

*Hawthorn Elementary*

# NEWSLETTER

10 Hawthorne Street • Dartmouth, NS • B2Y 2Y3 Tel # (902) 464-2048  
Website: Haw.hrce.ca • Email: hawthorn@hrce.ca • Twitter: @HawthornElem



**April 2023**



Dear Families,

We celebrated March, nutrition month, with the Big Crunch as all the students joined together outside to crunch into a healthy snack; a local apple. We welcome Term 3 and just completed Parent Teacher conferences with many classes taking part in student led conferences. It is so nice to celebrate learning with our families! Our students are really enjoying playing together outside and we welcome the spring weather that lets us get outside more!

We would like to take a moment and congratulate Ms. Power, our Learning Center teacher, who is retiring at the end of month. She has been an essential part of our Hawthorn team and we wish her all the best in her well deserved retirement.

Sincerely,

*Ms. Gourlay and Ms. Dunn*

## Dates to Remember:

- April 3: Submissions for Out of Area Requests
- April 3: HSA Meeting @ 7pm School Library
- April 5: SAC Meeting @ 3:30 pm School Library
- April 7: Good Friday (No School)
- April 10: Easter Monday (No School)
- April 20: School Ceilidh-more information to follow
- April 24-28 & May 1-5-EXCEL 2023-2024 Registration for students currently enrolled in EXCEL

---

## Welcome to our new Regional Executive Director

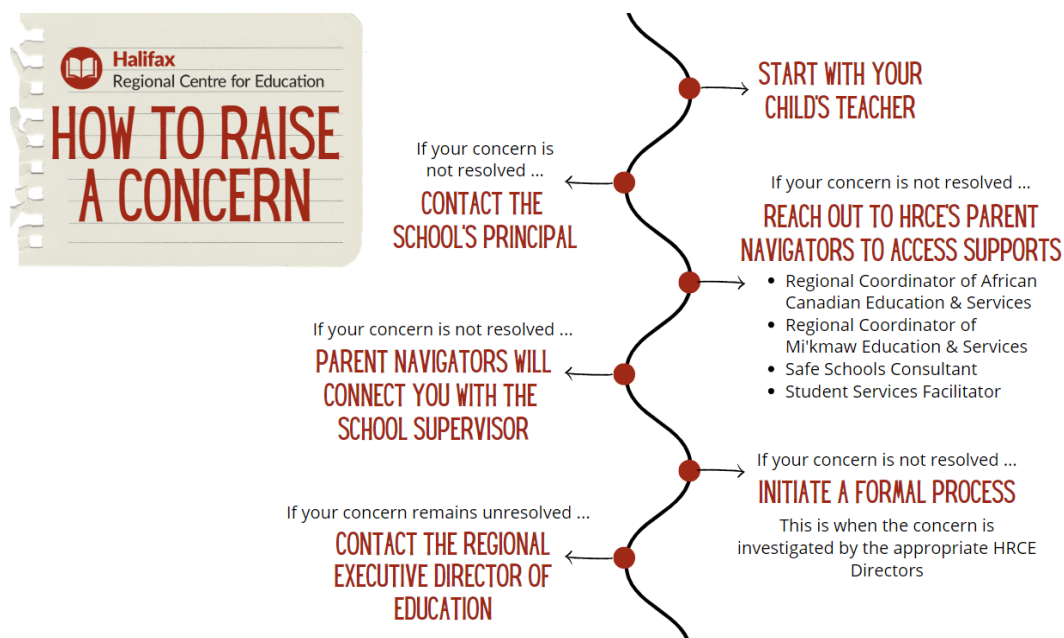
We are pleased to share the appointment of our new Regional Executive Director for HRCE, Steve Gallagher. Steve has been in the role on an acting basis since September and has officially accepted the role permanently. To learn more, [click here](#)

## Do you know how to raise a concern?

Did you know that there's a protocol in place to help families contact schools or the HRCE office when you have concerns about your student's education or well-being?

