



# Important ÉJSMS Information

## 2022-2023

This handbook contains important information about the school and our policies.  
**Please keep it as a reference for the year.**

**We were thrilled to be able to have families in the building again this year for our staggered entries! Thank you for coming in.**

ÉJSMS is welcoming a new administrator to the office this year. Erin Kosola has joined the JSM staff as the assistant principal. If you need to get ahold of an administrator, please call 403-782-3096, followed by an extension number. Tracy Duckett, Principal - extension 4201  
Erin Kosola, Assistant Principal - extension 4285

For general calls to the school, please call 403-782-3096. Our fabulous administrative assistants are Antoinette Leibel and Sheri Krall. Office hours are 8:00 to 4:00.

***Supervision starts at 8:20, so students should not arrive before that time. All grades 1, 2, and 3 students remain outdoors when they arrive at school and must line up at designated spots when the bell goes at 8:33.***



**Please donate online to:**  
<https://schools.terryfox.ca/EcoleJamesSMcCormick>

At École James S. McCormick School, we put safety first. For example, we keep our external doors locked to ensure no one can enter the building without our knowledge. We also require all visitors to sign in at the office now. We have a high adult to child ratio on the playgrounds, and supervisors carry first aid equipment with them.

But safety doesn't just mean physical safety. We believe students need to be and feel physically, emotionally, socially, and psychologically safe for in depth learning to occur. Learning is very difficult when students do not feel safe and secure. Students are treated by the staff with respect and dignity, and they are taught to treat each other in these ways as well. We also teach students how to treat themselves with respect and dignity, so they have confidence to learn and grow.

At École James S. McCormick School, we teach the Alberta Education curriculum using a range of instructional strategies that includes learning outdoors, learning through the maker movement, and learning through the use of technology, including robotics and coding. In our classrooms you will find staff and students using hands-on and inquiry-based approaches to learning. The best we can do for our students, now, is ensure they have many opportunities to think creatively, learn to problem solve, collaborate with others, and struggle with challenges so they develop a growth mindset, an 'I got this' attitude, and stick-with-it-ness.

**Safety First** - Please note **the parking lot** is not a student drop off or pick up area. It is for buses and staff parking only. We closed the parking lot during high traffic times of the day due to some near misses when people dropped off students, then backed up without noticing a child walking through the parking lot. If you need to visit the school during the day, you are welcome to park in the parking lot at that time. Signs are posted at the parking lot entrance with the times.

## Mark Your Calendars!

Please note the Lacombe school calendars are differentiated from the Wolf Creek calendar. The École James S. McCormick School calendar is below. Please make note of important dates this year.

### ÉCOLE JAMES S. MCCORMICK SCHOOL CALENDAR

2022 - 2023 School Year

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
August							September							October							November						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
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28	29	30	31											30	31												
December							January							February							March						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30	31					26	27	28					26	27	28	29	30	31	
April							May							June													
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7							
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	4	5	6	7	8	9	10							
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	11	12	13	14	15	16	17							
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	18	19	20	21	22	23	24							
29	30	31					29	30	31					25	26	27	28	29	30								

#### LEGEND:

- (x) PTI In-Lieu days
- x Statutory Holidays
- x Teachers' Convention
- x School Opening/Closing
- x School Break
- x Staff Collaboration Days
- x Staff Planning Days

## Meet Your TEACHERS

Teachers will be contacting parents/guardians with invitations to meet on October 3rd, 4th or 5th.

These meetings do not target academics, but rather they provide an opportunity for guardians (and the students) to meet with the classroom teachers for more general purposes, such as discussing how the children are adjusting to the new school year and settling in socially; explaining classroom expectations; answering any questions from guardians; and establishing digital communications between home and school. We hope to see you in the building for these meet ups next week.

## Connect, Communicate, Stay Informed!

Want to know what is going on?  
Want to ask questions on Facebook?

### Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/EJSMParents/>

### École James S. McCormick School Website

<http://ejsm.wolfcreek.ab.ca/>

### Ecole James S McCormick School E-mail

[jsm@wolfcreek.ab.ca](mailto:jsm@wolfcreek.ab.ca)

### Instagram

@Swiftyfriends

### École James S. McCormick School Twitter

@EJSMSchool

## School Council

Our council chair is Renée Spelt, and our vice-chair is Sarah Astles. We are very grateful for their continued leadership of the council's council's efforts to supplement the school community's events and activities.

The council is in [need of a new treasurer](#) for this year in order to run the hot lunch and snack programs. A council member (rather than the school) has to track the money in and out.

The first meeting is on Thursday, September 29 at the school at 7:15. If you can't make the meeting, but are willing to take on the role of treasurer, please contact the school at 403-782-3096.

## Daily Schedule

TIME	EVENT
8:20am	Morning Supervision Begins
8:33am	Bell Rings
8:40am	Morning Classes Commence
11:25am	Lunch Recess
11:50am	Lunch Time
12:15pm	Afternoon Classes Commence
1:45pm	Afternoon Recess Begins
1:57pm	Afternoon Recess Ends
3:17pm	Dismissal
3:30pm	Busses Leave

## Hygiene and Illnesses

Since the start of the school year, we have had a few bugs go through the school already. Several staff members and students have been affected by the flu and colds.

We no longer spray sanitizer on students' hands as they come and go, so they might need some reminders on how to practice their own hygiene.

You can help reduce the risk of illnesses being passed on by the following measures.

- 1 - Keep your children home from school when they are sick (for at least 24 hours).
- 2 - Teach your child how to wash properly and frequently (including after using the washroom, before eating, and after blowing their noses).
- 3 - Teach your children to avoid putting their hands in their eyes, noses, and mouths.



## Terry Fox Fundraiser and Run

The Cash Collection for the Terry Fox Run closes on Thursday, Sept 29, so please be sure to send in your cash donations by then! The online donations remain open until December.

We are pleased to announce we've doubled the online goal of \$500.00, and you know what that means!

At tomorrow's assembly, some people are getting pies in their faces.





# École James S. McCormick School

## École James S. McCormick Staff 2022-2023

Principal—Ms. Tracy Duckett  
Assistant Principal—Ms. Erin Kosola

Admin Assistant—Ms. Antoinelle Leibel  
Admin Assistant/Support—Mrs. Sheri Krall

Bright Futures Play Academy—Ms. Broderson

Kindergarten—Mrs. Pawlak  
Kindergarten—Mrs. Westling  
F.I. Kindergarten—Mme Ahlquist

Grade 1—Mrs. Womacks/Mrs. Meyer (Mrs. Eberts)  
Grade 1—Mrs. Weidner/Ms. Mcleod  
Grade 1—Mrs. Reid  
Grade 1—Mrs. Somers-Brown  
Grade 1 F.I.—Mme Mcleod/Mme Tanya  
Grade 1 F.I.—Mme Thomson

Grade 2—Ms. Smith  
Grade 2—Mrs. Wald  
Grade 2—Ms. Villeneuve  
Grade 2 F.I.—Mme Ranger  
Grade 2 F.I.—Mme Drolet/Mme Tanya (Mme Drysdale)

Grade 2/3—Mrs. Morrow  
Grade 3—Ms. Cooke  
Grade 3—Mrs. Sexsmith  
Grade 3—Mrs. Morris  
Grade 3 F.I.—Mme Flewelling  
Grade 3 F.I.—Mme Doyon

Fine Arts—Mrs. Gustafson  
Physical Education—Mrs. Rogers  
Inclusion Coach—Mrs. Weidner  
Family School Liaison Worker—Mrs. Kim McLean



École  
**James S.  
McCormick  
School**

*Inspiring to Achieve and Believe*

ejsm.wolfcreek.ab.ca  
jsm@wolfcreek.ab.ca  
403.782.3096

### Support Staff

Nicole Anstey  
Anna Blacquiére  
Michele Cade  
Barbie Causey  
Amanda Hunter  
Michelle Keetch  
Loretta Kerr  
Trina Kohut  
Colette Lunn  
Rachel Maris  
Janice McCaughey  
Kaitlyn Noonan  
Heidi Scharf  
Rhonda Trider  
Ana Turkington  
Charlotte Parton  
Sylvia Gauthier  
Sara Sletten

