



South Shore
Regional Centre for Education

November 2019

Monthly Report

On Monday, November 11, ceremonies will take place throughout our communities, honouring those who have served and fallen in sacrifice for the freedoms that we appreciate and treasure. Many of our schools put a great deal of effort into their ceremonies of remembrance that allow our students, families and community members to join the conversation and understand, appreciate and respect the significance of November 11.

This month's report highlights the significant initiatives and priorities that have guided our collective efforts as a system. Reflecting on the past is always an informative process when we connect it to the future, builds on what we have learned, and reaffirms where we want to go and what we want to accomplish. The success of each student is the focus of our work and the reason we exist as a regional centre. Our System Improvement Plan has gathered diverse thoughts and opinions that are now being considered to articulate our mission, motto, and belief statements for a high quality learning experience for each of our students. You will note a significant focus on student and staff well-being in our regional plan. We know that creating the right conditions for learning is essential for student engagement and achievement. With the 2019-20 school year now well underway, I look forward to working closely with our schools, communities, and regional staff to build upon the successes of the past, and to ensure that each and every student's learning journey is a very positive one.

Sincerely,

Paul Ash
Regional Executive Director
South Shore Regional Centre for Education

"In Flanders Fields" is a poem written by Dr. John McCrae, a World War I surgeon who wrote the poem after a chlorine gas attack by Germany killed half of his brigade including his best friend.

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

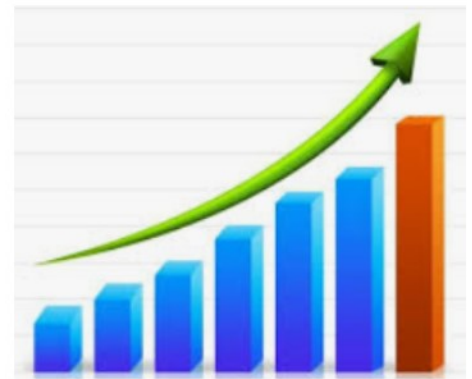
Coming up this month

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- November 6—Embedded CLT (90 minute early dismissal)
- November 11—Remembrance Day
- November 18—21—Report Card Distribution (10-12)
- November 20—Embedded CLT (90 minute early dismissal)
- November 22—Term 1 ends (P—9)
- November 25—Term 1 Report Card Prep (P—9)
- November 26—Principals' Meeting



Strengthen with Intention



SSRCE System Improvement Plan 2019-2020

The SSRCE senior staff, principals, vice-principals, teachers and other staff from across the region collaborated to develop a System Improvement Plan – Strengthen with Intention. Three goals were identified as being the regional center’s priorities that focused on key areas for our students: well-being, literacy, and mathematics. Student well-being will be at the center of our work.



South Shore
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MISSION

To provide our students with a learning environment that engages and inspires them to reach their full potential

MOTTO

Inspiring our students to reach their full potential

BELIEF STATEMENTS

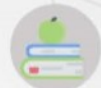
- Our primary focus is student learning and achievement
- All students have the ability to learn and become contributing members of society
- Students learn at their own pace, and in different ways
- We are committed to the development of the whole student in an equitable and inclusive environment
- School communities must be safe, supportive and socially just, where everyone is treated with dignity and respect
- Education is a partnership among home, school and community and ongoing communication and dialogue strengthens this partnership
- We value diversity and the opportunity for our students to be enriched by diverse cultures and abilities
- Evidence-based decision-making and accountability are important

Strengthen with Intention

System Improvement Plan 2019-2020



Theory of Action - Teaching causes learning; therefore when we strengthen teaching we strengthen learning



LITERACY GOAL

To strengthen, with intention, student achievement and engagement in Literacy.



System Strategies

- o Workshop Model – Teach, practice, share/reflect
- o Learning Targets
- o Identifying areas of need with intentional interventions (i.e. Data wall – Elem./Data tracking-Secondary)



How are our students doing?

2018-2019 Results

Students meeting expectation:
Reading Grade 3: 79.1%
Reading Grade 6: 75.6%
Reading Grade 8: 64.4%
Reading Grade 10: 66.1%



WELL-BEING GOAL

Strengthen, with intention, the engagement of students through personalized learning and building developmentally positive relationships among staff, students, families and community.



System Strategies

- o CRP (Culturally Responsive Pedagogy)
- o SEL (Social Emotional Learning)
- o MTSS (Multi-Tiered Systems for Support)
- o Safe & inclusive system



NUMERACY GOAL

To strengthen, with intention, student achievement and engagement in Numeracy (number).



System Strategies

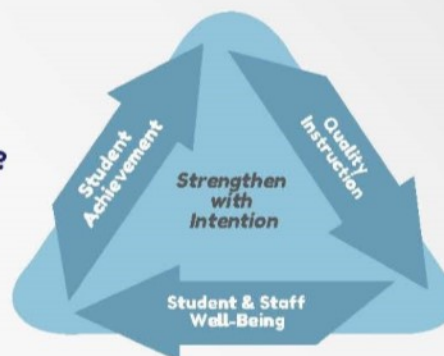
- o 3 part lesson
- o Yearly plan
- o Multiple ways of representing learning



How are our students doing?

