

École Swan River South School

2021-2022



STUDENT HANDBOOK

BECOMING A
RESTITUTION
SCHOOL



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École Swan River South School
Cooperate, Motivate, Educate

École Swan River South School is a Kindergarten – Gr. 8 School serving approximately 275 students. We offer a French Immersion program for K– Gr. 8 students and an English program for Gr. 6, 7 and 8 students.

Mission Statement:

We are a diverse school community, developing excellence in learning and citizenship within a safe, supportive environment.

Our vision is built upon the following belief statements:

Academics: We believe that all students can learn and must be challenged to reach their highest potential. We will recognize and provide for individual learning abilities and styles.

Belonging: We believe that everyone is a valued part of our learning community. We will ensure a safe learning environment for all.

Citizenship: We believe that we must model for, and teach students how to become active, responsible citizens. We will provide students with opportunities to practice citizenship in our school, our community and our world.

Diversity: We believe in honouring, celebrating and supporting individuality.

Excellence: We believe in striving for excellence for all through lifelong learning. We will celebrate success!



Dear Students and Parents;

It is with a great deal of pleasure that we present our student handbook. This handbook is a partner to the 2021-2022 "Back to School Plan". The "Back to School Plan" contains information particular to the Covid-19 landscape our school is operating within. We hope that you find the handbook useful and informative.

Attendance

All students are encouraged to attend school regularly to ensure academic success.

PLEASE NOTIFY THE SCHOOL IF YOUR CHILD WILL BE ABSENT

Unconfirmed absenteeism for students (K-8) will be followed up by school personnel.

The division follows an attendance policy called the Swan Valley School Division Student Attendance Policy and Protocol. The goal of this policy is to ensure that SVSD students are supported in developing and sustaining healthy attendance patterns. This new policy can be viewed at www.svsd.ca.

Emergency Closing of School

It is advisable for parents/guardians to listen to radio station CJGX (Yorkton 940) or CJ104 (local radio), or check the school division website www.svsd.ca for information regarding school closure or bus cancellations, especially during inclement weather.

Electronic Devices

Electronic devices can be used as learning tools and have their place in the school.

All electronic devices must be turned off and stored when the student arrives at the school except when participating in a school activity. Electronic devices may only be used when permission is given by the staff member in charge. One exception to this rule is at recess or noon hour breaks where students in grades 6/7/8 are allowed to listen to music with one earbud using their electronic device as the controller.

Dress Code

We are all expected to dress and groom ourselves in a manner that reflects pride and respect for self and for the school. Any type of attire which attracts undue attention to the wearer, is unduly revealing, unsafe or causes a disturbance is considered unacceptable. As a general guideline, students are asked not to wear clothing that exposes underwear, the midriff, or contains offensive or inappropriate content.

Student Behaviour

École Swan River South School is a peaceful school committed to the growth and development of the student within a safe learning environment. We expect our students and adults to be respectful and cooperative as we all strive to do our best.

ESRSS has been working with the Restitution Self Discipline model for the past few years. Restitution is an approach to discipline that aims to support all people to fix their mistakes, learn from the experience and return to the community strengthened and confident. Please refer to the ESRSS school website where three key elements of Restitution are provided; Basic Needs, ESRSS School Belief Matrix and ESRSS Bottom Lines.



Bus Use

Bus transportation provided by the School Division is a **PRIVILEGE** and certain rules prevail. Misbehaviour while riding or loading buses may result in suspension and/or being dropped from the school bus roster.

Any student who wishes to ride on a bus other than the one assigned, or any student wishing to ride on a bus to a friend's place, **MUST HAVE A NOTE DATED AND SIGNED BY PARENT/GUARDIAN** requesting such a privilege.



Lunch Break

EATING LUNCH IN SCHOOL IS A PRIVILEGE. This privilege can be denied to a student who displays inappropriate behaviour in a lunch room. Students having to eat lunches at school are assigned to homerooms. Lunch students **MUST** remain on the school premises during the noon hour.

Students in K to 8 must have written permission to leave the school grounds during the lunch break. Sunflower seeds, Slurpee's and energy drinks are not allowed in the school.