### SENIOR ADMINISTRATION INFO@WOLFCREEK.AB.CA

- Superintendent of Schools—  
Tim De Ruyck
- Assistant Superintendent—  
Danica Martin
- Assistant Superintendent—  
Sonja Dykslag
- Secretary-Treasurer  
Kevin Pobuda

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Luci Henry—Board Chair—Ward A  
Luci.henry@wolfcreek.ab.ca  
Kelly Lowry—Vice Chair—Ward D  
Kelly.lowry@wolfcreek.ab.ca  
Lana Thompson—Ward B  
Lana.thompson@wolfcreek.ab.ca  
Trudy Bratland—Ward C  
Trudy.bratland@wolfcreek.ab.ca  
Brent Buchanan—Ward D  
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6000 Highway 2A  
Ponoka, AB T4J 1P6  
403.783.3473



**Wolf Creek Public Schools**  
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*Creating Success For All Learners*

## What are the expectations of the ÉJSMS Students?

**At École James S. McCormick School, student conduct is governed mainly by societal norms of respect, responsibility, and safety.**

Examples:



- Ask permission before touching someone's belongings.
- Be quiet in classrooms and hallways while others are working.
- Walk in the hallways to avoid accidents.
- If you take a ball outside at recess, be the one who brings it back in.
- Demonstrate good sportsmanship while playing outside at recess.
- Do up your shoes, so they don't come flying off and hit someone.
- Use manners and respectful, appropriate language.
- Clean up after yourself if you spill something during lunch.

*Students are taught that socially appropriate behaviour in person is also expected online. Therefore, anyone posting demeaning or bullying comments about another student will be subject to the same consequences as being rude, demeaning, or bullying in person.*

The full Code of Conduct for our school is attached to the end of this newsletter and can also be found on the [About](#) section of the school's webpage.

### Are parents informed if their children do not respect the code of conduct?

Any child can have a lapse in judgment and make a poor choice once in a while. Parents are not typically informed of minor and rare infractions. Your child's teacher will share a classroom handbook that outlines expectations and when contact with parents/guardians will be typically warranted in his or her classroom.

Parents are informed if their children do something aggressive (verbally or physically), or if their children are displaying a pattern of unexpected behaviours. In these cases, parents/guardians are generally asked to meet with school staff to discuss an intervention plan that may include a combination of consequences and behaviour modification strategies.

The philosophy of École James S. McCormick School is to help and support students learn the skills they need to be emotionally in control of their bodies and socially successful with their peers. When school personnel and parents/guardians work as a team, children are strongly set up for success.

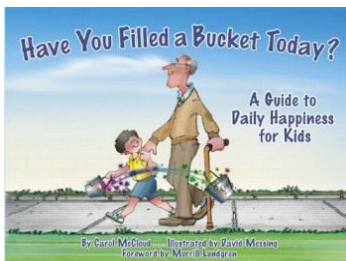
*You will see some other examples of school expectations on the following pages, as well as some answers to FAQs.*

## How do we promote positive behaviour and social interactions at ÉJSMS?

The young students of ÉJSMS have been introduced to

### **Swiftly's Friendship Tools**

As explained to our students, disagreements and conflicts with classmates, and even best friends, may happen during their day. Differences of opinions and ideas are common occurrences in life and in school, and the staff at JS McCormick feels it is essential for our students to have the proper tools and knowhow to resolve these situations in an appropriate manner. We have therefore shared and promoted the following five student-friendly strategies for students to use when conflicts arise. We refer to them as Swiftly's Friendship tools because our swift fox mascot is an important champion of these tools in our school.



## **HAVE YOU FILLED A BUCKET TODAY?**

The children's book Have You Filled a Bucket Today: A Guide to Daily Happiness for Kids by Carol McCloud has been an integral part of our school's character education program. This well-written, heartwarming story, along with its wonderful illustrations, encourages positive behavior as children see how rewarding it is to express daily kindness, appreciation and love towards family, friends, animals and even the environment. This book explains to children that we all carry an invisible bucket in which we keep our feelings and good thoughts. When our buckets are full, we are happy; when our buckets are empty, we are sad. Being kind, helpful, supportive and friendly fills buckets. Being impolite, selfish and hurtful is called bucket dipping and empties buckets.

