



A. BLAIR
McPHERSON
SCHOOL

HANDBOOK



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WELCOME TO A. BLAIR MCPHERSON SCHOOL

A. Blair McPherson School is a Kindergarten to Grade 9 community school that offers inclusive programming. The elementary and junior high students share the same timetable and schedule to enhance collaborative opportunities between students and staff. Our school facility is available to community groups in the evenings and on the weekends to reflect our belief in strong community partnerships.

SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY

At A. Blair McPherson School we believe that every member of our community has something special to contribute and the ability to be successful. We all learn in unique ways but come together to embrace our differences and be stronger as a whole. We believe that real learning is passionate learning and that our staff can inspire students in the best of inquiry practices. As we prepare our students for the future we embrace technology, global citizenship, collaboration and creativity.

A. BLAIR MCPHERSON

A. Blair McPherson was a stalwart advocate for public education and deeply appreciated its role in preparing students to be the leaders of tomorrow. “Grandpa Mac”, as he was affectionately called, was a beloved family pastor, respected counselor and a dedicated volunteer who made significant contributions at Bisset School in the Mill Woods community of Ridgewood from the time it opened its doors. He was known for helping students contribute positively to their school, and taught them the importance of respecting others, being compassionate members of society and living their lives with honesty and integrity. Mr. McPherson passed away in 2008, but the value he placed on building positive relationships will surely be a principle that will flourish in our school.

SCHOOL LOGO

Our school logo pays homage to both the heritage and values of our school’s namesake. The main icon is a modern take on the traditional shield with overlapping bars forming an abstract “M”. The interlocking pattern references the McPherson tartan and represents the values Mr. McPherson placed on respecting others and working together with integrity. The woven shape also reflects the collaborative nature of school with parents, community, staff and students all working together.

BACKGROUND

Our school opened in 2009 and is built on a foundation of valuing respectful, positive relationships, on appreciating individual differences and on the belief that every student can achieve success. Together with parents, students and community we are building on this foundation to create a dynamic learning environment that fosters personal growth and excellence.

The design of the school will serve the needs of the community for years to come. The core elements of the school such as the gym, library, some classrooms and the offices are permanent, while modular classrooms can be added or removed as needed, based on enrolment. Unlike portable classrooms of the past, these high-performance classrooms look and feel like permanent rooms on the inside. All rooms are outfitted with state of the art technology to ensure students become proficient in the skills they need for the future.

Our school is a place that encourages respect, engages students and supports collaboration and innovation. It gives students a firm foundation for lifelong learning enabling them to become positive lifelong contributors to our 21st century society.

DISTRICT PRIORITIES

In its continuing commitment to excellence in public education, the Edmonton Public School Board has adopted the following priorities for 2018-2022:

- Foster growth and success for every student by supporting their journey from early learning through high school completion and beyond.
- Provide welcoming, high quality learning and working environments.
- Enhance public education through communication, engagement and partnerships.

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SCHEDULE AND HOURS OF OPERATION

Each class at A. Blair McPherson School is 52 minutes long.

Elementary/Junior High Schedule

8:50 to 9:42	Period 1
9:44 to 10:36	Period 2
10:36 to 10:51	Recess/N. Break
10:51 to 11:43	Period 3
11:43 to 12:28	Lunch
12:33 to 1:25	Period 4
1:27 to 2:19	Period 5
2:19 to 2:34	Recess/N. Break
2:34 to 3:26	Period 6

RESPECTFUL LEARNING AND WORKING ENVIRONMENTS

Edmonton Public Schools, in co-operation with its staff groups, is committed to creating a healthy, respectful learning environment for students, staff members, Trustees, parents, volunteers and contractors.

We recognize the worth of every person without discrimination.

We are committed to working toward the elimination of objectionable behaviour in our schools and workplaces, and to maintaining an environment that is respectful, safe, nurturing and positive for everyone.

Please help us achieve this goal by interacting in a manner which respects the dignity and value of others.

