

ÉCOLE GEORGE-MCDOWELL PARENT HANDBOOK

2022-2023

Administration
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Patrice Chartrand – Vice-Principal

Secretaries
Lynn Valde
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ÉCOLE GEORGE-MCDOWELL

STAFF FOR THE 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR

Grade 6	Mme Janelle Buissé
Grade 6	Mme Michelle Cadez
Grade 6	Mme Reva Hudon
Grade 6	Mme Laura Watson
Grade 7/8	Mme Nathalie Barnabé
Grade 7/8	Mme Jacqueline Chan
Grade 7/8	Mme Stéphanie Comte
Grade 7/8	Mme Gabryelle Dorge
Grade 7/8	M. Nick Fergus
Grade 7/8	Mme Lizanne Hombach
Grade 7/8	M. Kyle Jarowec
Grade 7/ 8	Mme Tara Law
Grade 7/8	Mme Geneviève Legal
Grade 7/8	M. Matthew Massicotte
Grade 7/8	M. Marc Nault
Grade 7/8	Mme Rachel Niziol
Grade 7/8	M. Mathieu Nolette
Grade 7/8	Mme Renée Peloquin
Band Teacher	M. Daniel Bergman
Guitar Teacher	M. Philippe Meunier
Physical Education.....	M. Dan Patenaude
.....	Mme Nicole Schell
.....	Mme Laura Watson
Student Services	Mme Jacqueline Chan
.....	M. Patrice Chartrand
.....	Mme Natasha Herring
.....	M. Marc Nault
Teacher Librarian	M. Kyle Jarowec
Library Technician	Mme Chantale Leonard
Educational Assistants	Mme Elizabeth Labossière
.....	Mme Kayleigh Munro
.....	Mme Claire Waters
Clinical Services	
Psychologist	Mme Brianne Curtis
Social Worker	Mme Danielle Wedelake
Speech/Language	TBD
Occupational Therapy.....	Mme Brittany Boulet
Physiotherapy	TBD
Head Custodian.....	M. Mike Begley
Evening Custodian.....	M. Kari Einerson
.....	Mme Jaden Schmidt
Administrative Secretary	Mme Lynn Valde
Secretary	Mme Nicole Caron
Principal.....	Mme Paula Meyer
Vice-Principal	M. Patrice Chartrand

FRENCH IMMERSION IN THE LOUIS RIEL SCHOOL DIVISION

The Louis Riel School Division offers a French Immersion Program that provides an opportunity for students, who possess little or no knowledge of the French language upon entry to the program, to become functionally bilingual by the end of Grade 12. Students can enter the program in Kindergarten or beginning of Grade 1. The academic content is designed to be parallel and equal to the English program.

The philosophy of immersion schools such as École George-McDowell is that a student best learns a second language by consistently communicating and studying in that language. We recognize that to become bilingual, we need to practice our French language skills at every available opportunity. For our students, learning a second language requires effort and commitment.

While learning is the primary objective, the priority at École George-McDowell is to learn while developing a sound working knowledge of the French language and becoming fully bilingual. We thank you, as parents and guardians, for having chosen to provide your children with a unique opportunity to benefit from the immersion experience, one which will be enriching and rewarding. Parents/guardians and teachers need to work in partnership in order to encourage our young people to regularly use French at every available opportunity. In the end, it is the students who will be the true beneficiaries of our common commitment to this goal. For these reasons, the expectation is that students communicate in French in class, in the hallways, during in-school and out-of-school activities, and with all staff members.

OUR BELIEFS AT ÉCOLE GEORGE-MCDOWELL

We believe that every person at École George-McDowell has the right to:

1. Feel emotionally and physically safe;
2. Be treated with compassion and respect;
3. Learn and celebrate successes;
4. Make positive and appropriate choices that empower him/her to become the person they want to be;
5. Have fun and be happy.

OUR SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

Our school community is committed to achieving the full potential of each individual in a safe and positive environment. We strive to develop bilingual students who will be responsible lifelong learners.

OUR FRENCH LANGUAGE POLICY

Helping students to develop and enhance their capacity to communicate in French is the central mission of French Immersion schools in LRSD. We do this by creating and providing authentic situations for students to apply their skills on a daily basis, such as listening to announcements, addressing the secretaries when needing something, opportunities to participate in school committees/clubs, organizing special events, presenting at school-wide assemblies, school plays, etc. School staff serve as role models for students. Their enthusiasm for the language motivates students to learn.

