



A Message from the Regional Executive Director

As we reach the conclusion of this school year, I am filled with pride and gratitude for all that we have achieved together. The success of our students is not possible without the collective efforts of our entire school community - students, staff, volunteers, parents/guardians and many other supportive partners.

To the graduating class of 2024, congratulations! You should be tremendously proud of your growth and accomplishments. As you prepare to embark on new adventures, remember you are equipped not only with the knowledge, but also with the skills to navigate the challenges and opportunities ahead.

I would also like to extend a congratulations to all our students who are transitioning to new schools and/or moving up to the next grade levels. I encourage you to celebrate your successes and please know that you have many supporters cheering you on as well.

I wish you all a happy and rejuvenating summer break. I look forward to the next school year and continuing in my role as SSRCE's Regional Executive Director. In May, I was appointed to this position on a permanent basis and I look forward to leading the SSRCE team as we continue on our mission of providing our students with a learning environment that engages and inspires them to reach their full potential.

Warm regards,

Angela Gladwin
SSRCE Regional Executive Director



Liverpool Regional High School graduates participate in a Grad Walk through the halls of DJCWA.

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REGISTRATION FOR THE 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR

Know someone with a child who will be ready to start school in September? We are accepting registrations for the 2024-2025 school year now.

In order to be eligible to attend pre-primary your child must be 4-years-old on or before December 31 in the year they start pre-primary.

Find info on how to apply [here](#).



Upcoming Dates to Remember

- Thursday, June 27, 2024 - Assessment/Evaluation Day (P-12)
- Friday, June 28, 2024 - Report Card Distribution (P-12); Last Day
- Tuesday, September 3, 2024 - School Organization Day (No School)
- Wednesday, September 4, 2024 - Professional Development Day (No School)
- Thursday, September 5, 2024 - First day of classes for 2024/2025

June is Pride Month

Did you know that we celebrate Pride Month in June? Pride Month is a special time when we celebrate and support the LGBTQ+ community. LGBTQ+ stands for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning, and others. This month is all about showing love, respect, and acceptance for everyone, no matter who they are or who they love.



In Nova Scotia, we follow the Inclusive Education Policy, which means we believe that every student should feel safe, welcome, and included at school. Pride Month is a wonderful way to remind us all to be kind, supportive, and celebrate our differences. From the Inclusive Education Policy: *Every student deserves to belong (affirmed, validated, and nurtured), be safe, and feel welcomed in all aspects of their daily experience.* [Click here](#) for the full document.

So, let's join in the fun, learn more about each other, and spread some love this Pride Month!

Happy Pride!

SEE INSIDE OUR CLASSROOMS



Grade 1 & 2 students at Hebbville Academy are learning about informational writing while researching their Science topics - Characteristics of Living Things and Animal Life Cycles. They built a Worm Farm for the school garden and combined all their worm research into a big book!



To celebrate Black Excellence Day, the Grade 5/6 class at West Northfield Elementary School worked with their student teacher, Mr. Feener, on projects to highlight Black Excellence. They prepared biographies on Black individuals who have contributed to our shared history.



Students in Ms. Fralic's Primary class at Bridgewater Elementary School were busy brainstorming ideas for narrative writing!

SEE INSIDE OUR CLASSROOMS



Students at Big Tancook Elementary School did a STEM challenge that involved filling eggs with various natural materials to see the effect on how far they rolled down a ramp.



Grade 3/4 Deveau, at New Germany Elementary School, took their learning outside where they were creating human multiplication arrays.



North Queens Community School students created Bevin's Skiff earlier in the school year and June 14th was launch day! Students also made oars and added paint. By the way... they float!

Match Experienced Mentors with New Teachers

As a teacher-mentor, Elizabeth Bridreau-Clark (Liz), has been supporting teachers who are new to grade three within the last two years. Throughout this pilot, Liz was able to offer support in the following areas:

- Foundational literacy skills in word reading and spelling
- Writing stamina and instruction
- Small group instruction for reading comprehension
- Writing units (development of the unit, creation of resources, delivery of lessons, organization of learning centers and assistance with student writing and publishing)
- Assessment of student learning
- Preparation for the provincial assessment



The experiences have been positive. Students were engaged and had increased success in achievement and confidence. Teachers were appreciative of the pilot project and how it allowed them to have support based on their specific needs as a new teacher.