2019-2020 SCHOOL CALENDAR

September	2	Labour Day	March	20	Progress Report
	3	First Day of School		23-27	Spring Break
	11	Photo Day		30	Classes Resume
	12	Meet the Teacher		31	School Council
	20	Terry Fox Run			
	23	PD Day			
	24	School Council			
October	14	Thanksgiving – No School	April	10-13	Good Friday/Easter
	16-17	Goal Setting/Conferences		28	School Council
	19	PD Day- No School		30	Kindergarten Orientation
	23	Photo Retakes	May	5	Gr.9 LA PAT
	25	PD Day		6	Band/Choir Concert
	29	School Council		7	Gr.6 LA PAT
November	8	Remembrance Ceremony	15	Volunteer Tea	
	11	Remembrance Day	18	Victoria Day – No School	
	12-13	NonInstructional Day	19-20	Non-Instructional Day	
	26	School Council	21	Udecide Celebration	
	29	PD Day	26	School Council	
December	6	Progress Report Release	29	Gr. 9 Farewell Celebration	
	18-19	Winter Concert	June	5	Alumni Breakfast
	23 - 31	Winter Recess		15	Gr.6 Math PAT
January	1-5	Winter Recess		17	Gr. 6 LA PAT
	6	Classes Resume Mighty Love of Reading Night		Gr. 6 Science PAT	
	22		18	Gr. 9 Math PAT	
	28	School Council	19	Gr.6 Math PAT	
February	5-6	Div 1-3 – Parent Conference	22	Gr. 6/9 Social PAT	
	13	Fine Arts Night	23	Gr.9 LA PAT	
	17	Family Day – No School	24	Gr.9 Math PAT	
	18	PD Day	25	Gr. 9 Science PAT	
	25	School Council	26	Last Day for Students/Progress Reports	
	27-28	Teachers' Convention			

ATTENDANCE, LATES, AND ABSENTEE CHECK

We check attendance each morning and afternoon in our elementary program and at the beginning of each period in our junior high program. Office staff will call home each morning and afternoon to confirm unexcused absences. If your child will be absent, please call 780-468-4361 and leave a message including:

- your child's full name;
- their teacher or homeroom teacher's name; and
- the reason for their absence.

It is extremely important for the safety of your child that the school be notified of any change in telephone numbers at home, work, or emergency contacts.

The *School Act* provides the provincial expectations related to student attendance at school and defines what reasons may legitimately keep students away from school. Section 13(5) of this act excuses a student from attending school only if the reason is sickness, religious holidays, suspension/expulsion, permission from the Board, or other unavoidable circumstance. Please note that family holidays, extension of school vacation periods, student work schedules, or parental permission given to a student to stay away from school are not considered to be excused absences. If a student is chronically absent from school for "unexcused" reasons, the school may be required to refer the student to the Attendance Board.

Punctuality is recognized as being an important lifelong habit. If students are late, they are to report to the office for a late slip and our office staff will update their attendance record. For students who are habitually late, the classroom teacher will notify parents and they will collaboratively come up with a plan to address the situation. If this plan is not effective, a meeting with administration, parents, teachers and students may be arranged to discuss possible solutions.

If a student needs to leave school early for a medical appointment or other reason, they must sign out through the office. A phone call or a note from the parent is essential in order for us to allow the student to leave the building without the parent present.

ABSENCES FOR HOLIDAYS

A great deal of learning occurs in the classroom through the use of guided questions, dialogue and problem solving. We therefore request you try to schedule family holidays during the school breaks. Parents who choose to take their children out of school and go on a holiday or trip are choosing to accept responsibility for their children's learning during that period of time. Home education imparts responsibility to the parents to provide programming that meets the Alberta Education Curriculum guidelines. If you have scheduled a holiday during school time, we would appreciate notice well in advance, so that teachers can communicate with parents about what the child will be missing. Teachers are not required to develop handouts or specific lessons for extended holiday time. Evaluation may indicate "unable to assess" or "absent during this unit" on the progress report.

ACCEPTABLE USE OF TECHNOLOGY POLICY AND STUDENT DECLARATION

We believe that technology can be a powerful tool to enhance learning, enabling students to obtain information and to collaborate with others across the school, the District and the world in purposeful educational activities.

We expect all students to model the qualities of good digital citizenship by following standards of acceptable use and ethical practices when using either school-owned technology or their own personal electronic devices. Each student, as well as their parent or guardian, must review, sign, and return the *Acceptable Use of Technology Policy and Student Declaration* document which can be found on our website at ablairmcperson.epsb.ca.