Realizing that French is dynamic, fun and that it can live outside the walls of the school is key to our students' success. Field trips, plays, concerts, videos, and other cultural activities also contribute to achieving this goal.

Families play a key role in encouraging and motivating their young adolescent to learn French. Talk to your young adolescent about why you enrolled them in French Immersion. Ask them to speak the language for you and encourage them to do the same with their peers and school staff when they are at school. Parental encouragement makes a great difference in your young adolescent's attitude towards school and the French language. Your enthusiasm for the French Immersion program is very important. Offer them praise on their achievements. Learning a second language is hard work!

To guide our work, we follow the communication protocol below:

- Students are expected to speak in French to all staff in the school, on the schoolground and during out of school outings.
- Students will speak to each other in French during all classes which are taught in French.
- All staff members will speak to each other in French.

HOURS OF OPERATION

The school office is open between 8:00 am. and 4:00 pm. If you need to contact the school after hours, please leave a message on our answering machine.

School hours:

8:20	Students enter classrooms and prepare for the day
8:30	O Canada and announcements
8:55	JAG ends
11:30	Lunch Hour
12:25	First bell after lunch
12:30	Second bell after lunch
3:00	Students dismissed for the day

Grade 7 & 8 students attend Practical Arts classes one half day per week in the mornings on **Days 1, 2, 4, and 6** of the 6-day cycle.

The Louis Riel School Division follows a 6-day cycle for all their students. Classes will all be scheduled on a 6-day cycle.

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

ATTENDANCE

As there is a direct relationship between attendance and academic achievement, all students are encouraged to attend school regularly. If you are aware of an absence in advance or wish to give your child permission to leave the school grounds at lunchtime, or in the event that your child will be absent or late for classes, please contact the school at (204) 253-1492 or email mcdowell.office@lrsd.net between the hours of 7:30 and 8:20 am or you can leave a message on our answering machine before that time.

ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

Students are expected to remain outdoors until the bell rings. Bussed students will enter by the North doors. Grade 6 students not taking the bus will enter the doors to the right of the main entrance. Grade 7 and 8 students not taking the bus will enter the school via the main entrance doors. Students are supervised for 15 minutes before the bell rings in the morning. They then enter at their designated doors and are met by their classroom teacher at their assigned classroom. At dismissal time, students are expected to walk home or line up to take the bus unless an activity has been organized for them at school. In case of inclement weather (when the temperature is **-27 C** with wind chill or heavy rainfall), students will enter the school and meet in either la Salle Polyvalente or the Learning Commons.

EARLY PICK-UP OF STUDENTS

When it is necessary to pick up your son/daughter prior to dismissal time, please **report to the office to sign them out** and we will have your child come to the office for dismissal. This causes less classroom disruption.

CALL BACK SYSTEM

We will contact you at home or at the office if your child is absent and we have not received a message to justify the absence from school. If your child must leave the school early for an

appointment during school hours, a call to the school at (204) 253-1492 will suffice. **We ask that you report to the office to pick up your child during class time.**

BEHAVIOUR EXPECTATIONS

Each child is unique and has individual needs. **Our goal** at École George-McDowell is to provide a safe and inclusive learning environment which fosters students' personal growth and self-respect in an enriching and meaningful learning environment. The purpose of the Code of Conduct is to inform all members of the ÉGM learning community, which include students, parents and staff, of our shared obligations and responsibilities while in attendance at school, traveling to and from school as well as attending any school function. At ÉGM, we value and agree to conduct ourselves in a manner that creates a school community which:

- Celebrates learning
- Honors diversity
- Fosters creativity
- Encourages resilience

We are committed to fostering a high level of self-esteem in all students, and to helping them become responsible citizens. We believe that all students and staff have the **capacity** and the **responsibility** to behave in a respectful manner. Therefore, together we want to help your child.

EXPECTATIONS

We are committed to fostering a high level of self-esteem in all students, and to helping them become responsible citizens. We believe that all students and staff have the capacity and the responsibility to behave in a respectful manner. Therefore, together we want to help your child to:

- Develop respect of self and others (including all adults and peers);
- Learn that making mistakes is okay and that we learn from them;
- Make decisions wisely;
- Work and play in a safe environment;
- Handle life situations appropriately through restitution;
- Be kind.

