

REGIONAL UPDATE

From the TCRCE Regional Executive Director of Education



Tri-County
Regional Centre for Education



TAP (Technology Advantage Program) students attended the Halifax TAP Conference, where they practiced coding meme generators, planning design, pitching ideas to other students, learned about data analytics, and problem-solved. A great experience for everyone involved.

IMPORTANT DATES!

Monday November 11—Remembrance Day—No School
 Thursday, November 14—CLT Day—Early Dismissal
 Thursday, November 21—Elementary/MGEC Grading Day/
 High School PD Day
 Thursday, November 28—CLT Day—Early Dismissal

What's Inside?

- ◆ Message from the RED
- ◆ Data Walls
- ◆ Cross-Country Running
- ◆ WE Day
- ◆ Student Vote
- ◆ Literacy & Math

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**Please subscribe to our
YouTube channel.**





MESSAGE FROM THE REGIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Hello, everyone.

It is hard to believe that November is already upon us. The school year goes by very fast. We had a busy month of October in the Tri-County Region, with many learning activities happening in our schools.

As I mentioned in a previous update, we recently released our System Improvement Plan. It can be found [on the tcrce.ca website](https://www.tcrce.ca). We are now in the process of implementing the various actions identified in the plan. Our goal is to improve both academic achievement and well-being for every student in TCRCE, and we feel intentionally implementing the actions outlined in the plan will assist greatly in reaching this goal.

One specific action that will be completed this month in TCRCE is a new support structure for how TCRCE schools address racialized language. This action is identified within the System Improvement Plan as “Leading the implementation of a defined process schools will use to address racialized language”. Our Diversity Team has been working hard at creating specific supports schools can use when responding to racism and racialized language. We know this is an area of growth for TCRCE, and we are addressing it. This is part of our work at becoming more culturally responsive and inclusive. I am excited for everyone to see the final product.

I would again encourage everyone to follow us on social media. We are active on Facebook and Twitter, and also have a Youtube channel. Links can be found on the tcrce.ca website.

Dr. Chris Boulter

DATA WALLS

The implementation of data walls across the Tri-County Regional Centre for Education is another action within our System Improvement Plan. In our last Regional Update, we described what data walls were, and why they were important to increasing student achievement. Data walls focus all staff on recent evidence of how our students are doing, and brings the conversation back to the question “How do we know?”. Staff then plan intentional next steps for instruction.

All TCRCE schools have either completed the construction of their data wall, or are very close to doing so. We are now transitioning from constructing data walls to deliberately using them to inform our instruction. During Collaborative Learning Team (CLT) days, teachers will start by examining their data wall. This shows where each student currently is, and drives collaborative conversations about immediate next steps. It then tracks whether next steps have been successful. The data wall becomes a tool to ensure staff have intentional conversations about how they are planning instruction for every student, and what their next steps are. We believe this will support our System Improvement Plan goals of increasing student achievement and well being.





TCRCE hosted Cross-Country Regionals on October 21st, when River Hills Country Club generously donated their clubhouse and course for the day. Many of our schools were able to send teams on to Provincials in Trenton on October 28th, where they met up with their peers over some long hills and fast flats. Way to go, students!



October 16 saw 420 TCRCE students attend We Day Atlantic in Halifax. An annual celebration of youth empowerment and community activism, We Day brings together thousands of students and teachers from around the Maritimes to further social change in the classroom and the community. A huge thank you to our students, staff, volunteers, and our transportation department for helping everything run smoothly.



STUDENT VOTE CANADA 2019



TCRCE students joined more than 1 million of their peers across the country taking part in Student Vote Canada 2019. Learning about the electoral process in Canada, different political parties, and how to be an informed citizen, they went to the polls! We heard lots of conversations around issues that matter to students, and were thrilled with the engagement and level of debate and discussion.

READ ALL ABOUT IT

LITERACY

DES students taking part in the October reading challenge!

FRA students learning to be reading coaches

**DID YOU KNOW?
READ 20 MINUTES A DAY
AND YOU'LL READ 1,800,000
WORDS PER YEAR!**

STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

TCRCE students get to work with a variety of math strategies—number sense, patterning, probability... you name it! Students receive at least one hour of math instruction each day. 60 minutes...3600 seconds... 4.167 % of the day...

KEEPING YOU INFORMED

ADDITIONAL INFO FROM THE REGION AND THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

SCHOOLSPLUS EXPANSION—AVAILABLE PROVINCE WIDE

Quick Facts:

- as of September, SchoolsPlus services 370 schools
- the program has 41 facilitators/social workers and 84 community outreach workers
- SchoolsPlus also has 53.5 mental health clinicians, who are employed by the Nova Scotia Health Authority or IWK
- government has invested \$30 million over the past two years to support 364 inclusive education specialists, including SchoolsPlus staff
- the total investment in SchoolsPlus is \$11.8 million



SchoolsPlus helps children, youth and families connect to a range of programs by working with school staff and other partners. In addition to mental health services, supports include mentoring, after-school programs, homework support, youth groups and parenting supports.

Additional Resources:

Inclusive Education Supports:

<https://www.ednet.ns.ca/inclusiveeducation>

SchoolsPlus : <https://www.ednet.ns.ca/schoolsplus/>

VOLUNTEER



A new provincial policy sets out who can lead and supervise extracurricular activities. Under this policy, principals can assign a registered volunteer to lead and supervise extracurricular school activities, without requiring a staff member to be present. We welcome school community members to volunteer in schools! If you would like to volunteer, please contact your school's principal to

Have an idea on how to stop vaping at your school?



NOVA SCOTIA

Help curb vaping at your school! The Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development is offering each high school council \$500 to create an approach for students, by students. If you have an idea, talk to your student council before December 20th.

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Reminder: with winter approaching, remember to check our website or Twitter feed, or listen to your local radio station, for updates around school cancellations due to weather or road conditions.

