

Laurie Middle School Code of Conduct



The Board of Education believes that the conduct of students should at all times contribute to a safe and positive learning environment. Each student is expected to respect the rights and property of others, and to adhere to Board and school regulations and rules. Each student must meet the expectations set out in the B.C. Human Rights Codes. There must be no discrimination or an intention to discriminate against a person or a group or class of persons because of the race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or age. Consequences for misbehaviour must be applied in a reasonable, firm and judicious manner and shall not include corporal punishment. These consequences should be designed to teach students to be responsible citizens in the school community and to promote personal and social development. Whenever possible and appropriate, consequences will be restorative in nature rather than punitive. The Board will take all reasonable steps to prevent retaliation by a person against a student who has made a complaint of a breach of a Code of Conduct.

Attendance

There is a direct match between student attendance and achievement. Attending greater than 80% of classes is considered to be on-track for success.

Conduct

Acceptable

- Students will attend all classes each school day unless they are ill, participating in an approved school activity, or absent for a parent/guardian approved situation/activity.
- If a student is absent, parents are asked to call the school at 250-426-5291 to consent his/her absence.
- A student who needs to leave during the school day is expected to sign out at the office (parental/guardian permission is required).
- Whenever possible medical, dental, and other appointments should be scheduled outside of class time.
- **Extended Absences:** Administration should be aware if a student is absent for more than a week, regardless of whether it is an illness, injury or vacation. Teachers must also know ahead of time. Together, the best plan will be made available for the student with the recognition that we cannot duplicate the classroom experience.

Unacceptable

- A student absence from a class/classes without consent will be recorded as an unexcused absence.

Consequences

- Parent notification
- Parent/Student meeting
- Detentions, In-School Suspension, and/or Suspension
- Referral to Student Services, School Based Team or outside agency for support
- Removal from a class

Notification

- Staff contact with home
- Administration contact with home
- Meeting held with parents or guardians

Classroom Behaviour

The environment of a classroom or teaching area must be safe and conducive to the learning of all students. While it is the responsibility of the teacher to foster an inclusive learning environment, it is the responsibility of students to contribute to a safe and positive learning environment for the sake of all learners.

Conduct

Acceptable

- Students demonstrate respect for self and others.
- Students arrive to class promptly and prepared to learn with all appropriate materials.
- Students comply with teacher directions for lesson activity.
- Students attend to the lesson and apply themselves to learning tasks.
- Students complete assigned homework on time.

Unacceptable

- Behaviour that is disrespectful, defiant, and/or disruptive to the learning environment.
- Use of cell phones/unauthorized electronic devices.
- Off-task behaviour or not engaging in the learning tasks.
- Arriving late for class.
- Attending class without the necessary materials.
- Failure to complete homework or attend to deadlines.
- Students must not represent others' work as their own, this includes the utilization of AI. This includes cheating, copying and plagiarizing.

Consequences

- Verbal reminder of expectations
- Relocation in the class seating plan

- Phone call to parents/guardians from teacher
- Cell phone/electronic device confiscated for the day
- Temporary removal from class
- Referral to the office
- Detention and/or in-school suspension
- Meeting with parents/guardians, student, teacher, and administration
- Out of school suspension
- Restorative action process
- Permanent removal from class
- Suspension to the board
- Cheating, copying or plagiarizing will be dealt with seriously.

Notification

- Teacher contact with home
- Administration contact with home
- Letter sent to home
- Meeting held with parents or guardians

Out of Classroom Behaviour During the School Day (on or off campus)

The general atmosphere of the school is safe and orderly. Students, staff, and guests have a right to move safely and comfortably throughout the school and school grounds.

Conduct:

Acceptable

- Students demonstrate respect for self and others.
- Students move through the school and school grounds in a safe and orderly manner.
- Students demonstrate respect for property.
- Students use trash and recycle bins.
- Students comply with directions of staff.

Unacceptable

- Behaviour that is disrespectful.
- Rough play such as pushing, shoving, running, and chasing.
- Vandalizing property in any manner.
- Littering
- Failing to clean up after oneself
- Defiant disregard to the directions of supervising staff.

Consequences

- Verbal reminder of expectations
- Referral to the office

- Short term removal from selected areas of the school
- Long term removal from selected areas of the school
- Detention and/or in-school suspension
- Out of school suspension
- Restorative action process

Notification

- Staff contact with home
- Administration contact with home
- Letter sent to home
- Meeting held with parents or guardians

Off Campus Trip

(Curricular and Extra-curricular – Participant or Spectator)

Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege. A student who participates must accept their responsibilities to the group, supervisor and to Laurie Middle School. Students on trips are ambassadors of our school, our community and their families. A high level of work ethic/performance is expected at Laurie Middle School. Administration may withdraw the student's privilege to participate in extracurricular activities, if a high level of work ethic/performance is not being met.