RISING EXPECTATIONS

At École George-McDowell, we believe that mistakes are opportunities to learn, and our goal is to assist young adolescents to become the people they want to be. Learning is a growth process for everyone involved, adults as well as students. As young adolescents become older and more mature, we expect an increase in:

- Respectful behaviour
- Personal responsibility
- Positive attitude
- Safety

As students get older, there may be greater consequences reflecting these increased expectations.

STUDENT'S CODE OF CONDUCT

Academic Success – To ensure success in your school year, you are expected to come to school prepared, to complete all class and homework assignments on time and to accomplish this to the best of your ability.

Honesty – You are expected to be honest in your relationships with other students and staff. You are expected to submit your own work, which represents your best effort.

Attendance, Absenteeism & Tardiness – You will report to class promptly each day, ready to work. If for any reason you should arrive late for class (after 8:20am or 12:30 pm), you will report to the office to sign in. For your safety, parents/guardians must call the school to inform us of your absence. In the event that they should forget, the school will contact them to verify the absence.

Respect for Others – You are expected to respect the feelings, opinions, ideas and property of others:

- Use appropriate problem-solving techniques (see How to Solve Problems).
- Listen when others speak.
- Be polite.
- Use a controlled tone of voice.
- Work and play co-operatively.

Appropriate Language – Your language should show respect for staff and students. Name calling, swearing, rude, obscene or threatening language, whether spoken, written, implied or gestured, are unacceptable.

Student Movement – You will enter and exit the school at your designated entrance when signaled to do so by a staff member. While inside the school, always walk in a quiet, orderly manner. At lunchtime, you shall remain in your classroom for the lunch period and follow school lunchroom policy, after which you may go to your designated area for the remaining 30 minutes of the lunch hour.

You shall remain on school property during the school day. Your parents are requested to **report to the office** when picking you up during school hours to sign you out.

Care of School property – You will respect school property (e.g., classrooms, halls, bathrooms, playground, gym, music room, library, all equipment, textbooks, chairs, desks and supplies). You have a responsibility to help keep your school and its surroundings neat and tidy.

Extra-Curricular Activities – All relevant school rules apply when you are on a school bus, at extra-curricular activities and on field trips.

HOW TO RESOLVE PROBLEMS

École George-McDowell has developed guidelines and interventions that will be used to resolve problems. The Louis Riel School Division encourages proactive student responsibility, self-discipline and respect for others. Further, the Division accepts responsibility to implement effective measures to deal with inappropriate or disruptive behavior.

The following interventions are intended to protect the rights of all students to learn in a safe and orderly environment, while at the same time seeking to preserve the dignity and self-worth of the student being disciplined.

Staff shall apply these actions in a reasonable manner, as would be used by a kind and judicious parent, and in a manner which seeks to preserve the student's sense of self-worth, and in a manner permitting the student's continued learning. Therefore, in exercising appropriate discipline, staff members shall apply their sound professional judgment.

The consequences listed below are not in absolute order, although generally a higher-numbered consequence would not occur before lower-numbered consequences had been initiated. For more serious infractions, however, more serious consequences may result immediately.

INTERVENTIONS

1. Classroom actions –
 - ◆ Non-verbal signals, eye contact, appropriate facial expressions or gestures, moving towards or standing near the disruptive student, etc.
 - ◆ Verbal messages – reminders, on the spot feedback on behavior, warnings, etc.
 - ◆ Seat assignment – assigning a disruptive student to a specific seat or a specific student learning group where behavior can be more closely monitored by the teacher, or where the student is less likely to engage in or be drawn into disruptive behaviors.
 - ◆ Other measures – appropriate to grade level and maturity of the student.
2. Informal Interviews – A teacher, counselor or administrator would talk with the student regarding the student's behavior. Such interviews are held in private and may involve communication with parents. Objectives of such informal interviews may be to help students realize the nature of their behavior, to obtain a verbal commitment from the student to improve or to allow staff to sense if there are factors in the student's personal situation indicating a need for follow-up, e.g., additional supportive strategies or referral to counselors or other professionals. The parent(s) may be contacted depending on the circumstances.
3. Parent Contact – Contact is made with the parent(s)/guardian(s) to discuss the behavior of the student and to explain the steps the student must undertake to improve the behavior. These contacts can range from a telephone conversation or an e-mail.
4. Counseling – A conference or series of conferences may be held with a member of the Student Services team and/or other appropriate staff with the primary goal of developing a plan for changing attitudes and improving student behavior. These sessions can also indicate to the Student Services team whether additional professional support or referral to other agencies should be arranged. The parent(s)/guardian(s) will be contacted.
5. Formal Conference – A conference is held with the student, parent(s)/guardian(s), teacher, administrator and other system staff involved to discuss the student's behavior. The conference is held to discuss the steps the student must undertake to improve the behavior, to explain the disciplinary and/or support measures the school has already or is continuing to implement and requesting appropriate parent/guardian support activities.
6. Removal of Privileges – The school administrator will notify the parent(s)/guardian(s) when such removal of privilege occurs.
7. Dealing with Theft/Vandalism – The student and/or parent(s) may be required, under Section 28.8 of the Public Schools' Act, to compensate the Division for theft or vandalism for damages incurred. Such restitution may be monetary in nature but could take alternative forms.
8. Restitution – This is used as a tool to gain control without sacrificing the self-esteem of the individual. Restitution assists people in making an internal evaluation of what they can do to repair their mistakes.
9. In-School Suspension – Depending on the number of occurrences or the severity of the behavior, in certain instances, students are withdrawn from the regular classroom