USE OF CELL PHONES ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

Students must turn off their cell phones during class time, unless they have been given permission to use them by their teacher for learning purposes. Please note that junior high students are solely responsible for the security of these items or any other valuables they may choose to bring to school.

BICYCLES AND PERSONAL PROPERTY

Skateboards, scooters, in-line skates and biking are all great ways to stay fit and travel to school. To ensure everyone's safety, we ask that students wear a helmet and not use their skateboards, scooters, skates or bikes on school property. The bicycle rack area is out of bounds except when parking or picking up bicycles. All bicycles must be locked and must not be ridden in the parking lot area, in the lay-by or on school grounds.

Students are discouraged from bringing large sums of money or other valuables to school, but in special circumstances where it is necessary, students must bring the money directly to the office for safekeeping.

If an item is valuable, it is safest at home.

We do realize that many students will be bringing their personal laptops and netbooks to school. This type of electronic equipment should be clearly marked with the student's name and address. We encourage families to purchase a protective bag for transportation of laptops and netbooks to and from school, as well as from class to class for junior high students. A locked space in the classroom will be available for elementary students who choose to bring laptops or electronic notebooks to school.

Students are encouraged to bring their imaginations to school and leave toys and electronic devices (that are not being used for a specific academic purpose) at home. The school will not be responsible for lost, broken or stolen personal items.

COLD AND INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

Recess for elementary students provides a break from the regular school routine and a chance to get some exercise and fresh air. It is expected that children will be dressed warmly enough to be outside for 15 minutes each morning and afternoon and for 25 minutes at lunch time. When the temperature is colder than -23°C , the wind-chill factor creates an equally cold situation, or there is a storm or extreme wind conditions, regular outside recess will be cancelled and students will remain indoors.

Air Quality Advisory

On days when Environment Canada issues an Air Quality Health Index rating that is at 7 or higher, students will remain indoors with school windows closed. Air conditioning and HVAC air systems will remain on.

COMMUNICATION

Parents are encouraged to contact their child's teacher(s) to provide information that may be helpful in planning their child's program as well as to ask any questions they may have. To contact teachers, parents can call, email, connect via *SchoolZone*, or contact the school office directly to make an appointment to come in to see the teacher. *SchoolZone* is a great tool for parents to stay up to date on all kinds of information including school activities, newsletters, attendance, and progress reports.

CURRICULUM SUPPORT FOR PARENTS

Parents play a vital role in the education of our students. In order to help parents reinforce learning at home, Alberta Education has published the *Curriculum Handbook for Parents* series. Visit www.education.alberta.ca to download a copy of these helpful documents.

As partners in education, this resource provides parents with valuable information about the learning goals that have been set for students.

Parents may also find it useful to log onto LearnAlberta.ca to find other curricular support materials. LearnAlberta.ca offers a wide range of resources directly tied to what Alberta students are learning in the classroom. These multi-media resources engage students by using video clips, animations, interactive lessons, problem-solving strategies, glossaries and much more to help them learn new things in fun ways. The site creates a unique learning environment that can help students in and out of class. Parents will gain a better understanding of what their children are learning and be better prepared to provide assistance. The password for the LearnAlberta.ca will be posted on *SchoolZone* for parents to access.

DRESS CODE

Students are expected to wear clothing that does not cause a distraction to other students and is respectful, appropriate, and safe for the learning environment.

EMERGENCY PLANS

Edmonton Public Schools requires each school to develop a plan for evacuation in the event of an emergency that makes it impossible for the school to remain open or open on a regular day of school. If the emergency occurs during school hours, students will be removed to a safe location in the community depending on the nature or reason for the evacuation. Parents will be notified to come and pick up their children by phone. Should an emergency occur out of school hours, an announcement will be made via radio and television news.

To help students learn how to act quickly and safely in case of emergency, evacuation and lockdown drills will be held throughout the year.

Maps are posted in each room regarding which exits should be used. Parents are encouraged to sign up for School Messenger. School Messenger is a message system that will text parents in the event of a school emergency

ENTRANCES

Students will be instructed on the first day of school as to their designated entrance for arrival at and dismissal from school. Elementary students will be asked to use the entrances at the rear of the school in their respective wings. Kindergarten and junior high students will use the front entrance and the junior high students will proceed immediately upstairs to their homerooms.

