



Beaver Bank Kinsac News



Principal: Kelly Clarke
Vice Principal: Heather Day
Admin. Assistant: Tammy MacLellan

28 Kinsac Rd, Beaver Bank, NS
Email bbks@hrce.ca
Phone (902) 864-6805
<https://bbk.hrce.ca>

February 2023



Dates To Remember

Wed., Feb. 1 – Registration for 2023/24 begins
Mon., Feb. 13 – Lockdown Drill
Tues., Feb. 14 – Valentine's Day
Mon., Feb. 20 – Heritage Day (honouring Rita Joe) – No School
Wed., Feb. 22 – SAC Meeting



We would like to extend a HUGE THANK YOU to...

- The Knights of Columbus for their generous cash donation to our Breakfast Club. This money helps us provide fresh fruit, yogurt, cheese and granola bars to our students every day!



African Heritage Month

February is African Heritage Month! This year's theme, *Seas of Struggle – African Peoples from Shore to Shore*, recognizes the resiliency, strength, and determination of people of African descent from the shores of Africa to the shores of Nova Scotia – with the Atlantic Ocean being the everlasting connection.

Learn more [here](#).

Looking for ways to recognize and celebrate African Heritage Month?

- Attend events happening throughout the month at your local [Halifax Public Library](#).
- While you're at the library, [borrow books](#) that will inspire the whole family to learn more about African heritage.
- Visit local heritage sites, such as the [Black Cultural Centre](#), [the Africville Museum](#), and the [Black Loyalist Heritage Centre](#).

February is Registration Month!

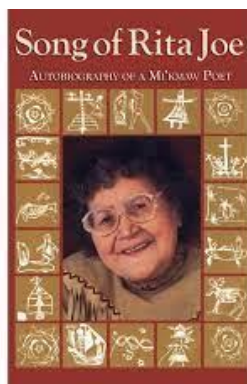
Effective February 1, 2023, we will be accepting registrations for the 2023-2024 school year through our new online portal, PowerSchool Enrollment.

Tip: Before you begin, make sure you have the following documents in electronic form (image, PDF or Word document):

- Proof of identity/age with one of the following: birth certificate, passport, immigration papers, or legal adoption papers) if you are new to the HRCE;
- Proof of home address (a recently dated official government or utility document with your current address that includes your name and date, such as water bill, power bill, internet bill, home fuel bill, a tax receipt, property assessment or a mortgage contract); and
- Nova Scotia Health Card or Canadian Province Health Card or, for non-citizens while in Canada, proof of Medical Insurance Information.

Visit the [HRCE website](#) for more information and to enrol your child today!

Don't have a child to register? Maybe you know someone who does! Please help us spread the word and pass this information on to friends, neighbours or relatives who will be looking to register for the fall.



February 20 is Heritage Day

This year's Heritage Day honours Elder Rita (Bernard) Joe, a member of the We'koqma'q Mi'kmaq Community and published author, who was instrumental in paving the way for other Mi'kmaq authors.

Her greatest wish was to see more writings come from her people and “that the children would read it.”

Learn more [here](#).

Reminder that there are no classes on Monday, February 20 in honour of Heritage Day.



Parent/Teacher Association

The Parent/Teacher Association (PTA) is a group of family members and school staff who work together to plan fun school events and raise money to support learning. If you are interested in joining our PTA, please email Kelly Clarke at kclarke@hrce.ca.



School Advisory Council

The School Advisory Council (SAC) is a committee of parents, school staff and community members who meet a minimum of six times per year. Each school is mandated by the Education Act to have an SAC to advise the administration on educational matters. Our SAC chair is Patricia Sabourin. You can reach her via email at hrce-sac-bbk@gnsps.ca. For more information about our SAC you can check us out here: <https://bbk.hrce.ca/bbk/school-advisory-council/20212022-bbk-sac>

Our next meeting will be held virtually on Wed., Feb. 22 @ 6:00.



Winter is Coming: Guidelines for Inclement Weather

Making the decision to alter the regular operations of school and/or school buses due to inclement weather is never an easy task. To learn more about how the Halifax Regional Centre for Education (HRCE) makes this call, visit www.hrce.ca/weather.

When is the decision made?

HRCE's goal is to make the decision as close to 6 a.m. as possible.

A 6 a.m. announcement could be:

- All schools are delayed in opening by two hours and all 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 the weather deteriorates through the school day, the HRCE can decide to dismiss early. In the event of an early dismissal, the decision will be communicated as close to 11 a.m. as possible.

An 11 a.m. dismissal means:

- 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.

Please Note: students in Grades Primary to 6 will not be released from school until parents/guardians or designates have been notified by the school.

How will families be notified?

- Families will receive an email and text message (*opt-in is required: text Y to 978338*)*
 - Check our website at www.hrce.ca
 - Follow us on Twitter at [@HRCE_NS](https://twitter.com/HRCE_NS)
- Call the HRCE information line at 902-464-INFO (4636)
 - All local radio stations are informed

[Click here](#) for a printable PDF of our guidelines.

**If you know someone who is NOT a parent/guardian who would like to receive an email and/or text message, let them know they can sign up here: www.hrce.ca/notifications*

BusPlanner
EASY-TO-USE
AND EFFICIENT SOLUTION



BusPlanner Text Messaging

Does your child ride the bus? We are excited to introduce text messaging through BusPlanner!

To ensure compliance with Canadian Anti-Spam laws, you must opt-in to receive information by text message. You can opt-in by logging into [BusPlanner Parent Portal](#). By opting in, you will receive texts from BusPlanner, including late notifications, general notices, and bus cancellations due to inclement weather.

Click [here](#) for directions on how to opt-in.

Don't have a BusPlanner Parent Portal account? Need help logging in? Please contact the HRCE Student Transportation Team at transportation@hrce.ca or call 902-431-4723.



Student Supervision

This is a reminder to families that student supervision begins at 8:05 in the morning.

Safe Arrival

Buses begin arriving in our parking lot at 8:05. Students enter the building and go directly to their classrooms. We recommend that students who are being dropped off arrive between 8:20 and 8:25. The bell will ring at 8:25, we will play O'Canada, share the morning announcements, teachers will

complete their attendance and classes will begin. Students arriving after 8:25 will be late and will need to check in at the office before heading to class.



Parking Lot Safety

Our school parking lot has become very busy and less safe for our students with both cars and buses trying to let students off in the mornings. We are very concerned that this traffic will result in someone getting hurt. In an effort to maximize student safety please:

- Do not park in the school parking lot
- Let students out of cars onto the sidewalk in the kiss-and-go lane
 - Follow the arrows and other markings on the road
- Do not pass buses in the loop – wait behind them until the students have been let off the bus and the bus has pulled away

We sincerely appreciate your help with creating a safe school yard for all of our students and staff.



Schools Plus

Schools Plus staff are here to support Beaver Bank Kinsac Elementary families.

We can:

- Help get answers to your questions.
- Connect you with services that can make a difference for your family.
 - Help you fill out forms.
- Help you apply for funding (to help pay for things like recreation programs or eyeglasses).
 - Support you during a stressful time.
- Help you get ready for a meeting with a school, agency, landlord, etc. We'll help you feel prepared and have a voice.
- Work with you and school staff to help your child be successful!

SchoolsPlus services are free and confidential.

Contact your Schools Plus Community Outreach, Rachel Murray, to see if she is the right fit for you and your family: Rachel.Murray@hrce.ca



Information

Please follow us on Twitter @bbkinsac and on our website at <https://bbk.hrce.ca> for information and updates. You will find contact information for our school staff on our website. Please feel free to contact us anytime!