environment, for a defined amount of time, to another supervised location in the school such as the office or the Learning Commons.

10. Out-of-School Suspension - Depending on the number of occurrences or the severity of the behavior, in certain instances, students are withdrawn from the school environment for a defined amount of time.
11. Clinical Services Unit Referral – Such involvement may include a level of assessment or counseling for the students. In all cases, parental permission is a requirement of a formal referral.
12. Performance Contract – Such contracts are developed between the school, the parents/guardians and the student. Consequences for failure to meet the agreed-upon behavior standards are clarified. Such an agreement is documented, with copies provided for all concerned parties.
13. Police or Service Agency Involvement – In certain cases, in addition to school disciplinary action, the police may be informed by the school administration and parent/guardians are informed immediately that police have been contacted. Where police involvement occurs on school premises and a parent/guardian is not available, the administrator shall be present with the student “in loco parentis” until such time as the parent/guardian arrives. Other circumstances may result in referral to Child and Family Services.
14. Expulsion – This is the most serious consequence prescribed in the Public Schools Act.

The content of this Code of Conduct is reflective of the following sources:

- Louis Riel School Administrative Guideline JK: Support Student Behavior
- Manitoba Education Safe and Caring Schools Provincial Code of Conduct – Appropriate Interventions and Disciplinary Consequences

LRSB RESOLUTION OF CONCERNS

The Louis Riel School Division Protocol for resolving concerns or conflicts strives to maintain positive, honest and respectful relationships to address misunderstandings that may occur between members of its school community. When such misunderstandings occur, the central priorities must be:

- the best interests of students who may be affected by the misunderstanding.
- to provide opportunities for the person(s) most closely involved in the misunderstanding to resolve it promptly and conclusively.

Differences of opinion are a normal part of human relationships and offer opportunities for communication, new learning and improved relationships.

In all cases, clear, timely and direct communication assists effective resolution of misunderstandings:

- When you have a concern regarding a matter involving your child and another student, beginning with your child's classroom teacher may help. However, you may believe the situation is more appropriately addressed by the administration team. If whomever you decide to consult about a conflict between students is not immediately available, leave phone numbers and times when the teacher/administrator can return your call.
- If you have a concern involving a staff member, **please contact that person as your first step**. Again, if that person is not immediately available, leave information that will assist him/her to contact you. Once in contact with the staff member, state your concern as clearly and calmly as possible. This is an opportunity to ensure that any missing information

is provided to resolve the concern. Most, if not all, differences can be resolved satisfactorily at this level.

In either instance, if your concern is not resolved satisfactorily, your next step is to speak with the Principal or Vice-Principal at the school after informing the staff member that you intend to do so. This action supports honest working relationships between parents/guardians and staff members.

Most concerns are resolved at the school level. However, if your concern remains unresolved after discussion with the Principal or Vice-Principal, contacting the Superintendent's Department is appropriate, once you have informed him/her of your wish to do so.

If the concern cannot be resolved by contacting the Superintendent's Department, you may then direct your concern, in writing, to the Louis Riel School Board. The School Board will respond, usually following inquiries with the involved parties.

The School Board and the Superintendent's Department trust that this process will result in the satisfactory resolution of those concerns which may, from time to time, arise between members of our school community. Communication is the key!

CLASSROOM NORMS – Students and teachers in each classroom will develop and agree to their classroom norms by which all will abide.

SMOKING AND VAPING

No smoking and/or vaping is allowed on or in any property of the Louis Riel School Division. This includes in the school itself, schoolyard, and parking lot (including in personal vehicles).