This book, which is based off the educational programs of Merrill Lundgren, the Bucket Man, has been embraced by our school as it helps to provide our young students with a more tangible explanation of how feelings and emotions are affected by everyday interactions. It provides our students and staff with a common language to discuss and promote positive citizenship and behavior.

If you would like to learn more about this program and see its accompanying resources, visit the website: <http://www.bucketfillers101.com/>



Please note the following dress code refers to the covering of faces; this does not apply to masks worn for COVID-19 or coverings worn for religious reasons.

## ÉJSMS Dress Code for Students

When children are taught to take responsibility for selecting their outfits for each day, they learn to make decisions according to some criteria. Analyzing the facts and making a judgment are two of the most important high level thinking skills we can help our young ones develop.

For example, criteria might include the following:

- It's a gym day.
- Gym has been outside lately.
- It's a windy day.



Can your child judge what the best choices of clothing would be?

**Hoodies**—We feel it is important to see a person's face, because facial expressions convey so much in the way of communication. Hoodies tend to cover children's faces when the hoods are up and made make it harder for the child to hear in the classroom. We do not generally allow children to wear their hoods up (only if there are extenuating circumstances), and absolutely *do not* allow hoods to be zipped shut.

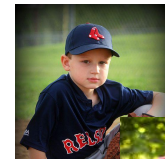


**Hats** – There are many reasons people choose to wear hats: (for eg.,

as part of an outfit;



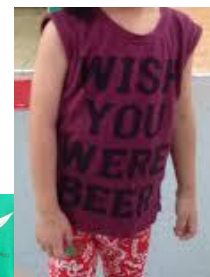
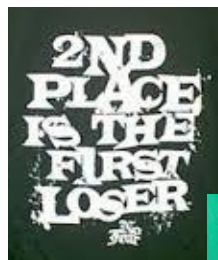
to represent identity and belonging;



or sensitivity to fluorescent lighting).

Note: Some teachers allow hats to be worn in their individual classrooms while others do not. Parents/guardians will receive handbooks from their children's teachers, and they will indicate whether hats are not allowed in their classrooms.

In terms of the school in general, headwear that obstructs vision or hides a student's face will have to be removed. Students wearing inappropriate clothing logos will be required to change and the clothing will be sent home.



**PE/DPA** – Please note that daily physical activity (DPA) is a *daily* requirement in Alberta schools. Physical Education (PE) classes take place twice/week. It is helpful for students to come to school prepared to participate in physical activities every day. Physical activities can include outdoor events, so sport sandals are a better choice than flip flops. As well, it's a good idea to have a pair of shorts at school to slip on under a dress.



Research shows that movement helps increase academic performance as well as physical performance. During recesses, we want our students to be active and socially engaged with their peers. Therefore, students are not allowed to take electronics outside with them. As well, leaving electronics at home reduces the upset that occurs if they go missing.

**Footwear** – If your child has lace-up shoes, please teach him or her to tie them up. Recesses are short, so children do not like to waste time waiting for someone to help with laces. Also, laces tend to come undone and create a tripping hazard. For safety reasons, it is important that shoes are done up tightly. Students will not be allowed to participate in physical education classes unless they have tight fitting shoes (ie., no untied skater type shoes).

For the sake of our caretakers, runners should have non-marking soles.



The parking lot has been designated a **CHILD SAFETY ZONE** at specific times of the day.

**Guardians are asked to park on the street to drop students off or pick them up.**

**For student safety, the parking lot is considered a safety zone for students to walk through rather than a drop off/pick up area.**

**From 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 2:45 p.m. to 3:45 p.m., only staff members and school buses/vans can enter the parking lot. This avoids mixing moving cars and children in the lot. As well, only buses/vans are allowed in the fire lane.**

In exceptional circumstances, vehicles are allowed into the parking lot for drop off and pick up when students are not able to walk to the school on their own. For example, a child with a broken leg can be brought into the parking lot for the duration of the healing process. As well, some students with special needs must be brought into the parking lot for safety and/or physical reasons. To have access to the parking lot for drop off or pick-up times, permits are required and must be obtained from the office each year.





