

LAWSON HEIGHTS SCHOOL



Student and Family Handbook



WE ARE ALL TREATY PEOPLE

Welcome to Lawson Heights School on Treaty 6 territory and the Traditional Homeland of the Metis. We are honoured to learn in this place and acknowledge the many First Nations, Metis, and Inuit peoples whose footsteps have marked these lands for centuries and continue today. We are committed to education for reconciliation.



Welcome to Lawson Heights School. We are proud to be a part of this community. It is our mission to ensure that every Lawson Lions feels welcomed, known, valued, believed in and a part of the Lawson Heights family. Additionally, we strive to challenge each student to grow academically, become engaged citizens and nurture their well-being.

We look forward to connecting with you and your family throughout the school year. School information will be posted regularly on Edsby so that you can be kept abreast of learning, events and opportunities. As well, our school Facebook, Instagram and Twitter sites will be updated regularly to give you an insight into the learning happening in our building.

In addition to digital connections, we encourage all families to come and talk with us anytime. We look forward to connecting with you and your children as partners in education.

Jennifer Brokofsky, Principal

Candace Stanford, Vice Principal

FACEBOOK:

@LawsonHeightsSchool

INSTAGRAM:

@LawsonHeightsSchool

TWITTER:

@Lawson_School



LAWSON HEIGHTS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

STRATEGIC PLAN

Academic excellence, character, engagement, and well-being of students are at the heart of Saskatoon Public Schools' strategic plan.



At Lawson Heights School these four goals have guided our vision for our school and our learners.

- **Academic Excellence-** Teachers will set clear, relevant, achievable learning targets in student friendly language. Students will build independence when given clear achievable examples and challenge themselves to grow.
- **Character-** At Lawson Heights we foster responsible and respectful citizens by encouraging independence and developing perseverance in and out of the school community.
- **Engagement-** At Lawson Heights we strive to develop connections and relationships through co-creating meaningful and relevant content, while providing equitable opportunities to actively and passively participate in a safe caring environment.
- **Well-Being-** We, as Lawson Lions, believe in creating a safe environment that fosters each child's ability to find balance, awareness, independence, and create healthy boundaries. In doing so, students will be capable of managing their mental health and ability to self-regulate.

At Lawson Heights School we expect all students to be responsible and respectful citizens in and outside of the school.

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Bullying occurs when an individual or group of individuals are the target of repeated negative actions by one or more people. Bullying means there is an imbalance of power, and this results in the victim being unable to defend themselves. Bullying actions can be emotional, physical, racist, homophobic, transphobic, sexist, verbal or cyber.

Everyone in our school community has the right to a supportive, caring, and safe environment without fear of being bullied. Bullying is anti-social behaviour and affects everyone; it is unacceptable.

Our first approach to bullying and relational aggression is through prevention: teaching students emotional and social learning, developing community and strong relations within our school and having close supervision. In the event of a report of bullying behaviour, we will investigate the behaviour carefully, respecting the confidentiality of all involved. We will problem solve, record the issue, and take appropriate actions to ensure the safety of all (considering the age and maturity of students, the level of harm that occurred and the degree of repetitiveness of the behaviour).

SCHOOL CALENDAR



2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR ELEMENTARY ACADEMIC CALENDAR

August 2024

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September 2024

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December 2024

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January 2025

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April 2025

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May 2025

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- Stat Holidays
- PD/Planning - No Students
- STA Convention - No Students
- First Half Day for Students A.M./
No Students P.M.
- Student Conferences (no school)
- Students/Teachers - No School
- Last Day (K-8 Students)
- Report Cards Go Home



2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR
KINDERGARTEN ACADEMIC CALENDAR

August 2024

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September 2024

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October 2024

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November 2024

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December 2024

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January 2025

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February 2025

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March 2025

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April 2025

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May 2025

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June 2025

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- Stat Holidays
- PD/Planning - No Students
- STA Convention - No Students
- Staggered Start (3rd a.m., 4th and 5th)
- Student Conferences (no school)
- No School





