

APRIL 2024

CAPE BRETON HIGHLANDS EDUCATION CENTRE/ACADEMY



CONTACT US:

902-235-7500

cbh.office@srce.ca

School Office:

Stacia Evans Acting Principal

Kristen Ross Vice Principal

Sarah McDaniel Acting Vice Principal

John MacKinnon Guidance Councilor

Cheyenne Camus School Secretary



Message from our Principal

Spring has finally arrived and learning is in full swing here at CBHEC/A. As you may know, this is a time of the year that students make the most academic and social learning improvements. The weather is quickly changing and it can be challenging to keep our children focused on learning, What can you do to make school a top priority for your child? Make attendance your number one priority and take time to talk about school activities and projects.

Parent-Teacher consultations for the grades P-8 are scheduled for Wednesday, April 3 from 6-8pm and Thursday, April 4 from 1-3 pm. Students in grades 9-12 will have their parent-teacher consultations on Wednesday, April 24 from 6-8pm and Thursday, April 25 from 1-3pm. A few things you can do with your child to help make school more successful is read with your child every day. Encourage your child to discuss stories, ask questions, offer information, share personal thoughts and connect the story to real-life situations. Parents of students in grade 7-12 can access their child's courses using PowerSchool. If you would like information on how to access please feel free to contact the office or stop by and I will be glad to help you out.

Education week is April 8-12, "Connecting to Your Community" is this year's theme. We gladly open our doors to the wealth of diversity in regards to culture and talents. We will be hosting our second annual Career Day on April 11. Inviting local professionals into our classrooms to share their passion and knowledge. If you would like to participate let us know. It's small group presentations!

Our SAC committee is always looking for more parent/community participation. The meetings are held once per month in our conference room. This is where your voice has a platform. Rich discussions and valuable input will help support the learning at school. Our April meeting is Monday, 15th at 4:45-6:00pm. Our student council has been working hard to prepare for some great activities for Carnival week. You will find the activities and events happening on the calendar attached to the newsletter. If you have some time to volunteer to help out with daily treats, please contact Sarah McDaniel.

We will be practicing a relocation drill or "Code Green" on Tuesday, April 16. This relocation drill is done in cooperation with the Margaree Fire Department and the Cheticamp RCMP detachment. We will be loading students onto busses and transporting them to our safe off-site location, Belle Cote Community Centre. We will be talking with our students over the next weeks to prepare so that students are ready for our drill. One important reminder is that our school has a policy which reinforces good nutritional choices. Please do not send your child with energy drinks, items that contain peanuts, and candy. These food and beverage items are to be avoided, and staff will help remind students that these items should stay at home.

A huge Husky welcome back to Kristen Ross, Vice Principal! We are so glad to see you back and looking forward to working with you. As well, Oisin Curran is our new library technician. He will be joining our staff on April 8. He will be able to provide programming in English and French. Welcome aboard Oisin! Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the parents, students and staff for their support since I have taken on this new role. My door is always open to discuss any issues that arise. I am very proud to be apart of helping your child enjoy learning and building a bright future.

Important Dates:

April 1st- Easter Monday, no classes PP-12

April 2nd - Report card distributed P-8

April 3rd - Parent/Teacher from 6-8pm (apt only)

April 4th - In-service 9-12 & Parent/Teacher 1-3pm (apt only)

No classes PP-8 / Regular classes 9-12

April 5th - Q3 Ends (Grades 9-12)

April 8-12th - Carnival Week, see below

April 18th - Report cards distributed for grades 9-12

April 24th - Walk your Way

April 25th - In Service AM / Parent Teacher

1-3pm/5:30-7pm (apt only)

No Classes 9-12 / Regular classes PP-8

Parent/Teacher Meetings

We are looking forward to our upcoming parent/teacher meetings. It is a great opportunity to discuss how we as a team can support your child's education. Please contact the office to schedule your meetings. Keep in mind for students in grades P-6 that speciality teachers for Music and Physical Education can be booked as they can only comment on your child's progress. Meetings are in 10 minute blocks.

Students in grades 7-8 have multiple teachers. Please refer to your report cards for their teacher's information. Meetings are in 10 minute blocks.