# Frequently Asked Questions

## If my child is going to be absent, do I inform the teacher or the administrative assistants?

Attendance is taken each morning and right after lunch. If a student is absent and we have not heard from the guardians, an automatic messaging system is activated.

If your child is not going to be at school, please call the school in advance, so attendance records are up to date, and so you don't get an automated message from the school. The school is open by 8:00 a.m. every morning, but you can leave a message on the school's phone (403-782-3096) any time, and our administrative assistants will get it. If the office staff has not heard from you in time, your child will be marked absent. You will receive an automated phone call, text, and/or email informing you that your child is absent. **By logging onto the parent portal on our school webpage, you can select the method(s) through which you want to be notified.**



## Who can pick up my child?

We do not allow any adults to take children from the school unless one of the following is in place:

- The person is listed as a guardian or an emergency contact person in our online student records.
- The classroom teacher has been informed by a guardian that someone different will be picking up a child.
- The person represents the child's typical child care provider/organization.
- The person can prove he or she is a biological parent.

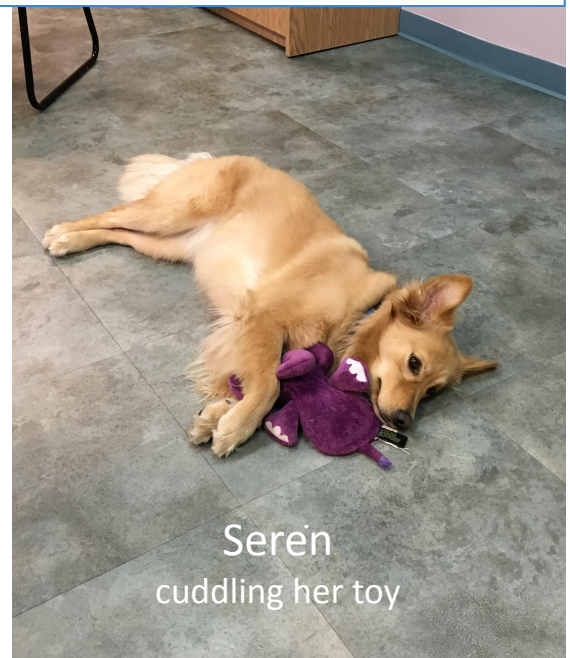
Note: Biological parents have a right to information about their children and to access their children in person, regardless of custodial arrangements most of the time. The only reason a biological parent could be denied is in the case of a court order, which must be on file at the school.

## Are dogs allowed in the school?

Dogs must have prior approval from the administration before coming into the school. The only exception to this is when any animal is coming to the school for show and tell, as previously arranged with the classroom teacher.

Dogs have many benefits in a school environment. For example, they provide a calming influence for many students. As well, quieter students might prefer to read aloud to a pet rather than a person. Some school staff members bring their personal pets to school on occasion, and the school dog, Seren, is at school for some or all of almost every day.

Staff dogs are only allowed to be at the school with admin approval after meeting a set of criteria. For eg., all shots must be up to date and the paperwork submitted to the office. As well, the school staff must be aware of classrooms with students who have allergies.



Seren  
cuddling her toy

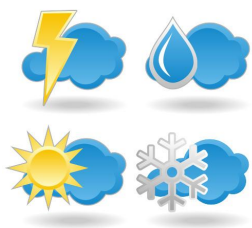
# Frequently Asked Questions

## **What happens if my child isn't where he/she is supposed to be at the end of the day?**

On occasion we get a phone call from a parent saying her son didn't get off the bus, or his daughter hasn't shown up at the arena for ringette, or an older brother arrives to pick up a younger sister, but she isn't at their meeting spot, etc. If this happens, call the school, and the school staff will immediately start working on locating the child. Here are some of the things that have occurred over the years:

- A child is walking home, but stops to play in a park and doesn't make it home at the usual time.
- A child was supposed to wait for an older sibling, but decided to walk home alone instead.
- A child was supposed to meet his older brother at JSM, but decided to walk over to the junior high to find his brother instead.
- A child was supposed to go to the arena, but forgot and took the bus home.
- A child took her friend's bus home instead of her own, so they could play together.
- Instead of walking home, a child went to a friend's house, so they could play together.
- A child was supposed to wait at school for his mom, but his dad decided to surprise his son by picking him up from school early.