A School Milk Program is available for K-6 students.

Recesses

Students in grades K-6 will be required to go outside for all recess breaks including lunchtime. Grade 7/8 students are encouraged to go outside for all recesses but do have the option to remain in their homeroom if they should desire.

It is imperative that children are dressed appropriately for weather conditions at any time of the year.



Medication in the School

School Board Policy states that, "School personnel shall avoid being dispensers of medicinal drugs unless it is necessary for the physical/mental health or safety of the child."

NO MEDICATION IS ALLOWED IN THE SCHOOL UNLESS PARENTS HAVE PROPER FORMS COMPLETED. (Forms are available at the school office).

The school may provide, as a service, non-prescription Tylenol under the following situations:

1. That there is parental authorization in writing or by telephone, duly noted.
2. That the dispensing of these non-prescription drugs will occur only through designated office personnel so that the frequency per student can be monitored.

Safe Keeping of Students' Possessions

Locker use is restricted this year. Students are asked to leave items of value at home as a suitable location to lock personal belongings up will not be provided.

Lost items should be reported to the general office where "found" items are kept. Students' possessions should be clearly marked with their names. All unclaimed articles are donated to charity.

Evaluation of Student Progress

During the school year students have three reporting periods - November, March and June. For the first two reporting periods, parents/guardians, and **students are encouraged to attend** Parent/Teacher Conferences. Plans are underway to hold conferences once again this year, though adjustments will be necessary to reflect the Covid-19 landscape. Please watch the ESRSS website where updated information will be provided.

Expectations for successful completion of a subject are described in each subject teacher's course outline. Parents are encouraged to contact the school at any time to request a review of their child's academic progress.

Awards

Awards are given out each year to grade 8 students at our Farewell ceremony. Awards included are subject specific achievement awards as well as specific area awards.



Communication

Please visit our school website regularly for school events and information. Our School Messenger system will be utilized as much as possible to support the release of information updates.



Fire, Tornado & Lockdown Drills

Fire, Tornado & Lockdown Drills are held frequently so that in the event of a real emergency we can respond in the best manner to ensure everyone's safety. We will continue to practice for these emergencies while respecting current health guidelines during the Covid-19 pandemic.



Computer Usage

Our school's computers are available for use by classes on a regularly scheduled basis or for occasional use as needed. Students are expected to respect the equipment and materials provided.

~*E-mail* - only school assigned E-mail addresses may be used in the school.

~ *Printing* - is generally restricted to single print-outs of assignments. Permission must be sought from the supervising teacher for any other printing.

~ *Responsible use of the Internet is expected of students.* Specific guidelines will be provided by the teacher.



Parent Council

ÉSRSS has two parent councils. ÉSRSS PAC-(Parent Advisory Council) and CPF-(Canadian Parents for French). The following is an overview of the parent councils.

The PAC (Parent Advisory Council) is a group of interested parents of Kindergarten to Grade 8 students from both French and English programming. The PAC supports all of our students and staff to enhance their experience at ÉSRSS. We presently do this through the purchase of digital cameras and sports team jerseys, special lunches, financial assistance for special request and by assisting with the fiddling program.

CPF (Canadian Parents for French) is a group of interested parents of students in the French programs. CPF works in our school to promote the French language and culture through initiatives like movie nights, bingo nights, and dances, en Français. We also assist with the ÉSRSS annual Festival du Voyageur celebrations, financial support for class cultural trips, cultural activities, and theatre and drama workshops. We promote CPF – MB activities such as French language speaking and singing competitions.

Our school emphasizes programs that will provide students with opportunities to gain the skills, knowledge and attitudes to be productive citizens.

As a student at ÉSRSS, you should take full advantage of your right to an education.

Students should come to school with a positive attitude towards learning and participating in school activities.

An important part of your education is your learning to make appropriate decisions. To protect your rights and the rights of others, a student behaviour guideline has been established.

We are proud of our students and hope that during their years in our school, they will use their classes, programs and activities to the fullest.

We have an excellent school and by working together, we can make it even better!

“HAVE A GREAT YEAR”