CELL PHONES

Cell phones are permitted during school hours for academic reasons and with the permission of an adult on staff. They are not to be used for personal use. If parents need to contact their child during school hours, please call the office at (204) 253-1492.

COMMUNICATION WITH PARENTS

INFORMATION ABOUT STUDENTS

Any information that the school has about your son/daughter is available to you, to our school personnel, or division personnel. It is not available to other agencies without your permission. Both parents have equal right to information about their child unless the school has a court order restraining one parent from access to information as mentioned earlier. Copies of any judicial court order regarding custody of children must be given to the school if you wish for us to comply with the order.

CHILD CUSTODY

Please inform the office if both parents wish to receive notes, report cards, etc. We will do all in our power to ensure that both parents receive the necessary information. If you have a court order that limits the right of one parent in matters such as custody or visitation, please provide the office with a copy of legal restriction rights. Unless a copy of your court order is on file with us, we must provide equal access to both parents. Therefore, to avoid any unnecessary problems that may arise, please ensure that the school has the proper documentation.

EMERGENCY CLOSING

If it becomes necessary to cancel regular classes for the day or to have an early closing of school, an announcement will be posted on the LRSD website, radio stations 680 CJOB, CBC Radio One (990 AM), Ici Radio-Canada Première 88.1 FM, 92.1 CITI FM, 94.3 The Drive, CHVN 95.1 FM, 99.9 BOB FM, KiSS 102.3 FM, QX 104.1 FM, 103.1 Virgin Radio Winnipeg, ENERGY 106 as well as on our Twitter page. Bussed students will be brought to their regular drop-off point. Non-bussed students will be dismissed at regular school hours even if transported students are taken home early due to storm warnings.

INJURIES

You will be notified promptly of any serious injury that might require medical attention such as serious cuts, possible sprains, breaks or concussions. If you are unable to transport your child to a doctor or hospital, we will take the child in question ourselves or call an ambulance on your behalf. You are reminded that hospitals require parental consent. Please ensure that your Manitoba Medical Number and your child's personal number are indicated on the student registration form, as well as an up-to-date list of emergency phone numbers in order that we may make contact in case of such emergencies.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITIES

On occasion, students will participate in organized activities held at the school. Please understand that these activities are planned to support their learning and are an extension of the classroom. We ask that you encourage your child to participate in special activities at the school.

INTRAMURAL PROGRAM

Throughout the year, children will have the opportunity to participate in intramural activities, which will take place at lunchtime. These activities include a variety of games and modified sports.

INTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS

We encourage our Grade 7 & 8 students to participate in a variety of activities that involve other schools in the division. Cross-country, volleyball, and basketball are examples of these activities.

PATROLS

A crossing guard is provided by the School Board at the crosswalk on Paddington Street for 15 minutes at 8:05 am and 3:00 pm.

FIELD TRIPS AND FILMS

Parents will be notified of all field trips involving their children. Students must always have parental permission to attend field trips. A detailed description of the outing will be provided. At times, we may request monetary assistance from you for busses or admission costs. If the cost of the outing poses financial difficulty for your family, please call the Principal so that your child may participate. Your call will remain confidential.

Any films shown at school other than those approved by Manitoba Education and Training will require your written permission prior to viewing. A note will be sent home indicating the film and rating and must be returned to your child's teacher prior to viewing.

LIBRARY SERVICES

Our goal at École George-McDowell is to impart the value and enjoyment of books and reading. Students are provided with access to textbooks that can cost over \$50 each and library books ranging in cost from \$25-\$30 each. Students are responsible for taking care of books. If a book is damaged, students will be responsible for its replacement. If lost books are found after the replacement fee has been paid and are returned in good condition, we will gladly refund the amount.

PERSONAL ITEMS/LOCKERS

The school cannot accept responsibility for loss, damage, or theft of personal property such as electronic equipment, bicycles, clothing/hats, jewelry, money, etc. Please ensure that your son/daughter does not bring large sums of money to school, nor expensive electronic equipment, as we cannot assume any responsibility for lost or stolen articles. Students from Grades 6 to 8 students will each receive a half locker. Lockers must be locked at all times, preferably with a combination lock rather than a key lock. All lockers are school property, and the school administration reserves the right of access to lockers. Teachers will keep a record of all lock combinations. Students and parents are reminded that administration does have the right to search lockers and seize any objects that are infractions to the law.