2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR
PREKINDERGARTEN ACADEMIC CALENDAR

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September 2024

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October 2024

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December 2024

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February 2025

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March 2025

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- Stat Holidays
- PD/Planning - No Students
- STA Convention - No Students
- Students/Teachers - No School
- Home Visit
- Prek Teacher Planning Time
- Staggered Start
- Student Conferences



SCHOOL HOURS

8:55	First Bell
10:40-10:55	Recess
11:45-12:31	Lunch
2:15-2:30	Recess
3:20	Dismissal

ATTENDANCE

At Lawson Heights School we believe that every student has potential. For students to succeed in school and in life, they need to attend school regularly. Being present fosters engagement, builds relationships and creates a sense of belonging — elements that fuel a learner’s confidence. Please ensure that your child comes to school consistently and on time. In the event of an absence, it is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to inform the school. There are three ways to report a student absence:

1. Submit on Edsby
2. Submit on School Messenger
3. Call the front office at (306)683-7340

If the school has not been contacted about a child’s absence, you will receive an automated message to the numbers provided.

SCHOOL ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE

Students are expected to arrive at school no earlier than 8:55 a.m. and leave school promptly at dismissal unless they are involved in extra-curricular activities or are enrolled in the Extended Day Program. Direct supervision of students outside begins at 8:40 a.m. each school day and direct supervision ends at 3:35 p.m. We encourage parents who need to drop their children off early or have them stay late to use the Extended Day Program. Please note that during classroom learning hours, perimeter doors are locked. Students who are late for school and visitors will need to enter through the front doors of the school and report to the office.

RECESS

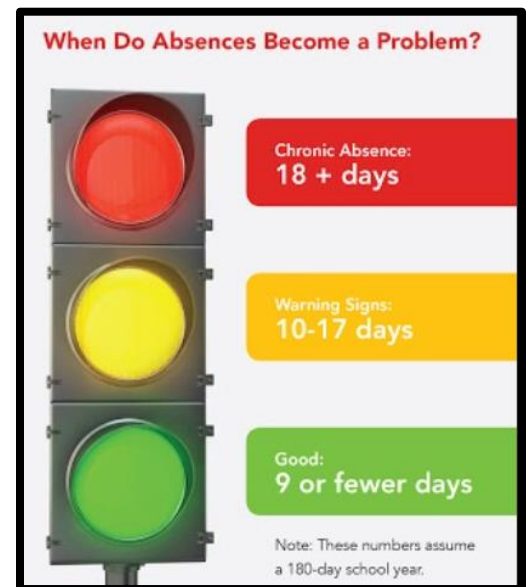
Students are expected to go outside during recess. Students must remain within the school boundaries for their own safety. The children are to stay 15 metres from Redberry Road. Indoor recess will be called when the temperature and/or wind chill is -27°C or colder. Indoor recess also may be called due to wind, rain, or sleet. On days above -27°C students are expected to go outside. Please ensure that your child comes to school dressed for the weather conditions (i.e., hats, mitts, boots, ski pants and a warm coat.) and prepared to go outside. If your child is sick and not able to be outside, they should stay home.

Did you know?

Being on time for school sets your child up for a great day of learning.

Even in kindergarten, absences can cause children to fall behind in their learning.

Missing 10



CELL PHONES



At Lawson Heights School we value our time with your children and the opportunities to help them grow as learners, and human beings. Unfortunately, we find that students can be frequently distracted by cell phones, and this takes away attention from learning.

Therefore, we ask that all student cell phones remain at home. If you need to get in touch with your child during the school day, please call the front office and we will quickly get you in contact with them. If you feel that it is absolutely necessary for them to have their cell phone at school, we will require them to place the phone in a secure area (their lockers or a “phone hotel” in class) where they will not be a distraction to learning. If a student is found to be in violation of this policy, we will place the phone in a secure location and return it at the end of the day. In addition, you will be notified via phone or email that the phone has been a distraction to learning.

