



NOVEMBER · KEPTEKEWIKU'S · NOVEMBRE · 2021



REGIONAL UPDATE

Monthly Newsletter of the Tri-County Regional Centre for Education



Postcards for Military Members

The grade 3/4 students at Lockport Elementary School designed and wrote postcards to serving military members for Remembrance Day. The postcards are being sent to Halifax, Ontario, and British Columbia.

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A Message from the Acting Regional Executive Director

I'd like to first introduce myself. My name is Jared Purdy and I am TCRCE's Acting Regional Executive Director. As we recently shared, Dr. Chris Boulter accepted a position with the Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. I am honoured to have this opportunity to serve the Tri-Counties and looking forward to continuing to build positive relationships.

I was born and raised in the town of Yarmouth and am now raising my family here. I've been a classroom teacher, a teaching vice principal, and was the principal at Yarmouth Central School for eight years. More recently, I served as TCRCE's Coordinator of Programs and Assessment (P-12), and for the past two years, was the Director of Programs and Student Services. In all of these roles, I have remained committed to equity, student achievement, and well-being. These will continue to be my driving forces as I lead the TCRCE team.

There have been some other changes to the TCRCE leadership team as well. I'd like to congratulate Janece McNutt who has moved into the Acting Director of Programs and Student Services role. Janece has more than 25 years experience in the school system and is an extraordinary instructional coach. We are very lucky to have her here in TCRCE.

As well, I'd like to welcome Don Berry, who has joined our leadership team as Coordinator of School Climate and Administrative Support. Don is very well known in the Yarmouth area, working for more than 40 years in local schools. Don has recently left his principal role at Yarmouth Consolidated Memorial High School and while I know the school community will miss him immensely, we are thrilled to welcome Don. CBC recently visited YCMHS and aired [this story on Don's last days at the school](#). If you haven't already seen it, it's worth the watch.

It's important we have strong and diverse voices on our leadership team. I recognize this is an area where we have been lacking and we have much work to do as it relates to anti-discrimination and anti-racism. Now, with the presence of an African Nova Scotian leader who also has experience as a school-based administrator, we are laying the foundation for the road ahead. Don's leadership skills as well as his deep-rooted connection to the ANS community, will help create systemic change and will in turn, have a positive impact on students, families, staff, and communities.

I invite you to learn more about both Janece and Don on the next page. I look forward to sharing the terrific work happening in our region, both in schools, and in our communities. We will continue to introduce you to TCRCE staff members each month in this newsletter, share sneak peeks inside our classrooms, and provide updates on the work we are completing to achieve our goals. You can also follow us on social media to receive the most up to date info on the region.

Sincerely,

Jared Purdy

Acting Regional Executive Director
Tri-County Regional Centre for Education



Upcoming dates to remember:

November 18, 2021 -
CLT (90 minute early dismissal)

November 25, 2021 -
Grading/PD & Parent/Teacher Day (no school)

December 2, 2021 -
Elementary/Maple Grove grading & classification day (no school for these students)

MEET OUR TEAM

EACH MONTH WE INTRODUCE YOU TO OUR TCRCE STAFF MEMBERS



Don Berry
**Coordinator of School Climate
& Administrative Support**

Don has worked as an educator for more than forty years. He is well known in the Yarmouth community where he was the principal at the former Yarmouth Junior High School and most recently, principal at Yarmouth Consolidated Memorial High School, where he worked for more than nine years. Don is also an active community volunteer and highly regarded among his peers. Don says he has passed on previous opportunities to join the regional leadership team because the timing just didn't feel right. Now, as he nears the end of his career, it's time for him to share his experience and leadership.

"My new role will be on an interim basis and my main responsibility will be improving TCRCE's work as it relates to anti-discrimination and anti-racism and building capacity with our current tri-county administrators. We have a lot of work to do and I'm excited to help lead the way."



