

# Admiral Westphal Elementary School

NEWSLETTER

MI'KMAW

OCTOBER 2025

WIKEWIKU'S HISTORY MONTH OCTOBER

*Hello AWES Families...*

It is hard to believe the first month of school is now behind us! It has been wonderful getting to know everyone over the past few weeks. The AWES community is truly AWESome!

With the arrival of October we will be celebrating Mi'Kmaq history month here at AWES. The theme this year is Storytelling and Storytellers.

We are also looking forward to our school wide apple picking trip on Oct. 17<sup>th</sup>.

Please reach out should you every have questions or concerns.

N. MacDonald

Contact AWES...

**902-435-8305**

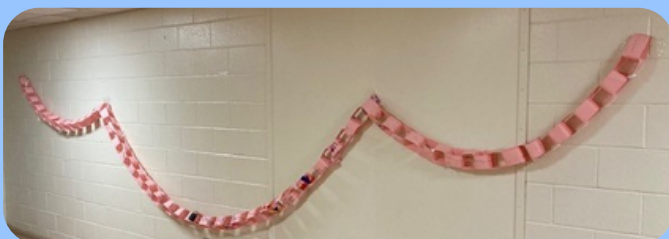
**[awes@hrce.ca](mailto:awes@hrce.ca)**

**<https://awe.hrce.ca/>**



## Stand Up to Bullying Day!

Students participated in an anti-bullying assembly on September 11<sup>th</sup> and created this amazing paper chain in the spirit of kindness!



## Upcoming...

6th-17<sup>th</sup> - Grade 6 Provincial Assessment  
10<sup>th</sup> - Photo Day  
13<sup>th</sup> - Holiday (No School)  
17<sup>th</sup> - School Apple Picking Trip  
21<sup>st</sup> - SAC Meeting  
24<sup>th</sup> - Conference Day (No School)



# WE NEED YOUR VOICE!

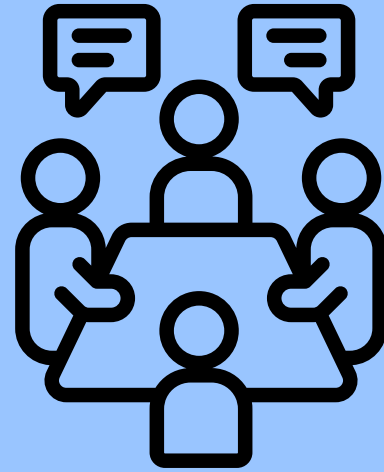
Have you considered joining our School Advisory Council?

## What is a School Advisory Council (SAC)?

SACs bring together school stakeholders and individuals from the community who share an interest in promoting student success.

They provide parents/guardians, school staff, community members and when appropriate, students, with a voice to influence decisions that have an impact on student learning and well-being.

As advisory bodies, SAC's bring partners together to provide schools and principals with advice that reflects the best interests of students from the point of view of the school community.



## When does the SAC meet?

We generally meet monthly at 6:00 PM.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 21<sup>st</sup> and will be held virtually.

*Watch for the link in an email the morning of the meeting. If you are interested in the SAC simply attend the meeting.*



## Would you like to volunteer?

If you would like to volunteer at the school (including chaperoning trips), there are two documents that we require to have in file...

**1)** A completed Child Abuse Register search, which can be found [here](#). As of June 2025, digital confirmations are available for Child Abuse Register checks. For more information, click [here](#).

**2)** A certified and true copy of a Criminal Records Check with Vulnerable Sector Check available [here](#), from your local Police or RCMP detachment or through online organizations endorsed by Nova Scotia law enforcement agencies

Please note: the Child Abuse Register Search and Criminal Records Check must be issued in the three months preceding volunteering and updated every three years.



## It's that time of year...



### 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](http://www.hrce.ca)
- On X (formerly Twitter) at [twitter.com/hrce\\_ns](https://twitter.com/hrce_ns)
- On Instagram at [instagram.com/hrce\\_ns](https://instagram.com/hrce_ns)



**Halifax**  
Regional Centre for Education

**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.**

[Please click here For further information on these guidelines.](#)



# O Canada in Schools

In September, the Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development shared a new provincial policy about the playing of our national anthem in schools. You can read it [here](#). In keeping with this policy, we play O Canada at the beginning of each school day in our school. If you have any questions, please reach out to the school office.

*Some amazing Turtles created by P/1 Oldreive*