Junior high students are allowed to enter the building at 8:00 a.m. but must be seated in the common area upstairs. Elementary students should arrive to school no earlier than 8:35 a.m. as there is no outside supervision prior to that time.

Students arriving after 8:50 a.m. will be expected to use the front entrance to report for attendance and a late slip. For the safety of our staff and students, all other exterior doors will be locked during the day.

FIELD TRIPS

Students may participate in a variety of curriculum based field trips throughout the year to enhance classroom learning. Students must return a parent signed permission form with trip details (cost, method of transportation, itinerary, supervision etc.) in order to participate. No child will be refused the right to participate due to a lack of funds if the situation is brought to the attention of the teacher or principals. If a student is not able to participate in a field trip due to any other reason, they will be accommodated in other class

FOOTWEAR

Boot racks are located at several entrances throughout the school for elementary students. Outdoor footwear should be left on these racks or on the carpet areas designated for shoes and boots. All students must have an extra pair of shoes with non-marking soles for indoor use. All footwear should be marked with your child's full name. The school cannot assume responsibility for lost footwear, but will make every effort to assist students in recovering their property. We ask that all visitors coming into the school respect our effort to keep the floors clean for our students and remove their dirty shoes at the door. Shoes with wheels in the sole are not allowed in the school.

Junior high students must have a pair of non-marking athletic shoes/ runners that are used exclusively for physical education classes.

IDENTIFICATION OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

All student footwear, clothing and personal supplies should be clearly labeled to assist us in returning lost items to their owners. Found articles of clothing and footwear are placed in the Lost and Found boxes located in the office. The contents of these boxes are put on display periodically so parents and student can more easily look for lost items. Small, lost items such as glasses, rings, watches, keys, etc., may be checked for in the school office. Unclaimed items may be distributed to those less fortunate.

LOCKERS

Students are responsible for the security and tidiness of their locker which should be used to hold their personal items and books. Before class, during nutrition breaks, and before the morning and afternoon bells are the only times when students should be accessing their lockers. Students will be provided a school lock on the first day of school. Locks or lockers are not to be tampered with and students should not give out their combination, even to friends.

Please note: there are NO lockers in the gym change rooms. All valuables need to be locked in a locker or left with a homeroom teacher. Lockers are the property of A. Blair McPherson School and they may be searched at any time by an administrator without notice.

ILLNESS OR INJURY

If it is deemed that a student is ill or injured while at school, we will attempt to contact the parent/guardian or the person listed as the emergency contact to send the child home. In the interim, the child will be made as comfortable as possible in the school office. If it is deemed that the illness or injury appears to be serious, medical advice will be sought and followed.

A note from a parent or guardian is required if a student needs an exemption from recess or physical education activities for 3 days or less. For exemptions longer than 3 days, a medical certificate is required from your doctor.

For injuries or accidents, first aid will be administered as needed, and an attempt will be made to notify the parent if the situation warrants it. When a parent or guardian cannot be reached, and the injury is serious, a staff member will accompany the student to the nearest clinic or hospital. If necessary, an ambulance will be called (at the expense of the child's parent/guardian) to transport a critically injured child to the hospital. Every effort will be made to contact the parent first. For this reason, we try to have each student's current Alberta Health Care number on file.

INSURANCE

Parents are reminded that insurance protection to cover costs that may be incurred as a result of accident or injury to a student is the personal responsibility of the home. The school does not provide insurance of this nature.

LIBRARY SERVICES

The library and all of its resources are for the benefit and pleasure of everyone in the school. A. Blair McPherson students may borrow books or use reference and periodical material in the library. Library users are to sign out all borrowed items and are expected to return them on time and in good condition. Users will be responsible for charges relating to lost or damaged books or materials.

LUNCH PROGRAM

A. Blair McPherson School students who choose to stay within the facility for the lunch hour are required to pay a fee for lunch supervision.

Lunch Fees:

Annual lunch fees are determined each year and are collected when fee sheets are distributed in mid September.

Students are offered the opportunity to stay at the school on an occasional drop-in basis and those students will be charged \$2.00 per lunch hour.