LUNCH POLICY

LUNCH

Teachers will discuss lunchroom rules with their students on an ongoing basis. Students are to remain in their homeroom class during this time. They are expected to clean up their place and dispose of garbage at the end of the lunch break.

In an effort to reduce waste and promote green practices at École George-McDowell, students and all staff are encouraged to use reusable containers and to compost organic materials.

Students who stay for lunch are expected to **remain on the school grounds for the entire lunch hour unless they have permission from their parents to go somewhere else**. Parents can either write a note for each occasion when this will happen or send an email to mcdowell.office@lrsd.net. For legal reasons, we cannot accept a blanket note from a parent allowing a child to leave the grounds whenever the child wants.

There is a **fee of \$100 for the year for all students who are staying at school for lunch. If your child is only staying on an occasional basis, the cost is \$1 per day and can be given to the office.**

LUNCH SUPERVISORS

Our lunch supervisors are hired by the school to ensure that all students remaining at lunchtime are supervised. If you have a concern relating to the lunch period, please contact the teacher or a member of Administration, rather than the lunch supervisor.

MEDICATION

All medication brought to the school must be kept in the office. Please be advised that we need a parent/guardian's signature before administering any medication to students, whether it is prescription or over-the-counter medicine. The form *Administration of Prescribed Medication to Pupil* is available at the office. It is important that you notify the office if your child is taking medication. Students who require Epipens must have them in their possession at all times, and another Epipen may be kept at the office.

SCHOOL WEBSITE, TWITTER

Information for École George-McDowell and the Louis Riel School Division is available on our website (<https://www.lrsd.net/schools/mcdowell>) and you can follow us for trending information at @mcdowellLRSD on Twitter.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

It is imperative that all students from **Grades 6 – 8** have proper gym clothing (shorts or sweatpants & t-shirt) for physical education classes. Students need a pair of running shoes with **non-marking** soles. Students must change into this clothing before all physical education classes. (During pandemic restrictions, students **WILL NOT** change into their gym clothing prior to physical education classes.)

REPORT CARDS/PORTFOLIOS

REPORT CARDS /STUDENT PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

We will hold Student/Parent/Teacher Conferences after first and second term report cards are issued. This gives students enough time to discuss their report with you by the time the Student Parent Teacher Conferences are held.

- The **first term report card**, distributed on **Thursday, November 17th**, focuses on the student's capacity to manage the expectations of his/her program and do not include summative assessments. The Student Parent Teacher Conferences will be held on the evenings of **Wednesday, November 23rd and Thursday, November 24th**.
- A more comprehensive **second term report card** will be distributed on **Thursday, March 16th** with the **gallery evening** being held on **Thursday, March 23rd**. The portfolio evening is an opportunity for you as parents to celebrate your child's progress and provide him/her with support and encouragement for their work in school.
- The **final report card** will be distributed on **Thursday, June 29th**.

STAFF MEETINGS

All schools in the Louis Riel School Division have regular staff meetings held once a month on the **fourth Tuesday** of each month except for December and June. On those days, students will be dismissed one hour earlier at 2:00 pm. Staff meetings do not follow the 6-day cycle.

STUDENT AGENDAS

A student agenda is provided for students in Grade 6. The cost of these agendas is included in the student classroom fees, which are collected at the beginning of the year by the classroom teacher.

STUDENT SERVICES/CLINICAL SERVICES

STUDENT SERVICES

The Student Services teachers, as members of the school support team, provide academic assistance and social-emotional support to students through a consultative-collaborative approach with the classroom teacher. The Student Services teachers work collaboratively with teachers, parents, administration, clinicians and most importantly the students. Referrals to student services are generally requested by the teachers, however, they may originate from the parents, the administration or from the student. Services may be on a consultative basis, or the Student Services teacher may be involved in direct intervention with the student. In all cases, the aim is to keep the students integrated in the classroom and to provide instructional programming to meet the needs of the students. Our Student Services team for the school year consists of Mme Nicole Maynard, M. Marc Nault, and Mme Natasha Herring. Feel free to contact your child's teacher, the Student Services department or the administration should you require additional information, or should you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's progress.

CLINICAL SERVICES UNIT

The Clinical Services team (as part of Student Services) gives us valuable assistance through the services of a Speech and Hearing Clinician, Psychologist, and Family Social Worker, Occupational Therapist and Physiotherapist. Parents are consulted before referrals are made to members of our Clinical Services Unit and are kept informed of the developments and progress of their child once he/she is referred for services. These services are at no cost to you.