NOTICE:

The building will be open after 2:45pm at the main entrance on late bus days ONLY (Tuesdays and Thursdays) until 5pm. The academy entrance, one door, will be unlocked and remain open ONLY for scheduled activities in the gymnasium throughout the week.

CARNIVAL WEEK!

April 8th - 12th

Carnival/ Education Week

Carnival Week Theme: Seasons	Monday, April 8 Day D	Tuesday, April 9 Day E	Wednesday, April 10 Day F	Thursday, April 11 Day G	Friday, April 12 Day H
Theme Day	Downhome Fall	Wacky Winter	Bloom into Spring	Neon Summer	PJ day
Food	Popcorn	Hot Chocolate	Pancake Day	Ice Cream Sundaes	
Activity	Bingo PP-12	Spelling Bee Teachers on the hot seat - 7-12 lunch		Career Day Dance: Can't touch this!	Student vs Teacher basketball game Gym Activities Grades 7-12

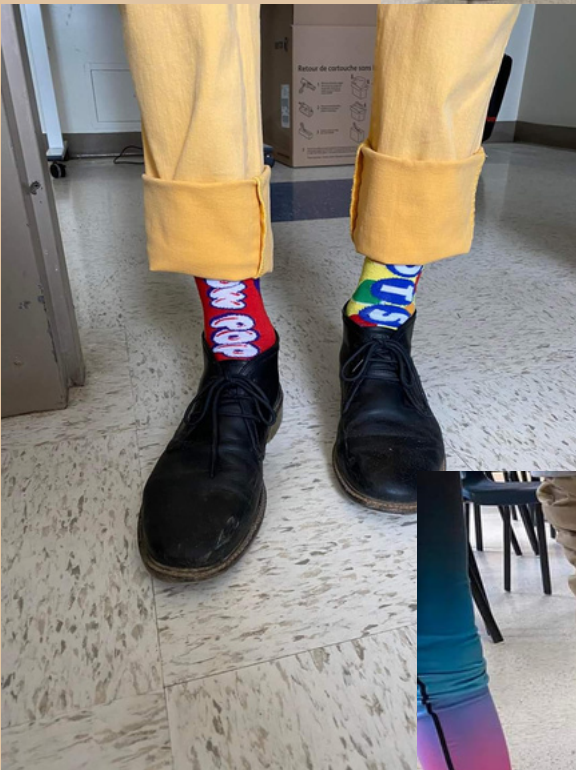


We are looking for volunteers to help prepare and serve food during Carnival Week! If you have extra time please contact the office.



The Huskies rocked their socks for World Down Syndrome Day!

Some students watched informational videos and presentations about Down Syndrome. Students were engaged in learning and sharing about friends and family members. It was a great day!



MAY 2024						
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19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

of teaching days - 22

- 17 Regional In-service Day
- 20 Victoria Day

 Summative Assessment Days
 Inservice/PD/Assessment & Evaluation Days
 School Holidays/Observances
 Report Cards and Parent-Teacher Conferences

Upcoming;

JUNE 2024						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

of teaching days – 20

- 17 NSVS Summative Assessments
- 19 Semester 2 Summative Assessments Begin
- 26 Administration & Evaluation Day (No Classes 9-12 / Regular Classes PP-8)
- 26 Earliest Date for Graduation
- 27 Administration & Evaluation Day (No Classes PP-12)
- 28 Last day of school

SAVE THE DATE!

Graduation will be held on June 26th
More info to come at a later date

Grand March & Prom will be June 24th
More info to come at a later date

Centers in Ms. L's Primary Class





Registration for Pre-primary Programs and Grade Primary takes place during the week of January 22 to 26, 2024.

Please help us plan for the upcoming school year by registering your child.

Please register your student as soon as possible!
This way if we need to hire, we can do so in a timely manner!