"Liz was a wonderful addition to our school over the course of several weeks. With her years of experience in teaching she brought a lot of wisdom, modelled alternative strategies to curriculum delivery and was quickly well loved by the students. [Her] strong rapport with students was an immense help when there was time to slip in some running records assessment and additional small group instruction. The support as a colleague and co-teacher was great." - Teacher, Greenfield Elementary School.

"Mrs. Brideau-Clark was exceptionally organized and flexible. She implemented engaging lessons that the students thoroughly enjoyed. I valued working with her and will continue to use the resources she created. Her dedication and innovative teaching methods have made a significant positive impact." - Teacher, Bayview Community School.

Match Experienced Mentors with New Teachers Mathematics Specialist Pilot: Bayview Community School

Since April, Jenna Kilfoil, Math Specialist, has been working with her colleagues to teach, co-teach, plan, and support students from grades 3-6 at Bayview Community School. Most recently, they have been focusing on unit planning and daily lesson planning, as well as, using assessments to inform next steps of instruction. Since the inception of this pilot, the number of students meeting or exceeding grade level expectations continues to grow. Also, the response from her colleagues has been very positive.

"I have very much enjoyed having Jenna in the pilot this year. I've learned a lot by watching her teach and it has been nice having someone so knowledgeable to bounce ideas off." - Teacher, Grade 4/5.

"Our daughter is currently in Grade 3...[she] now looks forward to math and will come home and readily share the "fun strategies" she learned from Mrs. K. We share the word "fun" as [she] repeatedly tells us that Mrs. K makes learning math FUN!" - Bayview Parent.



Grade 3 Teacher: Tamara White (left) & Math Pilot Teacher: Jenna Kilfoil (right)

Regional School Advisory Council

We held our first Regional School Advisory Council meeting on June 6, 2024. The council took this time to do a deep dive into the Student Code of Conduct Policy and provide their feedback. This feedback will be used to help in updating the current Provincial Policy. The council also looked at the Draft Regional Student Success Plan, provided feedback and asked many engaging questions. We look forward to our future meetings and working with this engaging group of community members.

Regional School Advisory Council members:

Christopher Jackman
Rowan Abedalqader
Calvin Gough
Alyssa Horseman-Short
Mandy Wagner
Jennifer McSween
Andrea McGinnis
Valerie Whynot
Darian Huskilson
Tara Jaskowiak

Regional Public Engagement Session

On May 15, 2024, we held our second Public Engagement Session at South Queens Middle School with 16 attendees. This was our second session, with the first being held in March at Hebbville Academy. At both sessions we shared introductory information about SSRCE, regional data, answered questions, and asked for input in the areas of student achievement, well-being and capital planning. The main feedback that was brought forward during the sessions included:

- Agreement on the need to improve literacy at all levels.
- An expressed collective desire to see enhanced reading and writing skills, recognizing that these are foundational to academic success.
- Enhanced communication to families about what children are learning was noted as an area for growth in the South Shore. There was support expressed from parents as eager partners in their children's education.
- A desire to promote and expand inclusive engagement approaches in our sessions .
- Promoting safety at school was emphasized as a need through the focus on nurturing and secure environments within schools, fostering emotional well-being and resilience among students to effectively manage stressors and anxieties.
- There was appreciation expressed for explaining the process of canceling school due to weather conditions. We discussed the option of late starts during poor weather conditions. There were mixed responses to this idea.

As SSRCE moves forward, we will continue these collaborative efforts in connection with our Regional School Advisory Council, Regional Student Advisory Council, and School Advisory Councils to listen, share, reflect and improve. By listening to the voices of our community, we can create guidelines and actions that reflect the diverse needs of our students and promote excellence in education.

Lieutenant Governor Award Recipients

Every year, Grade 11 students from across the province are nominated by their schools for the Lieutenant Governor's Award. The nomination is based on a student's academic performance and qualities of leadership and service demonstrated in their school and community.

This year's recipients were honoured at a ceremony on May 1, 2024. Please join us in congratulating this year's honourees for the South Shore Regional Centre for Education; Aleena Mordeen and Alexa Prosser (Forest Heights Community School), Marissa Harnish and Easton Goodwin (Liverpool Regional High School), Colin Robar and Ella Gibson (New Germany Rural High School), Jayda Atkins and Abigail Donelle (North Queens Community School) and Tanuja Khedkar and Brody MacInnes (Park View Education Centre).