General Lunch Program information

The lunch hour at A. Blair McPherson School is divided into two time periods:

11:43 a.m. - 12:05 p.m. - Elementary students remain indoors to eat their lunch

- Junior high students are dismissed outside or to alternate school activities

12:05 - 12:28 p.m. - Elementary students play outside (weather permitting)

- Junior high students eat in the upper common area

Microwave Ovens

For safety reasons, microwave ovens will not be available to students during the lunch hour. Students can be burned or even start a small fire due to overheating food. If parents would like to send a warm lunch for their child, students are welcome to bring their warm lunch in a Thermos.

Elementary "Nut Free" zone

Several elementary students at A. Blair McPherson School have severe nut allergies. In order to ensure these students eat in a safe environment all parents of elementary students are to refrain from sending nut products in student lunches.

Appropriate attire for weather conditions

Weather permitting, students will be asked to enjoy the outdoors and get some fresh air during the lunch hour. It is imperative that students arrive at the school with the appropriate outerwear including a warm jacket, snow pants, gloves/mittens, hat/toque and warm footwear for those frosty winter days. When the outside temperature drops below -23°C students will have alternate lunch hour activities within the building.

MEDICATION MANAGEMENT PLAN/ ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION

Edmonton Public Schools' regulation titled *Administration of Medication* states:

All students requiring medication management for physician-prescribed medication must have a Student-Focused Medication Management Plan to ensure that the medication information is complete and accurate. This plan is for students who regularly or infrequently take physician-prescribed medication at school. If a student requires this type of medication to be administered at school, please contact the office so that the appropriate paper work can be completed.

Medication must accompany this paper work and must be appropriately labeled in the original container.

NUTRITION

In the interest of promoting good nutrition and dental care, the consumption of gum, candy, soft drinks, and junk food is not encouraged in the school or on the playground. Your assistance in helping your child make healthy food choices and in supporting this focus on nutrition by not sending such foods in your child's lunch is greatly appreciated.

Each year, we have a number of children with severe allergies that may result in life threatening conditions. As a result, certain precautions may be taken in the classroom and specific school areas, including the identification of a classroom as "allergy friendly." Parents and students are expected to adhere to the guidelines laid out in these instances. Please do not send any food items containing peanuts or peanut butter to school as we do have several students with severe allergies to these products.

NOTIFICATION OF CHANGES OF INFORMATION

It is important that we have up to date emergency contact information for each student. Please notify the school if your child's emergency contact information (telephone number, address, etc.) changes during the school year.

OUT OF BOUNDS AREAS

During school hours students are not permitted to play in the following areas:

- in front of the school;
- in any of the parking lots or roadways; or
- around the bicycle rack area.

All students must remain on school grounds for the entire school day unless they are going home for lunch. With parental permission grade 8 and 9 students are permitted to leave campus at lunch.

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parents will be kept informed of the academic progress and behaviour of their children through *SchoolZone*, telephone and through scheduled conferences. Parent and teacher conferences may be arranged by the school or by parents, at any time, to discuss student progress or behaviour.

Three comprehensive progress reports are issued during the year (November, March and June). Conferences will be scheduled for all students and parents/guardians prior to the date the progress report is issued for Terms One and Two. Conferences strive to develop mutually agreed upon strategies that can be implemented both at home and at school to encourage improved student success. Information and additional resources will be provided as a support to address the concerns of teachers, students and parents.

PARKING AND STUDENT DROP OFF

Visitor parking is available at the front of the school across from the lay-by, Tamarack Green road or on one of the side streets. When dropping off or picking up students, parents are asked to obey the parking and bus zone signs. If using the student drop off zone, parents are asked to move as far down the lay-by as possible and remain in the vehicle. Student safety is enhanced when patience is exercised and proper practices are followed. If parking in the visitor parking area, please do not ask your child to cross in front of the lay-by unless you are assisting them.

Parents are not allowed to use the staff parking lot when dropping off or picking up students. Please visit the following link <https://epsb.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapJournal/index.html?appid=904800465a864e5983285d33c7876520> to view safe pick up and drop off.

SCHOOL SUPPLY LISTS

Please refer to *SchoolZone* or ablairmcperson.epsb.ca for Gr.1-9 supply lists.