Conduct

Acceptable

- Students, whether they are a participant or spectator, must behave in a mature, responsible and considerate manner at all times.
- Students must advise subject teachers, **well in advance**, of class time that will be missed.
- Students must make arrangements, in advance, with their teachers.
- Students will attend classes, extracurricular practices and competitions/performances.
- Athletes will complete and return the Athlete Contract prior to travel at the start of the season.

Unacceptable

- Students must not be absent from school, on the day of the event.
- Any behaviour that is considered inappropriate at the school is deemed inappropriate during school trips. This includes bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, intimidation, threatening or violent behaviours.

Consequences

- Students absent from school, on the day of the event, will not be permitted to participate in the event.
- Any behaviour that is considered inappropriate at the school is deemed inappropriate during curricular or extra-curricular trips and similar consequences will apply.

- Involvement with alcohol or drugs, in any way, will lead to dismissal from the team/group, and suspension from school. The student may be returned home from the trip immediately, with the family bearing the expense.

Notification

- Phone call by administration
- Letter to parent
- Meeting with parent

Communications Technology

Statement of Purpose/Rationale

- Our computer networks and technology resources are an educational tool to facilitate learning.
- These networks and technology resources provide users with the opportunity to prepare for the technological world and provide access to on-line resources enhancing learning in all areas.
- The school setting is to be one that is safe and free from invasions of privacy.
- Personal devices are common and must be used in a way that does not harm others.

Conduct

Acceptable

- All users must sign and return a Student Authorization for Computer Network Access form.
- All electronic resources are to be used in a responsible, ethical and legal manner.
- A student who logs on to the school network is responsible for all activities associated with their account.
- This policy also applies to any personal electronic device(s) brought to school.
- Students use personal devices to enhance and contribute to the learning environment.

Unacceptable (includes but is not limited to):

- Intentional access to sites which contain information that is pornographic, racist, sexist, malicious, vulgar, immoral, or promotes or fosters hatred or illegal activities.
- Downloading and/or installing programs, movies, games, music files; or playing unauthorized games.
- Engaging in bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, intimidation, threatening or violent behaviours
- Promoting discrimination on the basis of an individual's or a group's race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or age.
- To capture image, video, or audio material of any person without explicit consent, and/or sharing it.
- Misuse of another's personal device.
- Devices must not invade the privacy or safety of any member of our school, and must not interfere with the learning environment.
- Accessing unauthorized computer systems, folders, and files

- Intentional damage to computer equipment, computer systems, network equipment or devices.
- Ordering or purchasing personal resources on-line with district devices.
- Give out personal information, such as name, age, home address, telephone number(s), photographs, parent(s) or guardian(s) work address or telephone number, or the name or location of the school over the internet or through email.

Consequences

- Personal electronic devices will be confiscated and returned to the parents
- Verbal warning and/or other appropriate consequence
- Suspension of network privileges, short term or long term
- Suspension from school (in-school, homework session after school, out of school, indefinite)
- Restorative action process
- Legal action

Notification

- Phone call by administration
- Meeting with parent
- Notification of appropriate School Board personnel

Dress Code

LMS students and their parents are expected to support a learning environment where attire is appropriate and not offensive to others. Our Dress Code attempts to balance the freedom of expression with an expectation that clothing should meet standards of suitability that are typical of many work environments. The school administration will make a final determination if a student's clothing is appropriate.

Conduct

Acceptable

- Students are to maintain the dress code standards during regular school hours or while representing LMS at school sponsored functions.
- Students dress in a comfortable and appropriate manner while respecting human rights laws.
- Students have a change of clothing for Physical and Health Education.
- Students wear clothing that is safe for shops, kitchen or lab areas (including footwear).
- Footwear is required in the school.

Unacceptable

- Clothing that is associated with a more informal setting (ie: bathing suits, bralettes etc.).
- Clothing with offensive language, pictures or designs, that promote discrimination on the basis of an individual's or a group's race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or age.

- Students are not to wear hats during the Remembrance Day assembly.