Between the family and the school staff, students are usually located quite soon. If not, the police can get involved as well, but this has been a very rare occurrence.



## **How do you decide when to keep students indoors for recesses?**

Children need to be outdoors for fresh air, exercise, socializing, and a break from classes, so we avoid canceling recess as much as possible. When children are dressed appropriately for the weather, they can play outside in a wide range of Canadian conditions.

However, we keep students inside in the case of heavy rain or in the case of extreme cold.

To determine if it's too cold we include several factors including the temperature, the wind chill, and the amount of sunshine. Generally, it's about -23 to -25 when we decide to keep students inside. Sometimes we shorten a recess break, so students are not outside the whole recess, but they get a few minutes of movement outdoors and a little fresh air.

Students who do not bring appropriate outdoor gear to school are still expected to go outside for recesses. The office has some extra mitts, coats and snow pants for students.

## **Do you have emergency response procedures in place?**

Wolf Creek Public Schools is now working with Zero Hour School Emergency Program. You can learn more about this program online. <http://www.hour-zero.com/> Emergency measures are transitioning this year to the protocols put forward by Zero Hour. As well, staff members are required to take several tests online to ensure occupational health and safety guidelines are understood.

# Frequently Asked Questions

## What happens if my child has an accident at school?

The parents will be informed as soon as possible in the event a child is injured and requires medical attention (eg., if we suspect a bone is broken or stitches are required). We usually call parents to come to the school to check on their children when they are injured. In the case of minor injuries (a skinned knee, for eg.) that clearly do not require medical intervention, parents will usually be informed by the classroom teacher, but possibly not until the end of the day.

In the case of an emergency, an ambulance will be called before the parents are contacted. The school staff functions *in loco parentis*, which means we are expected to care for the students in place of their parents during the school day. Therefore, we make decisions based on what we would want to be done for our own children.

## What happens if my child has to take medication at school?

The school staff is not allowed to administer any medications unless specific paperwork has been filled out well in advance by parents/guardians and doctors. Contact the school office for more information if your child needs to take a prescription medication during the school day. Prescription medications are kept locked in the office.

School staff members are not allowed to give non prescription medications either. If you want to send a non-prescription medication to school with your child (eg., a cough syrup), you will need to set up your child with instructions on how to take it independently. You might send a single dose in a syringe, for example.



## Is the school peanut free?

The school does not guarantee a nut-free environment. It is impossible to monitor all products brought into the building to ensure they are nut free. Furthermore, many nut products provide a healthy alternative to processed foods.

It is the responsibility of parents/guardians to inform the school staff if a child has an allergy of any type. In the event a student in any given classroom has a severe nut allergy, we will inform the families of the students in that class that sending any products containing nuts could be life-threatening. In such a case, our level of vigilance would increase significantly to match the severity of the allergy.

## Are parents informed if their children misbehave?

Any child can have a lapse in judgment and make a poor choice once in a while. Parents are not typically informed of minor and rare infractions.

Parents are typically only informed if their children do something aggressive (verbally or physically), or if their children are displaying a pattern of misbehavior. In these cases, parents/guardians are generally contacted and asked to meet with school staff to discuss an intervention plan.



# Frequently Asked Questions

## **What do you do with lost articles of clothing?**

There is a lost and found box in the main hallway. Articles of clothing can occasionally be found just inside the other entrances, but most items end up in the main lost and found. Small items such as jewelry are kept in the office.

Three or four times during the year, students and families are asked to go through the lost and found (for eg., portfolio walk times). Afterwards, all leftover items are sent to a local organization.