- All concerns should first be shared with your child's teacher.
- If your concern is not resolved, you should then contact the principal.
- If your concern remains unresolved, you can reach out to [HRCE's Parent Navigators](#) who can provide information about a wide range of supports and resources or connect you with the school supervisor.
- If your matter continues to be unresolved, you can then initiate a formal review process in which the matter will be investigated by the appropriate HRCE Directors.
- The final step is for your concern to be passed on to the Regional Executive Director.

Click here to view the [Parent/Guardian Concern Policy](#).



---

## Meet your Parent Navigators

We know that navigating the school system can be overwhelming. The role of the Parent Navigator is to help parents and guardians of HRCE students find and access the right information, resources, tools and services.

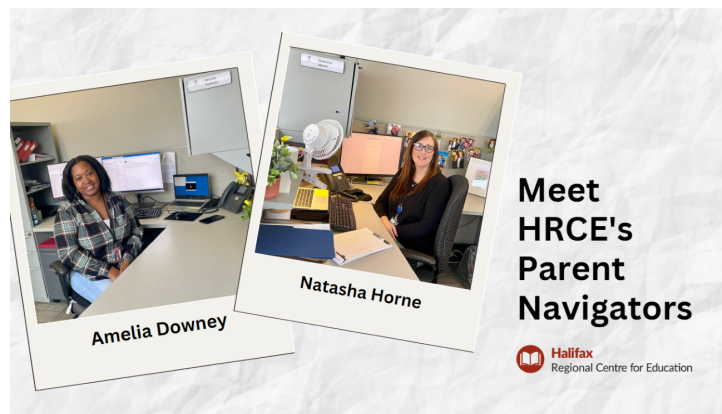
“I would say that I help parents ‘navigate’ the school systems, let them know what resources might be available within HRCE that they may not know about, and actively listen to families who call that may have a situation that needs diffusing, support or problem solving,” says Parent Navigator Natasha Horne.

“I would love for families to know we are here for them, and sometimes that’s just to listen and not solve anything. We are a non-judgemental ear for them. Sometimes just talking through something with someone that’s not involved with your situation is helpful to get some perspective.”

Parent Navigator Amelia Downey says the most common questions she receives include: How do I make a school transfer request? What age can my child attend school with HRCE? How do I speak with a school supervisor? Do I have to visit a school to register my child? How can I obtain my child’s school records/diploma/transcripts?

“What I love the most about my role the most is the moment when I know I have made a difference in a person’s day through the support I have provided to them during our call,” Amelia says.

Learn more and contact our Parent Navigators [here](#).



---

## Breakfast Program Donation

A huge thank you to the staff of Dooly's on Portland Street for a generous donation of over \$3000 to our Breakfast Program. It is greatly appreciated!



## Home and School Association (HSA)

Home and School Association is a volunteer, non-profit organization of parents and school staff. Membership is free and open to any interested parent/guardian or staff member. The HSA meets monthly. All are welcome! Please contact us if you have any questions about the HSA. [Hawthorn@hrce.ca](mailto:Hawthorn@hrce.ca)

## School Advisory Council (SAC)

If you are interested in attending and possibly joining the SAC, you are welcome to attend our meetings. Also, if you are interested in learning more, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Chair, Alexis Carter Malloch, by email [hrce-sac-haw@gnspes.ca](mailto:hrce-sac-haw@gnspes.ca)

## Recycling for Hawthorn

We have an account with a local recycling depot, Canadian Recycling located at 365 Portland Street. If you drop off your recycling you can let them know the funds can be added to the HSA Hawthorn account as part of a school fundraiser.

## Reminders

- In the mornings, students can arrive at 8:40 am, which is when teachers are on duty. The bell rings at 8:55 am and instruction begins at 9:00 am.
- Please, do not send nut or peanut products to school (this includes Nutella products).
- It is helpful to have a complete change of clothes in your child's backpack just in case of mud, puddles, or spills and it may save you a trip in the middle of your day.
- Please do not bring dogs onto school grounds. If you do bring your dog, please stay on the sidewalk or the field and not on school property.
- Students are not permitted to use cell phones during the school day. If students bring cellphones to school, they must stay in their backpacks for the entire school day.

---

## A look at what's happening at Hawthorn!



Maples Syrup on Snow!



Maritime Center for African Dance!



Nutrition Month: The Big Crunch!