SCHOOLZONE

SchoolZone is an information system developed by Edmonton Public Schools to provide parents, students and teachers with secure access to school and student information, including:

- Online access to daily homework assignments
- Progress reports
- Attendance records
- News of school and district events
- Achievement results
- Important links to online resources
- Fee payments

If parents had *SchoolZone* accounts for their child(ren) at their previous school, the process and passwords remain the same. Passwords remain the same from one school year to the next. If you are new to our district and or *SchoolZone* please contact our school off

STUDENT USE OF TELEPHONES

A courtesy telephone for students' use is located in the office. This telephone may be used before morning classes, during lunchtime and after dismissal. It may not be used during class time.

SUPERVISION

Supervision for elementary students does not start until 8:35 a.m. so it is important that students not arrive too early. When the weather is very cold or wet, children may wait inside the school, quietly gathering outside their classrooms. Paid lunchroom aides supervise students while they eat their lunch and when they are on the playground during the lunch hour. The teaching staff provides supervision 15 minutes before school, and during the morning and afternoon recesses. At dismissal time, students are to proceed directly home or to their after school care.

TRANSPORTATION

Monthly Edmonton Transit bus passes are available at the school office and are available for the fee determined by the school board. Mutilated bus passes may be replaced free of charge at the office, if a remnant of the bus pass can be identified.

VANDALISM

We request the support of all community residents in keeping our school safe. If you witness any acts of vandalism or persons of a suspicious nature, please call the Edmonton City Police Dispatcher at 780-423-4567.

VISITORS/VOLUNTEERS

Visitors, whether they are parents, guests, or people on official school business, are welcome in our school. We ask that all visitors sign in at the office prior to going anywhere else in the school.

A. Blair McPherson students are not allowed to visit other schools at any time during the school day (i.e. - on our professional development days, at lunch time etc.) unless prior arrangements have been made with the school. Students who do visit other schools during the school day could be considered to be trespassing.

MIGHTY TRIBES

Mighty Tribes is a process (sequence of events or learning experiences that lead to the achievement of an outcome) that helps administrators, teachers, and students create a positive, caring culture within the school and classrooms.

Using the Mighty Tribes process, expectations for behaviour are proactive and clear.

Community Agreements

The foundation of Mighty Tribes is the Tribes Community Agreements.

1. *Attentive Listening*: To pay close attention to one another's expressions of ideas, opinions, and feelings. When you are attentively listening to another person you let the speaker know that they are being heard with your eyes, ears, and hearts.
2. *Appreciations/No Put Downs*: To treat others kindly; to state appreciation for unique qualities, gifts, skills, and contributions; to avoid negative remarks, name calling, hurtful gestures and behaviours.
3. *Participation/Right to Pass*: To have the right to choose when and what extent one will participate in a group activity; to observe quietly if not participating actively; and to choose whether to offer observations later to a group when asked to do so.
4. *Mutual Respect*: To affirm the value and uniqueness of each person; to recognize and appreciate individual and cultural differences; and offer feedback that encourages growth; to respect others, yourself, and property.

The Tribes Trail

As students learn together as a group, they travel together along the Tribes Trail towards the goal of becoming a co-operative community of learners. The four agreements guide student's daily interactions with each other and around the school. The trail has three main parts.

1. *Inclusion*: This stage is when students develop a sense of belonging in their new group, practice the agreements, and get to know each other.
2. *Influence*: During this stage students learn to manage conflicts, solve problems, set goals, and celebrate the diversity of the group
3. *Community*: When a group has reached community, achievements and gifts are celebrated and the responsibilities are shared by the community.

Ask your child about the agreements and what Tribes looks like in their classrooms. We would encourage you to practice using the Tribes agreements at home as well!

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Please visit the [Student Rights and Responsibilities page](#) to view the complete document.

1. Students shall be treated with dignity, respect, and fairness by other students and staff.
2. Students shall be provided with a learning environment that is free from physical, emotional, and social abuse.
3. Students and parents shall be informed of the board's and school's expectations for student behaviour within the school, the school grounds, and during school activities.
4. In the event of student misbehaviour, students and parents shall have the right to offer an explanation, and to be informed about consequences of misbehaviour.
5. Students shall exercise their responsibilities to:
 - a. use their abilities and talents to gain maximum learning benefits from their school experiences;
 - b. contribute to a climate of mutual trust and respect conducive to effective learning, personal development, and social living; and
 - c. attend school regularly and punctually.
6. Appropriate opportunities for student consultation and involvement in student related matters shall be provided.