Psychologist	Mme Brianne Curtis
Social Worker	Mme Leah Hucaluk
Speech/Language	TBD
Occupational Therapist	Mme Brittany Boulet
Physiotherapist	TBD

More information about these services is available by contacting the school or the Louis Riel Office of Clinical Services at (204) 257-7827.

TRANSPORTATION

BUSSED STUDENTS

All busses will arrive via Paddington Street. Drop-off and pick-up will occur in front of the school by the main entrance doors on the North side of the school. A staff member from École George-McDowell will be there to greet the students. Students will then enter ÉGM via those doors on the North side of the school off of Paddington Street. Please **do not park** on the street between 8:00 and 8:30 a.m. or 3:00 and 3:30 p.m. to avoid traffic congestion for busses that will be stopping to either drop students off or pick them up.

Students are not permitted to take another school bus to go to a friend's home after school. Non-bussed students may not take a bus to visit with friends.

In rare occasions, busses may break down or be delayed on cold, stormy days. Should this occur, please follow these guidelines:

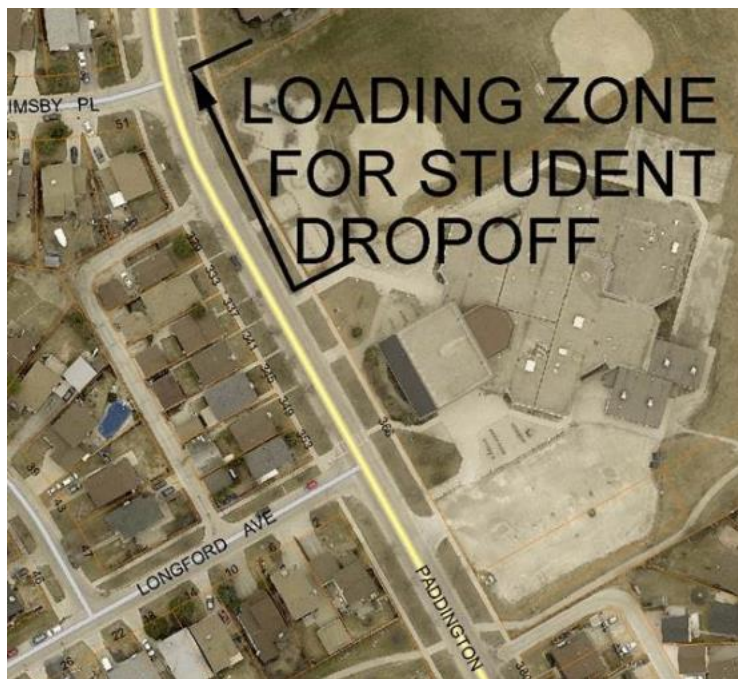
1. Students should wait at their bus stop no longer than 10 to 15 minutes on cold days.
2. Students should proceed home or to a babysitter or a designated emergency home.
3. Parents should first call Tricia Sharp, Transportation Coordinator at (204) 253-2681.
4. Arrangements should be made with your child as to where to go in case of an emergency.

PARKING AND DROP OFF AREA

Due to limited space, and to ensure student safety, we request that vehicles refrain from entering the school parking lot during drop-off in the morning and pick-up times in the afternoon. The preferred practice for student drop-off and parking is:

1. **Loading Zone on Paddington Road in front of the playground**

This "Loading Zone" is located on Paddington Road, north of the school's "Bus Loading Zone" and in front of the park/playground. It extends to Grimsby Place. This is the ideal area to drop-off students. It is safe and it is legal. Motorists loading in this zone are allowed up to 15 minutes. This area is approximately 70 meters and provides ample space to drop-off students. You are strongly encouraged to utilize this space for pick-up and drop-off.



2. **Back lane, off Longford and parallel to Paddington**

If you are using this public lane, remember that it is illegal to enter it from Longford Ave during the specific hours displayed on the signage. The purpose of this is to create a uniform flow of traffic coming off of Paddington Road, easing congestion and enhancing safety. If you are dropping off your young person at this location, please do so in a manner where the students can walk to school using the sidewalk / patrolled crosswalk, as outlined below.



3. **Back lane off Charing Cross, parallel to Paddington Road**

The public lane below is similar to the aforementioned. Entering it from Paddington Road has been restricted during specific times/dates. This has been done to create a uniform flow of traffic entering from Charing Cross, easing congestion and enhancing safety. If you are dropping off your young person at this location, please do so in a manner where the students can walk to school using the sidewalk, as outlined below.