Janece McNutt
Acting Director Programs & Student Services

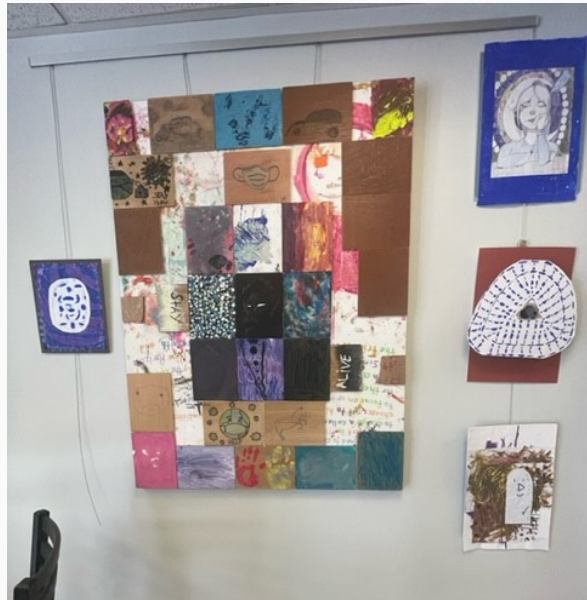
Over the last 27 years, Janece has been a teacher in all three of the Tri-Counties at both elementary and secondary levels. She was a principal for nearly two decades in Digby Neck, Yarmouth Central, and St Mary's Bay Academy. Most recently, Janece was a Coordinator at TCRCE working closely with Administrators and supporting Programs, Assessment and Student Success Planning. Janece is also very involved in the Educational Leadership Consortium of Nova Scotia, facilitating the professional development for the provincial Aspiring Leaders Program.

"I'm most looking forward to continuing to work closely with schools with a particular focus on school administration, programs and services. I have always enjoyed learning from new opportunities!"

Student Art on Display at Mariners on Main

We are thrilled to see TCRCE student artwork on display in the new Mariners on Main. The revamped fitness and aquatics centre recently opened in Yarmouth. TCRCE teachers and students were invited to create artwork around the theme of "healthy bodies, healthy minds."

The first artwork on display is from Shelburne Regional High School and Drumlin Heights. We are looking forward to using this space to show the artwork of our students as this will be a rotating art display with various schools and themes.



Intensive French Immersion Program Now Accepting Registrations

Looking for government-funded opportunities for students to learn or improve their French? Want your child to boost their self-confidence, gain independence, and develop new skills?

Explore is an intensive French-immersion program that is offered during the spring and summer for students aged 13+. With host institutions across the country, participants can experience francophone culture while traveling and connecting with others like them. The classes are assigned by skill level, so participants are bound for success. Along with class time, Explore offers workshops, excursions and trips to the must see attractions of the area, as well as free time!

Visit the [official languages programs website](#) for more information about this amazing opportunity and to access the application portal. The early-bird deadline for applications is February 15th! If you have any questions, please reach out to Nova Scotia's promotion agent of the programs, Caroline Hitchcock – caroline.hitchcock@novascotia.ca, 902-424-8352.



Remembrance Day Highlights



Students at Evelyn Richardson Memorial Elementary School participate in a Remembrance Day ceremony (pictured above).

Hillcrest Academy's Remembrance Day display (pictured left).



Under the guidance of Darren Muise, an Immersion teacher at Maple Grove Education Centre and a Reservist, MGEC students recently marked the grave sites of hundreds of Veterans at two local cemeteries (pictured above).

Artwork on display at Plymouth School (pictured left).

Spotlight on Schools



For Halloween, many Drumlin Heights staff dressed up as cards from a popular game. All their cards said common phrases heard in their classes daily!



Barrington Municipal High School 02 students were hard at work doing odd jobs around the school, including painting the gazebo, cleaning out brush along the walking trail, and building a yoga mat storage unit. Well done! (Pictured above).

Students in Math 10 at Shelburne Regional High School are pictured here completing a math lab outside. Students used a clinometer to measure inaccessible heights (pictured left).

Spotlight on Schools



DRHS Transportation Trades 11 students receive a tour of Tri-Star Industries and learn they make much more than ambulances! (Pictured above).

TCRCE would like to thank Dooly's in Yarmouth for donating \$5,000 to TCRCE's Breakfast Program (pictured left).



Food & Nutrition 8 students at Shelburne Regional High School roast chickpeas in the food lab (pictured above).

Maple Grove Education Centre's data wall that measures regulated behaviour, engagement, and learning for 540 students (pictured left).



Collaborative Learning Time is a valuable opportunity for teachers to dive into student work, develop a goal and then take action steps to move students forward. Here's a group of teachers at Weymouth Consolidated School taking part in their CLT.

Collaborative Learning Time

You may notice, the return of CLT time on this year's school calendar. For those who are new to the school system, CLT (or Collaborative Learning Time) is time for our teachers and support staff to engage in professional learning, in a collaborative environment.

During CLT, staff are organized into small groups (based on grade, subject, etc.) and work together to discuss curriculum, explore best practices, and review student data, while maintaining a focus on both school and regional improvement plans.