STUDENT BEHAVIOUR AND CONDUCT

The board supports the endeavours of staff, students, parents, and the community to ensure positive student behaviour and conduct. In addition, the board expects parents and students to recognize their responsibility in developing student self-discipline.

1. Students shall be responsible and accountable for their behaviour and conduct:
 - a. while involved in school-sponsored or related activities;
 - b. while on school property;
 - c. during any recess or lunch periods on or off school property;
 - d. while travelling to and from school; and
 - e. beyond the hours of school operation if the behaviour or conduct detrimentally affects the welfare of individual students or the governance, climate, or efficiency of the school(s) (School Act Sections 24(1)(b) and 24(7)(b)).

2. Parents play a vital role in developing student behaviour and conduct. It is the district's expectation that parents:
 - a. be aware of the board policy and regulations and the school's expectations for student behaviour and conduct;
 - b. review the board policy and regulations and the school's expectations for student behaviour and conduct with their child(ren);
 - c. work with the school to resolve student behavioural issues when they affect their child(ren); and
 - d. co-operate with the school's or district's recommended course of action prior to re-admission of the student following a student suspension.

3. Students shall show respect for:
 - a. school authority;
 - b. others and their property;
 - c. ethnic, racial, religious, and gender differences;
 - d. school attendance and punctuality;
 - e. work habits, assignments and homework;
 - f. school property;
 - g. textbooks and equipment;
 - h. fire alarms and safety equipment; and
 - i. district policies relating to smoking, alcohol, drugs and inhalants.

4. Failure to meet the expectations for behaviour and conduct shall result in some or all of the following consequences:
 - a. problem solving, monitoring or reviewing behaviour expectation with student and reprimand;
 - b. parental involvement;
 - c. referral to attendance board;
 - d. temporary removal of privileges;
 - e. detention of student;
 - f. temporary exclusion of student from class;
 - g. in-school suspension;
 - h. out-of-school suspension;
 - i. behaviour contract with student;
 - j. restitution for property damage to an individual or board;
 - k. assessment of student to develop appropriate programming;
 - l. involvement of police; and
 - m. expulsion from a school or all district schools.

5. Grounds for disciplinary action that could lead to suspension or expulsion exist where a student has demonstrated unacceptable behaviour such as:
 - a. conduct which threatens the safety of students and-or staff;
 - b. possession of a weapon on a student's person, or in a student's locker or desk, that is dangerous to students and staff; A weapon is anything used, designed to be used or intended for use in causing death or injury to any person, or for the purpose of threatening or intimidating any person.
 - c. displaying or brandishing a weapon in a threatening or intimidating manner;
 - d. assaulting another person;
 - e. possession or use of illegal drugs, alcohol, or inhalants in school and on school property;
 - f. contravention of district policies and regulations related to student harassment, smoking, student attendance, and student rights and responsibilities;
 - g. theft;
 - h. willful disobedience and-or open opposition to authority;
 - i. use or display of improper or profane language;
 - j. willful damage to school or others' property;
 - k. interfering with the orderly conduct of class(s) or the school; and-or
 - l. contravention of the code of conduct as set out in the School Act Section 12.
 - m. contravention of the provisions of Section 27 of the School Act related to trespassing, loitering, and causing a disturbance; and-or
 - n. use of technology such as computers, cameras, cell phones, and other digital equipment for purposes that are illegal, unethical, immoral, or inappropriate.

6. Principals shall report to police the names of all persons for whom they have reasonable and probable grounds to believe are trafficking in drugs. The principal shall:
 - a. inform the parents of students involved; and-or
 - b. proceed with disciplinary measures which may lead to suspensions or expulsions.
7. Based on the board policy and regulations for student behaviour and conduct, each school shall develop and communicate to parents and students expectations for student behaviour and conduct.
8. The principal shall communicate annually, to students and parents, the board policy and regulations and the school's expectations for student behaviour.



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