Consequences

- If any person dresses in an inappropriate manner, the student will be advised discretely and given an opportunity to meet the school guidelines. This may include turning a shirt inside out, committing to not wearing that article of clothing again, or changing.
- Consequences for inappropriate dress will be consistent with the school discipline process and may include the following escalating actions: discussion of expectations, change into appropriate attire, parents/student/administration meeting, or suspension from school.

Notification

- Parental contact by administration
- Letter to parent
- Meeting with parent

Drugs and Alcohol

Because drugs and alcohol are dangerous and illegal, usage at school or at school-sponsored events is prohibited.

Conduct

Acceptable

- There are no acceptable conditions by which a student can use or be under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol at school or at school-sponsored events.

Unacceptable

- Students in the possession of, or under the influence of drugs or alcohol while under the school's jurisdiction.
 - Students being part of a group that is using drugs and/or alcohol while under the school's jurisdiction.
 - Students trafficking (buying, selling, giving, transporting, etc.) drugs and/or alcohol while under the school's jurisdiction.

Consequences

- A student who is in possession of or under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol while under the school's jurisdiction may be suspended for five days. The RCMP may also be notified.
- Subsequent offences may result in a suspension to the board
- A suspension may also be issued to a student who is part of a group that is using drugs or alcohol.
- Students trafficking drugs and/or alcohol may be suspended immediately. The RCMP may also be notified.
- Restorative action process

Notification

- Phone call by administration
- Letter to parent
- Meeting with parent
- Notification of appropriate School Board personnel
- Notification of RCMP and/or outside agencies

Smoking/Vaping

The school district is a tobacco-free zone. In compliance with provincial legislation, smoking/vaping is not permitted on school property.

Conduct

Acceptable

- Students are encouraged to make healthy choices that include not using tobacco products, vaporizers, e-cigarettes, or similar devices.

Unacceptable

- Using tobacco, vaporizers, e-cigarettes, or similar devices is not permitted on school property or during school functions off campus. This includes smokeless tobacco and/or smoking in vehicles in the school parking lot.
- Students may not traffic in tobacco products. This includes buying, selling, giving, or trading.

Consequences

- Consequences will include one or more of the following escalating actions:
 - Warning and discussion of expectations,
 - Notification of parent by student and/or administration,
 - Tobacco products or devices taken from student and given to a parent,
 - Suspension from school, and/or in school suspension
 - Committee

Notification

- Phone call by student or administration
- Letter to parent notifying them of disciplinary action
- Notification of appropriate School Board personnel

Violence and Harassment

Every student/staff/visitor at LMS or at a LMS sponsored activity has a right to a safe and welcoming environment. Every student has the opportunity to learn conflict resolution skills to be socially

responsible. Students/Staff/Parents/Guests at LMS or a LMS sponsored activity should feel LMS is a safe and welcoming learning and working environment.

Conduct

Acceptable

- Students demonstrate respect for self and others.
- Students demonstrate tolerance and acceptance of individual diversity.
- Students feel safe to report violent/harassing behaviour.
- Students assert their rights in a non-threatening manner.
- Students acknowledge violent/harassing behaviour and reject it.

Unacceptable

- Students in possession of weapons (including knives) or imitations of weapons.
- Fighting, instigating conflict, active spectating, and post-fight hype are unacceptable.
- Any form of harassment is unacceptable (verbal, internet/technological, emotional, intimidation, sexual, racial, exclusion, rumours, mocking, ignoring, shunning, slander, and any behaviour that would fall under this category but are not mentioned).
- Promoting discrimination on the basis of an individual's or a group's race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, gender, or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or age.
- The use of racially fueled language and the counselling of suicide are both non negotiable and will automatically result in suspension
- Promotion and/or acceptance of violence as a method of resolving conflict.
- Any type of abuse (physical, verbal, sexual, emotional) is unacceptable. This includes bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, intimidation, threatening or violent behaviours.

Consequences (may involve but are not limited to any of the following)

- Student reprimand
- Detentions
- Suspensions (In school, out of school, indefinite)
- Restorative action process
- Making passive bystanders aware of how their behaviour contributes to escalation of the situation (teach – re-teach)
- Involvement by the RCMP
- Restitution – community and/or school service, peer mentoring, financial restitution, counseling, mediation, meaningful apologies (verbal or written), meeting with victim
- The school will take all reasonable steps to prevent retaliation against a student who has made a complaint of a breach of the Code of Conduct

Notification

- Phone call by administration
- Letter to parent
- Meeting with parent
- Notification of appropriate School Board personnel

- Notification of RCMP
- Suspension (in school, out of school, to the board)