BICYCLES, SKATEBOARDS, ROLLER BLADES AND SCOOTERS

We strongly encourage students to ride their bicycles to school, however we also strongly recommend that a very secure lock (such as a kryptonite lock) be used at the school rather than a less expensive and more easily compromised lock due avoid the possibility of theft. We encourage you to review bicycle safety recommendations with your son/daughter.

The school does not accept any responsibility for the safety of bicycles, skateboards, roller blades and scooters. As per LRSD administrative guidelines, "the use of skateboards, roller blades and scooters is prohibited in school buildings during the school days."

VISITORS/VOLUNTEERS

VISITORS & VOLUNTEERS

In accordance with the Louis Riel School Division Fire Safety Plan, all visitors, volunteers, and parents coming to spend time in the building will now report to the office to sign in where they will be issued a volunteer identification badge.

Parents and grandparents are always welcome to volunteer at the school. Please contact your child's teacher (by telephone at (204) 253-1492 or by e-mail) if you wish to become a parent volunteer.

École George-McDowell 2022-2023 DATES TO REMEMBER

Tuesday, September 6, 2022.....	Administrative Day (a.m.) – No classes Opening Day Conferences (p.m.) – No classes
Wednesday, September 7, 2022..	PD Day (a.m.) / Opening Day Conferences (p.m.) – No classes
Thursday, September 8, 2022.....	All students begin classes at 8:30 a.m.
Friday, September 16, 2022.....	LifeTouch Photos
Sunday, September 18, 2022	Terry Fox Day
Monday, September 19, 2022	PD Day – Divisional – No classes
Tuesday, September 27, 2022.....	Early Dismissal (2:00 p.m.)
Friday, September 30, 2022.....	National Day for Truth & Reconciliation – No School
Monday, October 10, 2022.....	Thanksgiving – No School
Friday, October 21, 2022	PD Day – MTS Day – No classes
Tuesday, October 25, 2022	Early Dismissal (2:00 p.m.)
Wednesday, November 2, 2022...	WRHA Immunizations (a.m.)
Monday, November 7, 2022	LifeTouch Picture Retakes
Thursday, November 10, 2022.....	Assembly– Remembrance Day (a.m.)
Friday, November 11, 2022	Remembrance Day – No School
Thursday, November 17, 2022.....	Report card distribution
Tuesday, November 22, 2022.....	Early Dismissal (2:00 p.m.)
Wednesday, November 23, 2022.	Triad Conferences
Thursday, November 24, 2022.....	Triad Conferences
Friday, November 25, 2022	PD Day – Divisional – No classes
Wednesday, December 21, 2022.	Last day of classes - Early dismissal (2:00 p.m.)
Thursday, January 5, 2023	Classes begin
Tuesday, January 24, 2023	Early Dismissal (2:00 p.m.)
Friday, February 3, 2023.....	PD Day – Divisional – No classes
Monday, February 20, 2023	Louis Riel Day – No School
Tuesday, February 28, 2023.....	Early Dismissal (2:00 p.m.)
Thursday, March 16, 2023.....	Report card distribution
Friday, March 17, 2023	PD Day – Divisional – No classes
Tuesday, March 21, 2023.....	Early Dismissal (2:00 p.m.)
Thursday, March 23, 2023.....	Triad Conferences (Gallery)
Friday, March 24, 2023	Last day of classes before Winter Break
Monday, April 3, 2023.....	Classes begin
Friday, April 7, 2023	Good Friday – No School
Friday, April 14, 2023	PD Day – Divisional – No classes
Wednesday, April 19, 2023.....	Open House (19h00)
Tuesday, April 25, 2023	Early Dismissal (2:00 p.m.)
Friday, May 5, 2023	PD Day – Divisional – No classes
Monday, May 22, 2023.....	Victoria Day – No School
Tuesday, May 23, 2023	Early Dismissal (2:00 p.m.)
Wednesday, June 7, 2022.....	WRHA Immunizations (a.m.)
Thursday, June 8, 2023	Fusion Day (Grade 5 – ÉSG/ÉJR)
Friday, June 9, 2023	PD Day – No classes
Thursday, June 28, 2023.....	Report card distribution
Friday, June 30, 2023	Last day of classes - Early dismissal– Early Dismissal (2:00 p.m.)

Updated August 26, 2022