2018-2019 Results

Students meeting expectation:
Mathematics Grade 3: 81%
Mathematics Grade 6: 70.7%
Mathematics Grade 8: 55.2%
Mathematics Grade 10: 54.5%

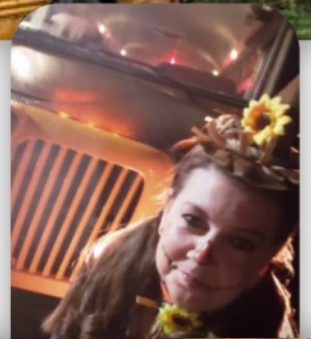


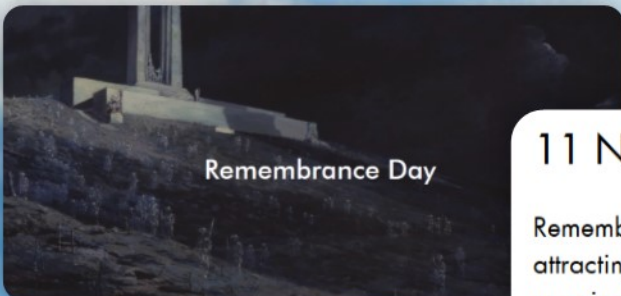
Where do we want to be?



SSRCE will improve by at least 2% over baseline from 2018-2019 each year for the next five years

SSRCE Transportation Department Celebrates Halloween





Remembrance Day

11 November

Remembrance Day rejuvenated interest in recalling the war and military sacrifice, attracting thousands to ceremonies in cities large and small across the country. It remained a day to honour the fallen, but traditional services also witnessed occasional calls to remember the horror of war and to embrace peace. Remembrance Day ceremonies were usually held at community cenotaphs and war memorials, or sometimes at schools or in other public places. Two minutes of silence, the playing of the *Last Post*, the recitation of *In Flanders Fields*, and the wearing of poppies quickly became associated with the ceremony.

Remembrance Day has since gone through periods of intense observation and periodic decline. The 50th anniversary of the end of the Second World War in 1995 marked a noticeable upsurge of public interest, which has not ebbed in recent years. It is now a national holiday for federal and many provincial government workers, and the largest ceremonies are attended in major cities by tens of thousands. The ceremony at the National War Memorial in Ottawa is nationally televised, while most media outlets – including newspapers, magazines, radio and television stations, and internet sources – run special features, interviews, or investigative reports on military history or remembrance-related themes.

Information compliments of the Canadian War Museum

<https://www.warmuseum.ca/firstworldwar/history/after-the-war/remembrance/remembrance-day/>

Canadians recognize Remembrance Day, originally called Armistice Day, every 11 November at 11 a.m. It marks the end of hostilities during the First World War and an opportunity to recall all those who have served in the nation's defence.

The red poppy, a native plant along much of the Western Front during the First World War, has become a powerful symbol of remembrance. It is the principal emblem of the Royal Canadian Legion, which distributes several million each year to be worn by Canadians on Remembrance Day.

... a few Remembrance Day School Ceremonies in your area ...

- Aspotogan Consolidated Elementary School—November 8 at 10:50 a.m.
- Bayview Community School—November 8 at 10:00 a.m.
- Bridgewater Junior High School—November 7 at 11:00 a.m.
- Dr. J. C. Wickwire Academy—November 6 at 11:00 a.m.
- Hebbville Academy—November 7 at 9:00 a.m.
- Liverpool Regional High School—November 7 at 11:00 a.m.
- New Germany Rural High School—November 8 at 1:00 p.m.
- New Ross Consolidated School—November 8 at 1:00 p.m.
- Pentz Elementary School—November 7 at 10:30 a.m.
- Petite Riviere Elementary School—November 8 at 9:00 a.m.

(Please contact your school directly if not included in this list—thanks)



Congratulations to Vikings Sophie Weir and Valerie Sia for their amazing Heritage Fair projects last spring.

Sophie recently earned an Honourable Mention at the National Online Young Citizenship Competition for her video project "The Canadarm, Reaching for the Stars".

Valerie is one of six students from across Canada whose project, "Railroaded: How the Chinese Railroad Workers in British Columbia were Treated from 1881-1885" earned her a trip to Ottawa this winter to participate in Canada's History Forum.

Amazing work, Sophie and Valerie! We are proud of you both.

**SchoolsPlus is
available across
Nova Scotia**



NOVA SCOTIA

EDUCATION/EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT-- SchoolsPlus Expansion Highlighted on World Mental Health Day

Students and families in schools need access to mental health services and supports no matter where they live. To help increase access, SchoolsPlus is now available to all students and families provincially.

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.

"Connecting Nova Scotians with community and mental health supports is an important part of SchoolsPlus and an important student resource to highlight today, World Mental Health Day," said Zach Churchill, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development. "Having these services available through our schools makes it easier for people to get the help they need."

As of September, SchoolsPlus has been available to all students in all schools through 56 sites.

Quotes:

"As a public school principal, I see the benefits of SchoolsPlus every day. Partners like SchoolsPlus are invaluable in helping schools meet the needs of their students. SchoolsPlus staff regularly link schools and families to a broad range of services."

- Joe Morrison, principal, Citadel High, Halifax

"SchoolsPlus bridges home life and school life. In many cases they are key to providing urgent response to mental health, or other needs, whether with a student, or with members of their family."

- Don Reardon, principal, Rocky Lake Junior High, Bedford

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

Additional Resources:

Inclusive Education Supports: <https://www.ednet.ns.ca/inclusiveeducation>

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



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