24 hrs/day. If your child is marked absent and you have not reported the absence by 9:30, you will receive an automated phone call advising you of the absence. You can respond to the call excusing your child. The school will follow up by phone for any un-reported absences after that. If your child is going to be arriving late to school (after 9:20), please report them absent on School Messenger for the day and we will adjust it when they arrive at school.

Please see the attached information on the three ways to report a child's absence. When you download the app, you must use the email address you have provided to the school.

How can I get involved in the school?

School Advisory Council: The SAC is a group of parents/guardians, staff and community members who meet a minimum of 4 times/year to discuss issues pertinent to school life. They are an advisory council to the principal. This year we have 1 parent/guardian position to fill. In accordance with our by-laws, it must be filled with a parent/guardian of a student at the Fort Sackville site. If you are interested in learning more, you can contact Ms. Thompson at cthompson@hrce.ca or attend our first meeting at Eaglewood on Sept. 20th at 6 pm.

Lunch Monitors: We are actively recruiting lunch monitors for the Eaglewood site. It is a paid position of 1 hour/day (\$15/hr + 4% vacation pay) from 12:10-1:05. If you are interested please contact Ms. MacDonald at macdonaldn@hrce.ca. We are willing to hire full-time and part-time monitors to accommodate your schedule.

Home and School Association: Our HSA is a group of interested parents/guardians and school staff who work together to fundraise for and

provide enhanced activities and opportunities for our students. All parents/guardians are welcome to participate in our meetings. Meetings take place at the school and are advertised in our school newsletters. You can contact our HSA via email at Sunnysidehsa@gmail.com.

Volunteering: If you are interested in volunteering at any point at the school, you must submit to the school office a recent (completed within the past 6 months) Child Abuse Registry and Criminal Records Check with Vulnerable Sector Check. The office can help you with the appropriate forms.

We wish you a wonderful final week of summer. See you next Thursday!