Eligibility and Program Information

- Children who are four (4) years of age on or before December 31, are eligible to attend.
- Complete the [School Registration Form](#) which may be accessed in the Resources section of the SRCE website and send the form directly to the school via mail or email along with a copy of the child's birth certificate and provincial health card. Please refer to the [School Directory](#).
- In the SRCE, busing is available to all pre-primary children eligible to receive bus service. Please contact the SRCE Transportation Department staff by email at transportation@srce.ca or by phone at 902-747-3645 to determine your eligibility to receive bus service.
- This is a voluntary program and children may only attend for one year.
- There is no fee for the Program. The Program will run from September to June.
- When there are available pre-primary spaces, families who live outside a school's catchment area may apply to have their child attend a Program out of catchment by submitting an [Application for Transfer of Students within the Region Request Form](#) located in the Resources section of the SRCE website. Families must first register at their local school prior to submitting a transfer request. These spaces are limited and will only be considered when space is available and no additional staffing is required to accommodate the request.
- In the event a child has been approved to attend a Program outside their family's catchment area, bus routes will not be altered.

Busing Eligibility

In the SRCE, busing is available to all pre-primary children eligible to receive bus service. Please contact the SRCE Transportation Department staff by email at transportation@srce.ca or by phone at 902-747-3645 to determine your eligibility to receive bus service.

The Motor Vehicle Act requires all riders under 40 pounds to use a seatbelt on a school bus if they are available. To help verify whether or not children need to be buckled in an integrated seat equipped with a seatbelt, all children will be weighed to determine if they are under the 40-pound threshold. We ask that parents/guardians buckle their child into their seat each day. Pre-primary staff will meet the bus when it arrives at the school and unbuckle your child.

For more information about the Pre-primary Program, or if you require assistance with the registration process, please contact [Carolyn Webber](#), Manager of Pre-primary and Early Years Programs at 902-631-4617 and visit <https://www.ednet.ns.ca/pre-primary>

Walk YOUR Way

FOR AUTISM NOVA SCOTIA

Each year, Autism Nova Scotia presents Walk YOUR Way, a fundraising walk event celebrating the Autistic community in an accessible and inclusive setting. This fundraising event is crucial to their ability to provide programs and services for the Autistic community across the province.

Autism Nova Scotia has teamed up with schools to create a unique experience for Walk YOUR Way. Cape Breton Highlands Education Centre/Academy will be walking as a whole school on April 24th.

Staff and students are asked to collect funds. Fifty percent of the monies collected go to the Strait Area Chapter of Autism Nova Scotia to support Autistics and their families in our region. The other HALF of the funds collected go directly to OUR SCHOOL!!!!

Last year we raised over \$5000 and with our portion of the money we purchased some flexible seating and fidget bins for each classroom. We're excited to see how much we can raise this year and get student input on what we should purchase this year!





BECOME A HOST FAMILY

OPEN YOUR HOME AND HEART TO AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT

\$825
/month

PER STUDENT
(Tax Free)

\$925
/month

If you can
accommodate
a **vegetarian** or
lactose free diet

\$1025
/month

If you can
accommodate
a **vegan** or
celiac diet

* Effective in September 2024.

RECEIVE \$100 FOR EVERY SUCCESSFUL REFERRAL OF NEW HOST FAMILY

Just give us their name and contact details, and we will reach out to them.



Strait

Regional Centre for Education

Learn More:

nsisp.ca/host

Email Chris Penny:

chris.penny@srce.ca



Dear School Community

We are looking for families to host international students!

Interested?

Your hospitality can make all the difference to a student's experience, and it is our hope that by becoming a host family, it will mark the beginning of a relationship that will last a lifetime! Students come to experience a true Nova Scotian lifestyle, they attend high school and participate in family events.

What's Required of a Host Family?

Families interested in hosting must provide the student with an approved bedroom, three healthy meals per day, and treat them like a member of their family. All family members 18 and older need to provide a Criminal Record Check and Child Abuse Registry Check.

Financial Compensation

Host families volunteer to host International Students. Families receive \$775 per month (per student) to cover incurred expenses while students are living with them, such as meals, providing transportation for activities, etc. This amount is non-taxable.