EDSBY

Saskatoon Public Schools uses the Edsby communication platform to provide parents and caregivers with the opportunity to follow their child's progress at school, receive school updates, and much more. Teachers will regularly update the platform to share with family's student learning, important events and classroom updates. Please activate your family account to keep it up to date.



LUNCH SUPERVISION AND FEES

The Saskatoon Public School Division's policy provides for noon lunch supervision for children who are young and who cannot be unsupervised at home at noon or who live an exceptional distance from their school.

We are asking that all students Grade 6-8, and all students who are able to, go home for lunch.

At home students can:

- Eat in a less busy and more controlled area
- Use their washroom at home

If your child needs to stay at the school due to an exceptional circumstance, then a lunchtime supervision fee will be charged for kindergarten to grade 8 students from September through June (10 months) at all division elementary schools.

- The fee for kindergarten students who attend part-time that stay over lunchtime is \$45 for the year.
- The fee for grade 1-8 students is \$90.00 per student per year. The maximum per family is \$180.00 per year.

NUT AWARE



Lawson Heights School is a Nut Aware School. This is achieved only with the help of all the students at the school and their parents. This decision is based on the knowledge that a few students are allergic to peanuts/nuts and the severe effects that can result from contact with them. It is our responsibility as a school community to avoid exposing students with allergies to the products which could start an allergic reaction. This means that we take great care to avoid any products that could contain allergens in food items that are brought into school. We ask parents to exercise care when preparing lunches to carefully check labels and to not send any products which contain nuts, or traces of nuts. More information on allergy aware school settings can be found in this document from the [Saskatchewan Health Authority](#).

FIRE DRILLS

Fire drills are held 6 times throughout the school year. Each classroom has a map marking the exit routes from the building and these routes are practiced with the students. Students must move outside or into their rooms in an orderly fashion. Upon exiting, students must proceed to their pre-designated meeting place outside the building to be counted by their teacher. It is important that all students be accounted for. Abuse or tampering with the alarm system is illegal and the individuals responsible shall be treated accordingly. The police may be notified.

LOCKDOWNS

The safety of our students and staff is our number one priority. In partnership with the Saskatoon Police Service, all Saskatoon schools conduct two lockdown drills a year. A school lockdown alerts staff and students that an imminent danger exists inside or just outside the school. School personnel lock classroom doors and cover door windows. Students and staff remain in their classrooms until directed by emergency personnel that it is safe to leave. Students and staff will be notified that it is a drill.

SCHOOL EVACUATION

If an evacuation of the school is needed, Lawson Heights students and staff will walk to St. George School (in area evacuation site) or to Marion Graham Collegiate (out of area evacuation sight). Upon arrival at the emergency location, parents/guardians will be notified.

BICYCLES, SCOOTERS, SKATEBOARDS & LONGBOARDS

We want to encourage our students to bike, rollerblade, skateboard and walk to school! Habits that include physical activity are good ones! We provide a bike rack at the front of the school for students to lock their bikes too. Please note that we cannot guarantee the safety of bicycles, and strongly

recommend the use of bike locks. Scooters, skateboards, and longboards can be brought into the school to be stored in the student's locker or boot room.



SCHOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL (SCC)

The School Community Council is composed of parents/ guardians of children enrolled in the school and have an interest in shaping the direction and the implementation of the school 's learning environment. The elected members and school administration team meet during set meeting times (usually evenings) and work towards meeting the School's Strategic Plan. If you are able to join and lend your perspective, we would appreciate it.

HOME AND SCHOOL

The purpose of the Home and School organization is to achieve the following objectives:

- To foster cooperation and communication between parents and teachers.
- To present parents' concerns in a constructive way to the school administration.
- To assist the school and students through various projects.

We are very grateful to our SCC and Home and School and value their ideas, suggestions, input, and collaboration!

EXTENDED DAY PROGRAM

The Lawson Heights Extended Day Program is an independently run organization which provides childcare for Lawson Heights families from 7:30-8:55 a.m. and 3:20-6 p.m. daily. For more information on the program please call Trish at 306-290-9102.