## **Back to School Information**

2025-26

#### **School Calendar**

TCRCE's 2025-26 School Calendar can be found here: <a href="https://www.tcrce.ca/calendar">www.tcrce.ca/calendar</a>

#### **New Website**

TCRCE will be launching a new website this September. Designed for everyone: our new site will meet accessibility standards. It will also include a bus status app. Stay tuned for more info!

### **Student Registration**

Student registration (pre-primary to grade 12) is ongoing throughout the school year. To register, parents/guardians can visit their neighbourhood school or register online at <a href="https://www.tcrce.ca/registration">www.tcrce.ca/registration</a>.

### Safe School Strategy

In April 2025, the Province released an updated Code of Conduct Policy and Safe School Strategy for all Nova Scotia schools. To learn more, visit: <a href="https://www.ednet.ns.ca/school-safety.">https://www.ednet.ns.ca/school-safety.</a>

# School Lunch Program Expansion

This fall, the lunch program will expand to all middle and junior high schools, as well as continuing in elementary schools across the province.

Based on feedback from school communities, the program will be introducing:

- New kid-approved menu options
- Sustainable packing
- A more seamless ordering experience

More details will be shared before the start of the school year. Information is also available at NSlunch.ca.

#### Communication

Families can expect regular communication from TCRCE and their child's school. Information is regularly emailed using the address on file. To update info in PowerSchool, please contact your child's school directly.

We have an updated parent/guardian protocol to help you reach the correct person when you have a concern. Please follow the steps below.

#### PARENT/GUARDIAN CONCERN PROTOCOL

#### Parent/Guardian

(of Pre-primary to Grade 12 child/student) has a concern.

The first point of contact is your child's ECE\* or teacher.

\*Early Childhood Educator

If your concern remains unresolved, contact the school Principal.

If your concern is not resolved, contact
Tri-County Regional Centre for Education
at 902-749-5818 or info@tcrce.ca and someone will
provide information, direct access to TCRCE
supports; and/or refer your concern to the Family of
Schools Supervisor.

An online submission form is coming soon.

#### Family of Schools Supervisor

will work with you to find a solution.

If your concern remains unresolved, you can **initiate a formal process** by contacting. . .

**Director of Programs and Student Services**who will investigate the concern.

If your concern remains unresolved, contact the **Regional Executive Director of Education\***who will make a final decision.

\*Please do not contact the Regional Executive Director until all other steps have been followed\*



## **Transportation**

#### **Transportation Policy**

Nova Scotia's <u>School Transportation Policy</u> includes eligibility based on distance criteria.

Families can check their transportation eligibility at: <a href="terce.mybusplanner.ca">terce.mybusplanner.ca</a>

#### **BusPlanner**

Grading students are automatically assigned a bus stop nearest their home.

To access bus stop information, visit the <u>bus</u> <u>planner</u> link above, click on *Bus Stop Information*. Enter your student's civic address, road/street name, community, and grade level, then click submit. The next page displayed will show, bus route number, pick up and drop off time, along with bus stop civic address for both morning and afternoon.

Requests for changes or alternate stops can be requested, beginning Oct 4/25, via the online form, <u>Bus Stop Request</u>.

#### **Bus Stops**

The Transportation Department is strictly regulated by the Motor Carrier Act and Provincial Transportation Policy. Therefore, busses cannot stop more than three times within 1.6km. Every bus stop must be measured and approved. No bus stop is permanent and may be adjusted as needed.

#### Moving?

If a family moves or changes daycares, they must contact their child's school with an updated address or alternate address. This change may impact eligibility and/or routing.



### **Pre-Primary to Grade 2 Students**

Parents/guardians (or designate) are responsible for:

Accompanying Pre-Primary to Grade 2 children to the bus stop (and supervising until safely boarded), as well as greeting the child at the stop at the end of the day. If they are not at the stop to meet the child, the parent/guardian (or designate) will be contacted and the child will be returned to the school for pick up.

Buckling and unbuckling the seat belt for their child (if they are less than 40 pounds and 57 inches in height, and only if a seat belt is available). Bus drivers cannot leave their seats. At the school, staff will buckle and unbuckle children.

#### **Late Buses**

Late Bus notices are posted at <u>www.tcrce.ca</u> and on our <u>Facebook page.</u>

Notifications are only posted if the delay is greater than 15 minutes.

#### **Questions?**

Contact the Transportation Dept. toll free:



1 888 833 5287



 $\underline{tcrce.ca/bus\text{-}information}$ 

## **Operational Updates**

Over the summer, our operations team is busy preparing for the return of students in September. Here's just a sample of the work completed.

#### **Property Services**

- Custodial staff cleaned and waxed floors.
- The gym floor at Islands Consolidated School was stripped and repaired.
- Several kitchen upgrades, including a large renovation by our Trades staff.
- Additional heat exchangers installed in numerous schools.
- Crews maintained grounds, tilled pea stone in many playgrounds, and painted parking lot lines (much of this work continues when school opens).
- Lighting upgrades in several schools.

### Occupational Health

- The TCRCE Occupational Health & Safety manual was updated.
- Various first aid and other safety training was held for numerous staff groups.
- Updates were made to the Provincial map showing automated external defibrillator locations, to include all TCRCE school and office buildings.

#### **Summer Shine**

This summer, our custodial teams turned up the shine across every school—just look at these floors!



Islands Consolidated



Weymouth Consolidated

### **Capital Work**

- New metal roof at Carleton Consolidated School.
- New windows and blinds at Barrington Municipal High School.
- New roof and masonry work at Shelburne Regional High School.
- New parent drop off and additional staff parking at Hillcrest Academy.





Metal roof at Carleton.

Student drop off at Hillcrest.

#### **Transportation**

- Reviewed and updated routes while adding bus stops where required, following Motor Carrier regulations.
- Bus fleet was serviced, repairs completed, & undercoating completed.

### **Information Technology**

- Prepared 600 laptops and iPads, organized carts, and completed inventory tasks.
- Updated teacher computers and reconnected them after classroom cleaning.
- Upgraded network infrastructure and security systems.
- Cleaned up servers to improve speed and reliability.
- Configured the school bell system for the first day of school.
- Removed outdated user accounts to keep systems organized.
- Various other special projects to ensure faster, safer, and more reliable technology.