



Astral Drive Elementary November #2 2025

Home of the Stars

236 Astral Drive, Dartmouth, NS, B2V 1B8

902 462-8500

ade@hrce.ca

Traffic/Arrival/Dismissal Procedures

To ensure safety for our students and staff, we want to reinforce our drop-off and pick-up routines and rules done in coordination with the junior high. Please review this information carefully.

- Only buses, childcare vans and staff are permitted in the Lakeshire Drive entrance. Please note that this is one-way traffic only.
- The Astral Drive entrance is for parents using the Kiss and Go Loop.
- Please drive slowly in this area. Safety comes first. Maintain two lanes of traffic only. Parents may quickly unbuckle children. Do not park, wait, or leave your car in the loop as it stops traffic flow.
- Please drop children off by the curb in one of the designated drop-off spots only. Do not let your child in/out in the middle of the circle.
- If you're staying with your child on the playground, please park on the street. There is no parking permitted on the hill to keep traffic moving safely in both directions.
- The traffic circle will be closed during any early dismissal days.

We appreciate your attention to these guidelines.

Winter Concert Information

Holiday concerts will be held at Woodlawn High School located at 31 Woodlawn Road, Dartmouth.

French Immersion concert Monday, December 15 at 6 pm.

English concert Tuesday, December 16 at 6pm.

Doors to Woodlawn High will open at 5:00 and doors to the auditorium will open at 5:30, with the concerts beginning at 6:00pm. Students must wait in line with their parents/guardians until staff are available at 5:30 to supervise students in assigned classrooms.

Students are to be dropped off and picked up by families in their assigned rooms. Students will not be permitted to leave until a family member has been seen by teacher.

We ask that you stay for the entire concert as it is disruptive to have people leave during performances.

We are looking for your Feedback!

Please read over our Vision Statement and Behaviour Metrix and offer your feedback using the following form. <https://forms.gle/QdCdsmhDX99tTuiV8>

Book Fair

We are looking for volunteers to help with our upcoming Scholastic Book Fair! Our school hasn't held an in-person book fair since 2018, and we are excited to finally be able to host one again! If you have all of your checks completed ([HRCE Volunteer Info](#)) and are available to lend a hand, please email [Mrs. McGrath](#) or [Mrs. Nicholson](#) with your available days and times during the week of December 1-5. Once we receive your availability, we'll follow up with a schedule. We are also looking for 1-2 volunteers the week prior to the fair to help with set up. Your support is greatly appreciated! Thank you!

Parent-Teacher Conferences – Appointment Sign-Up Information

We are looking forward to connecting with you during our upcoming Parent-Teacher Conferences on Dec 4th to discuss your child's progress and learning.

We will be using the **School Interviews** online booking system to schedule these conferences. Each conference session will be **10 minutes in length**.

1 When/how to book a Conference with your child's teacher:

- **Booking Window:** November 17 – December 1 (inclusive)
- **Conference Date:** Thursday, December 4
 - **Afternoon Session:** 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
 - **Evening Session:** 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Please use the following link to sign up for a Parent-Teacher Conference (Open from Nov 17-Dec 1 Inclusive) <https://schoolinterviews.ca/code/227c5>

Important Notes for Families:

- Please **do not arrive more than 5 minutes before** your scheduled in-person appointment.
- To ensure the event runs smoothly, we kindly ask all families to **adhere to the 10 minute time limit**. If you require more time with a teacher, please arrange a separate meeting or phone call.
- If you would like to meet with more than one teacher (e.g., classroom, resource, ELST, or LC), please indicate this when booking.

We value your partnership and look forward to meaningful conversations that support your child's success.

Planning for Inclement Weather

HRCE takes great care when making the decision to alter the regular operations of schools and school buses in the event of severe or inclement weather.

It is HRCE's goal to communicate any changes to the regular operations of schools and/or buses as close to 6:00 a.m. as possible. A 6:00 a.m. announcement could be:

- All schools are delayed in opening by two hours
 - **Our delayed start is 10:30am and bus pickups are delayed by two hours;** or
- All schools are open, but some or all busses are not operating for the day; or
- Some schools (either individually or by family) are closed for the day; or
- All schools are closed for the day.