May 3rd Professional Development Day

On May 3rd we held a Regional Professional Development Day. Professional development is crucial for school staff to stay updated with evolving educational practices, technologies, and methodologies. It enhances their teaching skills, keeps them informed about the latest research in pedagogy, and fosters a continuous improvement mindset. Moreover, professional development equips educators with new strategies to engage students effectively, adapt to diverse learning needs, and create supportive learning environments.



Regional Heritage Fair

On Friday, May 10, SSRCE students who were chosen as winners from their schools, got a chance to showcase their heritage project regionally at the 2024 SSRCE Heritage Fair. There were many excellent projects showcasing the heritage of the students, local landmarks or people, and more. The displays, depth of knowledge and creativity demonstrated was top notch. There was a lot of diversity among the projects and each student did a fantastic job. Well done everyone!





Nova Scotia
International Student
Program

BECOME A HOST FAMILY

Open your home and heart to an international student



IMPORTANT UPDATE: COMPENSATION INCREASE STARTING SEPTEMBER 2024

\$825/mth PER STUDENT (Tax Free)	\$925/mth if you can accommodate a vegetarian or lactose free diet	\$1025/mth if you can accommodate a vegan or celiac diet
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REFER A NEW HOST FAMILY AND RECEIVE **\$100** UPON SUCCESSFUL STUDENT PLACEMENT
Just give us their name and contact details, and we will reach out to them.



Homestay Families:

- Must be able to provide food for three meals a day
- Must be willing to submit a Criminal Record and Child Abuse Registry Check
- Must have a private bedroom for the student in their house
- Receive a monthly remuneration

For more information on the referral initiative or on the homestay program please speak with your local homestay coordinator or visit ssrce.ca/host



Celebrating Our Schools



Grade 4 students at Chester District School took their audience on a captivating journey with their reenactment of the Titanic.



Liverpool Regional High School Students prepared dinner at the Queens county NSTU retirement ceremony (above left) and served food at the graduation dinner (above right).



Grade 4 students at Dr. J.C. Wickwire Academy participated in the Learn to Fish Program. Lots of fish were caught and lots of fun was had!

Celebrating Our Staff

NSCC FEDS TA Course

On May 7, 2024, 17 SSRCE staff members graduated from the NSCC Foundations in Educational Support Program (FEDS) Teacher Assistant Course. A big congratulations goes out to Barbara Corkum, Nicole Croft, Rayann Daniels, Lacey Herman, Ally Hiltz, Amy Laffin, Christina Lohnes, Melanie Lohnes, Ana Lopez Gonzalez, Tracy MacDonald, Heather Massey, Amanda Millett, Kimberly Rafuse, Emma Risser, Jessica Therrio-Bush, Sarah Tingley and Tammy Wentzell (all pictured below).




Nova Scotia Instructional Leadership Program

Congratulations to Ellen Smith (pictured below left) and Erin Dunn-Keefe (pictured below right) on their graduation from the Nova Scotia Instructional Leadership Program on May 31!



Busing Information Sessions




2024 Pre-Primary & Primary Parent Busing Information Sessions:

AUG 26
North Queens Elementary - 9:30a
New Germany Elementary - **11:30a**
West Northfield Elementary - 1:00p

AUG 27
Newcombville Elementary - 9:30a
Hebbville Academy - **11:00a**
Pentz Elementary - 12:30p
Petite Riviere Elementary - 2:00p

AUG 28
Aspotogan Elementary - 9:30
Chester District Elementary - **11:00a**
New Ross Consolidated - 1:30p

AUG 29
Dr. J.C. Wickwire Academy - 9:30a
Bridgewater Elementary - **11:15a**
Bluenose Academy - 1:00p
Bayview Community School - 2:15p



 **South Shore**
Regional Centre for Education

Who to Contact at SSRCE?



Parent/Guardian Questions or Concerns?

- 1** Please start by speaking with your child's teacher.
- 2** Follow up with the school principal.
- 3** If more action is needed, contact the South Shore Regional Centre for Education at 902-543-2468/ toll-free 1-888-252-2217, and we'll put you in touch with the right person.



General Inquiries

 902-543-2468
 receptionist@ssrce.ca



Transportation

 902-541-8252
 busdispatch@ssrce.ca

Pre-primary Program

 902-521-7679 or 902-541-0110
 preprimary@ssrce.ca

School Closure/Weather

 902-523-5368
 weather@ssrce.ca