Please contact our SRCE-ISP Manager, Chris Penny at chris.penny@srce.ca or (902) 631-5170 for more information

Late Bus Stops;

The late bus runs every **Tuesday** and **Thursday**.
 They leave the school at 5pm
 If buses are cancelled during day for a certain area,
 the late bus doesn't run either.
 For example: North buses cancelled for day,
 Cheticamp late run is **not** running

CHETICAMP

- Le Moine Fire Hall
- Flora's
- NDA

MARGAREE

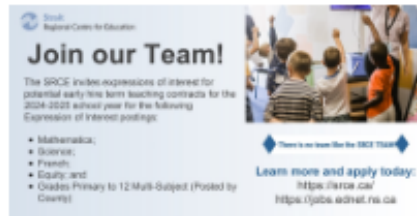
- CO-OP
- Harts XTR
- Old MacPherson Store
- Ingrahams Garage

Teacher Assistants	Bus Drivers
Lorna Phillips	Audrey Leblanc
Nadine Clark	Rita Arsenault
Denise Deveau	James MacNeil
Natasha Romard	Jody Ingraham Phillips
Donna McDaniel	Lindsey Hart
Catherine MacNeil	Fletcher Ingraham
	Angela Ross
Building Technician/Janitorial	Melanie Burton
Dan Longtin	
Heather Leblanc	Cafeteria
Priscilla Leblanc	Annie Bourgeois
Wanda Fortune	
Ryan Poirier	

Expression of Interest Teaching Postings 2024-2025

Expression of Interest for Teaching Positions for the 2024-2025 School Year

Posted on 01/05/2024



The Strait Regional Centre for Education invites you to join our team and support the success of our children and youth.

The Strait Regional Centre for Education is currently accepting Expressions of Interest for potential early hire term teaching contracts for the 2024-2025 academic year.

Qualified teachers, or those who will be qualified by September 1, 2024, are invited to apply online for the following Expression of Interest postings:

- [Mathematics](#);
- [Science](#);
- [French](#);
- [Equity](#) and
- [Grades Primary to 12 Multi-Subject \(Posted by County\)](#)

The Strait Regional Centre of Education is committed to an inclusive education system that supports the well-being, achievement and success of every student and is high-quality, culturally and linguistically responsive.

Those selected as Early Hires will be offered a minimum of one year, fixed, 100% term contract, with associated salary and benefits.

Qualified candidates may apply online at www.srce.ca.

For more information, please contact the SRCE Human Resources Department at 902-625-7081.

SRCE Fostering a Love of Reading at Home

1. Read to your child - This special time promotes healthy brain development and strengthens bonds.
2. Read a variety of texts - Picture books, story books, biographies, digital texts, how-to books, comics, manuals, recipe books, food labels, news articles, etc.
3. Listen to your child read - Take turns reading a book, comic, magazine, newspaper or other reading material together.
4. Talk about the story - This helps children understand what they are reading.
5. Read in front of children - If all household members “practice what they preach” and model reading, it sends a clear message that reading is valuable.
6. Create a space for reading and writing - A comfy space with reading materials, pens, pencils, markers and paper nearby will encourage your child to practice their reading and writing skills daily.
7. Look for opportunities to use reading and writing skills - For example, have your child write the shopping list, read the traffic signs, and name all the things in the kitchen that start with the letter *P*, etc.
8. Turn off technology - Kids often need extra encouragement to pick up a book and read or get pencil and paper and write. (Unless using technology to read or write)
9. Write messages to family and friends - Think of a family member, friend or community member who might like to receive a letter, text, email, or notes on the fridge, etc.
10. Listen to music with your child - After listening, talk about it. For example, discuss the meaning of lyrics, the historical aspects of the song and the way music makes you feel, etc.
11. Make up stories together - Take turns adding details. Start with “Once upon a time...”; “It was a sunny day...” or “Yesterday...” etc.
12. Visit the local library virtually with your child - Take advantage of book borrowing and other activities offered at our local library. <http://ecrl.library.ns.ca/> or <http://www.parl.ns.ca>





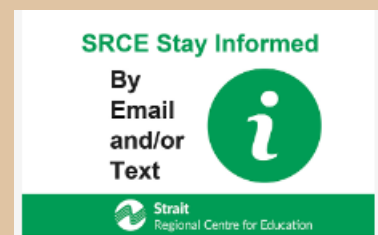
A recent study looking at young children found that absenteeism in kindergarten was associated with negative first grade outcomes such as greater absenteeism in subsequent years and lower achievement in reading, math, and general knowledge. Research shows that attendance is an important factor in student achievement. Monthly reports will be run at CBHEC/A and students who have missed 10% of school days and greater will be notified via email.