## **What if I want to volunteer to help out in the classroom, on field trips or tying skates?**

We ask all parents/guardians/grandparents, etc. to follow a process that starts with filling out a request to volunteer. Please see the school's website, come in to the school office, or check with your child's teacher for this paperwork. Once we have your signed volunteer application form, we will provide you with a form to take to your local police department. This form and two pieces of ID are required for you to get a vulnerable sector check done at no cost. Updated vulnerable sector checks are required for Wolf Creek volunteers every three years.

## **What are the instructional materials fees for?**

While the school budget purchases basic materials such as paper, books and pencils, we have need for other materials to supplement our students' instructional experiences. For example, the fees cover additional art supplies such as clay and burlap, as well as maker materials such as fasteners, tools, and other building supplies for creativity and problem-solving.

**Please note: Until instructional fees are paid, students will not be able to purchase hot lunches through the parent portal. If this is a concern, please meet with a school administrator.**

## **What are the technology fees for?**

The technology fees have increased due to the need to start putting money aside for new Chromebooks for the students to use. While schools with grades four and up usually have the students' families purchase Chromebooks for their individual children, at the primary level we tend to share Chromebooks between classes. These need to be replaced every few years. The technology fee also includes subscriptions for some literacy programs used in classes, such as Je lis, je lis and RAZ Kids.

## **What do you do for emergency preparedness?**

**Evacuation Drills and Lockdowns** – Wolf Creek Public Schools uses Hour Zero as our protocols for evacuations and lockdowns. Our first few evacuation drills are announced in advance, so teachers can prepare their students.

For the remainder of the year, evacuation drills are unannounced. Not even the staff is informed. Evacuation drills can happen any time, so they take place regardless of the weather, and they can even occur in the middle of lunch time or an assembly. We have to be prepared for anything. <http://www.hour-zero.com/>

Our first lockdown drill will occur soon as well. We have had great success with these. When our school is in lockdown, it is very quiet in the building; the students are amazing.



Tim De Ruyck  
Superintendent of Schools

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## Wolf Creek Public Schools

September 6, 2022

Dear Parents,

### RE: Fair Notice

The safety of our children is a top priority for us all. We, as a school system, have been involved in intensive safety training and collaboration with our community partners – the police, Alberta Health Services (Addictions & Mental Health) and Children's Services. Together we have created and signed a community protocol for responding to all situations in which students may be posing a threat to themselves or others.

This letter is to inform you that we, as a school system, adopted policy in January 2003 that mandates schools to have a "zero tolerance" stance for not investigating all threats and threatening behaviours (Admin Procedure 167). The purpose of the investigation/assessment is to determine how best to support high-risk students so that their behaviour does not become hurtful or destructive. Please be assured that if your principal is aware of threatening behaviour, he/she will be taking measures to deal with the situation in a positive and proactive manner. If your principal invites you to a meeting to discuss safety concerns about your own child, please be assured that protocol is being followed and that the goal is safety, not punishment.

This letter is intended to serve our community with **fair notice** that we, as a school community, will not accept "no response" to a threat making behaviour. Our goal is to respond to all threats in a professional manner that provides for a healthy and caring learning environment.

We are proud to be able to provide this level of support to our school communities and are most fortunate to have our community partners at our side.

Sincerely,

Tim De Ruyck  
Superintendent  
Wolf Creek Public Schools

# October

2022





Ecole James S McCormick School

## Welcome Fall!

Our 2022-2023 school year is off to a fantastic start! Thank you to our families for being an amazing part of our school community.

Parent/Teacher Conferences kick off the start of October. Your child(ren)'s classroom teacher(s) will be in contact to set up an after-school appointment during these conference days.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 Parent/Teacher Conferences	4 Parent/Teacher Conferences	5 Parent/Teacher Conferences Booster Juice Snack	6	7 PD DAY	8
9 	10 Thanksgiving Monday	11	12	13 Extreme Pita Hot Lunch	14	15
16	17	18 Subway Hot Lunch	19	20 School Photos 	21	22
23	24 School Photos 	25	26 Oishidesu Hot Lunch	27 Family GLOW Dance 6pm – 7:30pm	28 PD DAY	29
30	31 Happy Halloween! 					

Did you know... you can subscribe to our School Calendar on our website to sync all school events to your own online calendar!