If weather deteriorates, or is forecasted to worsen throughout the morning, an 11:00 a.m. announcement could be:

- Bussed students are picked up two hours earlier than regular dismissal time at **12:25pm**; and
- Walking students will be dismissed from their regular dismissal doors at **11:25am**.

How will I find out?

- By email to the addresses in PowerSchool
- By text message, if you have opted-in. If you aren't sure if you have opted-in, text Y to the following number: 978338
- [On the HRCE website](#)
- [On Instagram](#)

It's important to always have a plan in place for childcare in the event of any cancellation. Please remember: As a parent or guardian you always have the choice of whether or not to send your child to school. For more information on how HRCE manages during inclement weather, visit hrce.ca/families/cancellations.

Early Dismissal - Parent Pick-Up Procedures

At 11:25AM Parents/guardians will report to a designated door to pick up their child, based on classroom location. Teachers will escort students to the door at **11:25am**.

1. Pre-Primary pick up (Astral Drive Side)
2. Main Entrance (Astral Drive Side)
3. Back Doors (Lakeshire Drive Side)
4. Modular Doors (Lakeshire Drive Side)

Traffic circle will be closed during any early dismissal days. Please Park on Astral Drive or Lakeshire Drive and walk to the doors to meet your child.

Friendly Reminders

- All visitors must check in at the main building office and follow our safety procedures.
- Video recordings are not permitted inside/near the school where children could be present.

Arrival Times

- **8:15 AM** – School doors open. Teachers inside and students go straight to classrooms.
- **8:30 AM** – Instruction starts. Students arriving after 8:30, check in at the office for late arrival
- **Supervision** – Staff help guide arrival/dismissal (8:10am & 2:25pm). Do not send students before supervision.

Important Dates [Click for HRCE 25-26 Calendar](#)



November

Sat., Nov. 8: Indigenous Veterans Day

Mon., Nov. 10: Remembrance Day Assembly

Tues., Nov. 11: Remembrance Day - No classes PP-12

Nov. 13-19: Transgender Awareness Week

Thurs., Nov. 20: PTO Event

Fri., Nov. 21: Assessment & Evaluation Day - No classes Elementary/Middle/Junior High only

Nov. 24-Dec. 3: Report cards (Elementary/Middle/Junior High)

DECEMBER

2: SAC/PTO Meeting 5pm

4: Progress Conferences (1-3pm and 6-8pm) & Teacher Professional Practice Day - no classes all schools

15: French Immersion Concert 6pm Start time @ Woodlawn High (changed from Sept news) (Snow Date-17)

16: English Concert 6pm Start time @ Woodlawn High (changed from Sept news) (Snow Date-17)

19: Last day of school before holiday break

22: Teacher Professional Practice Day - no classes all schools

JANUARY

5: First Day Back After Break

13: SAC/PTO Meeting 5pm

29: PTO Event

FEBRUARY

February is Registration Month!

13: Student Assembly - Julia Tynes Presents Motown

16: Nova Scotia Heritage Day - no classes all schools

24: SAC/PTO Meeting 5pm

MARCH

12: PTO Event

13: Elem/Middle/Jr assessment & evaluation day - no classes elem/middle/jr only

16-20: Spring Break - no classes all schools

23-April 2: Report cards sent home (Elem/middle/jr high)

APRIL

2: Elem/Middle/Jr progress conferences & Teacher Professional Practice & high school professional development day - no classes all schools

3: Good Friday - no classes all schools

6: Easter Monday - no classes all schools

29: Elem/Middle/Jr professional development day - no classes all schools

MAY

5: SAC/PTO Meeting 5pm

7: PTO Event

11: Mi'kmaw Language Day - Culturally Significant Day - schools open

15: Black Excellence Day - Culturally Significant Day - schools open

18: Victoria Day - no classes all schools

JUNE

5: PTO Event – Spring Fling

21: National Indigenous Peoples Day - Culturally Significant Day

29: Assessment & evaluation day - no classes all schools

30: Last day of school year