TARDY

Arrive on time:

We have a number of high school students who consistently arrive after the 8:55am bell. These students are arriving to school via their own vehicle or they are travelling to school with a friend who has their own transportation. Late arrivals are disruptive to classes. Please speak to your child about this as if this would be a place of employment, this behavior would not be tolerated.

Stay Informed !



Early school cancellations

It is important that all students have an early dismissal plan in place. Please be sure you are signed up in “Stay Informed” (found on the SRCE website) so you will receive text messages if there is an early dismissal due to power outages, loss of water, power plant problems, wind, etc. Teachers in the early elementary classrooms try their very best to call all families so students do not arrive home to an empty house.

Who Do I Contact with Questions or Concerns?



Strait

Regional Centre for Education

1

For curriculum or classroom-related questions, start with your child's teacher. If required, follow up with the school principal.

2

For questions about the Pre-primary Program, start with your child's Lead Early Childhood Educator. If required, follow up with the Manager of Pre-primary Programs at carolyn.webber@srce.ca.

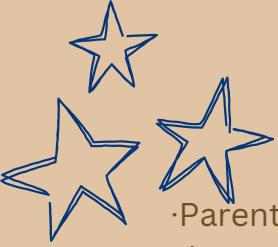
3

For general inquiries, please contact the SRCE where we will be happy to connect you with the right member of staff: 902-625-2191 / srce@srce.ca.

4

For all other matters and media inquiries, please contact Deanna Gillis, Coordinator of Communications by phone at 902-625-7093 or by email at deanna.gillis@srce.ca.





Reminders

- Parents are reminded not to send birthday party invitations to their child(rens) classrooms as they will not be passed out in school.
- Parents and visitors are more than welcome to visit the school. However, be sure that you only go as far as the office. For our students' security we ask that you don't go to coat racks, classrooms, the gym etc. during school hours. If you need to see your child administration will call your child to the office for you.
- We also ask that parents communicate in their child(rens) agendas if there are any after school arrangements, cafeteria instructions, and extracurricular activities that need to be noted. We have over three hundred students from pre-primary to grade 12 and it is not possible for our secretary to manage all these arrangements or changes in plans.
- Please ensure that you send your child to school with a water bottle. CBHECA does **not** provide cups and we no longer have the older style water fountains – we have water fill stations.
- Students are not permitted into the school until 8:40am. Please do not drop your child(ren) earlier than 8:40am as there is no one available to supervise your child(ren) and the doors are locked.
- Parents of elementary students are encouraged to keep an extra set of clothes in their child(ren)s school bag in-case they get wet during the school day. This eliminates the need for phone calls home for dry clothes.



Student Pick-Up

When picking up your student(s) before the end of day due to illness, appointment, early dismissal or other reason, we are asking that you **park your car in the parking lot or next to the curb by the flagpole and come to the door to collect your child(ren).**

Reminder: Bus loop is closed to all vehicles during school hours (8:30-3pm) and parking in the bus loop after hours is not permitted – please use the parking lot when dropping off students or picking up students.

We appreciate your support in keeping our students safe!!!

Parent Portal

The student-parent portal gives you real-time access to attendance, grades, assignments, teacher comments, and school bulletins. You access the portal using your own user account. This would be the email you receive school updates on. Please reach out to the office if you need assistance

How to Stay Informed?

The SRCE uses a number of communication platforms, including print, online and social media, to regularly update and share information with students, parents, guardians, staff, and community partners on a variety of education matters. These platforms include:

- SRCE website (<https://srce.ca/>) and school websites;
- Twitter/X (@SRCE_NS);
- Regional Executive Director of Education's Report to School Communities in the SRCE;
- [Stay Informed Notification System](#) for class/bus announcements and news items/stories;
- Subscribe to the SRCE YouTube Channel @SRCE_NS;
- Local newspapers; and
- Local radio stations.