To allow staff the opportunity to participate in this collaborative learning, our schools have embedded this time into the school day. On eight days of this school year, the school day has been reduced by 90 instructional minutes for students. To ensure your child doesn't miss any instructional time, all other school days have been extended by an average of 7 to 10 minutes for the entire school year.

Upcoming CLT days:

Thursday, November 18, 2021

Thursday, December 16, 2021

Thursday, January 20, 2022

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NOW HIRING

We have immediate openings for part-time and full-time positions including:

- School Psychologist - Permanent
- Substitute Teachers
- Alternate Sub Teachers (Bachelor Degree)
- Early Childhood Educators - casual
- Teacher Assistants - term & casual
- Administrative Assistants - casual

www.tcrce.ca/employment

Have you signed up for SchoolCash Online yet?

SchoolCash Online as our preferred method of payment for school fees, including everything from field trips to yearbooks to lunches.

SchoolCash Online helps parents and community members pay school-related fees safely, quickly, and easily. By using SchoolCash Online, you help increase efficiency and security at your school by making payments directly into your school's bank account. This allows teachers and administrative assistants to focus on helping students, and not counting cash. In addition, you are immediately informed about school activities.

Registering for SchoolCash Online is safe, simple, secure. Create an account today at <https://tcrce.schoolcashionline.com/>

- Be ready to receive email notifications of new fees or items available for purchase, including field trips, yearbooks, spirit wear, athletic fees, and more.
- Be ready to pay for school fees anytime, anywhere, with a simple click.
- Keep track of school items and activity fees, and manage all students in your household from one location.
- Have online access to your account history and view and print receipts.

Securely pay for
school items &
fees 24/7

[Log in](#)

SchoolCash Online

Literally Nutritious Recipe

Watch a Video with Recipe Instructions



Lentil & Root Vegetable Stew

Prep Time: 20 minutes
Cook Time: 6 hours



You Will Use

- 1 ½ Cups (375 mL) Turnip, peeled and chopped into 1 inch cubes
- 1 Cup (250 mL) Sweet potato or potato, chopped into 1 inch cubes
- 1 Onion, cut into ½ inch strips
- 2 Carrots, peeled and chopped
- 1 Bell pepper, seeded and chopped into 1 inch cubes
- 1 Cup (250 mL) Dried red lentils
- 3 ½ Cups (875 mL) Vegetable broth
- ½ tsp (2.5 mL) Dried oregano
- ⅓ tsp (0.6 mL) Red pepper flakes
- 1 Tbsp (15 mL) Vegetable oil
- Salt and pepper to taste

You Will Need

- Cutting board
- Knife
- Slow cooker
- Mixing spoon
- Vegetable peeler
- Measuring spoons
- Measuring cups



1. Wash and prepare vegetables: (a) peel and chop turnips, (b) peel and chop (sweet) potato, (c) cut onions, (d) peel and chop carrots.



1. Wash and prepare vegetables (continued): (e) seed and chop bell pepper.
2. Combine vegetables, broth, lentils, oregano and red pepper flakes in slow cooker and mix.
3. Cover and cook on LOW for 6 hours. At the end of cook time, stir in oil, salt and pepper.



4. Serve and enjoy.

COVID-19 Daily Checklist

It is important to closely monitor your health and the health of those you care for to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 and other illnesses like the flu.

Vaccination is your best defense against COVID-19 and some other illnesses like the flu.

1

Do you feel sick?

If yes, stay home or put a mask on right away and go home. Keep doing healthy habits like washing your hands and coughing or sneezing into your elbow. Avoid school, work, child care settings and public spaces. Do not return until you feel better (without fever medications) for at least 24 hours. It's ok if you still have a mild cough or runny nose, unless you are in one of the situations below.

2

In the past 48 hours, have you had, or are you currently experiencing:



Cough (new or worsening)

OR two or more of the following symptoms (new or worsening);



Fever
(i.e. chills/sweats)



Sore
throat



Runny nose/
nasal congestion

If yes, go home or stay home as noted above. Book a [COVID-19 test online](#). If you are unable to book a test online, call 811. You are required to self-isolate while awaiting your test result. If you test positive, follow public health instructions.

3

Have you visited a COVID-19 exposure site?

Check the list of [COVID-19 exposure sites](#) and follow Public Health instructions. You may need to be tested. You may also need to self-isolate.

4

Have you been outside Nova Scotia in the past 14 days?

If yes, check if you are required to [isolate due to travel](#).

5

Has Public Health told you that you are a close contact of a COVID-19 case?

If yes, follow Public Health instructions. You may need to be tested. You may also need to self-isolate.