Dressing for the Weather

Although some days might not seem so cold at your home, when your children arrive at CBHECA we get some good winds from the Atlantic Ocean that cause it to be colder at the school. We ask that you be sure to dress your child(ren) warm so they can enjoy their time outside at recess and lunch. The wind can get quite harsh near the playgrounds so please be sure your child(ren) have a hat/mittens. It would also be appreciated if you could pack an extra set of clothes in their backpacks for days that are wet. This way we won't need to call you to come in with new clothes

Safe Arrival Policy

Please continue to be mindful of our **Safe Arrival Policy** for students in Grades P-6. You should email cbh.office@srce.ca or call 902-235-7500 by 9:15am if they aren't attending school, even if the student's bus is canceled. Please leave a message with your name, your child's name and reason for absence. If the school is not notified and we are unable to reach a parent/guardian the RCMP may be contacted to ensure the safety of the student.

SEPTEMBER 2023						
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of teaching days - 20

- 1 Staff Orientation & Organization Day
- 4 Labor Day
- 5 Regional In-service Day
- 6 First Day of Classes
- 22 School Based In-service

FEBRUARY 2024						
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of teaching days - 20

- 1 Start of Semester 2 (Quarter 3)
- 8 Report Cards Distributed (9-12)
- 19 Heritage Day

OCTOBER 2023						
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of teaching days - 20

- 2 Truth and Reconciliation Day Observance
- 9 Thanksgiving Day
- 27 NSTU Conference Day

MARCH 2024						
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31						

of teaching days - 15

- 8 Term 2 Ends (P-8)
- 8 Administration & Evaluation Day (No Classes PP-8 / Regular Class 9-12)
- 11-15 Spring Break
- 29 Good Friday

NOVEMBER 2023						
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26	27	28	29	30		

of teaching days - 21

- 3 Quarter 1 Ends (9-12)
- 3 Administration & Evaluation Day - No Classes PP-8 / Regular Classes 9-12
- 13 Remembrance Day Observance
- 16 Report Cards Distributed 9-12
- 17 Term 1 Ends (P-8)
- 20 Report Cards Distributed P-8
- 23 In-service (AM) / Parent Teacher (PM) (No Classes PP-12)

APRIL 2024						
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of teaching days - 21

- 1 Easter Monday
- 2 Report Cards Distributed (P-8)
- 4 In-service (AM) / Parent Teacher (PM) (No Classes PP-8 / Regular Classes 9-12)
- 5 Quarter 3 Ends (9-12)
- 18 Report Cards Distributed (9-12)
- 25 In-service (AM) / Parent Teacher (PM) (No Classes 9-12 / Regular Classes PP-8)

DECEMBER 2023						
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31						

of teaching days - 14

- 20 Last Day of Classes Prior to Holiday Break

MAY 2024						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
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of teaching days - 22

- 17 Regional In-service Day
- 20 Victoria Day

JANUARY 2024						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

of teaching days - 22

- 2 School Resumes After Holiday Break
- 23 NSVS Summative Assessments
- 25 Semester 1 Summative Assessments Begin
- 30 Semester 1 Summative Assessments End
- 31 Semester 1 (Quarter 2) Ends (9-12)
- 31 Administration and Evaluation Day (No Classes 9-12 / Regular Classes PP-8)

JUNE 2024						
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

of teaching days - 20

- 17 NSVS Summative Assessments
- 19 Semester 2 Summative Assessments Begin
- 26 Administration & Evaluation Day (No Classes 9-12 / Regular Classes PP-8)
- 26 Earliest Date for Graduation
- 27 Administration & Evaluation Day (No Classes PP-12)
- 28 Last day of school

- Summative Assessment Days
- Inservice/PD/Assessment & Evaluation Days
- School Holidays/Observances
- Report Cards and Parent-Teacher Conferences

Approved: February 27, 2023
Revised: March 27, 2023