

Gilbert Paterson Middle School

Registration Handbook 2018-19 School Year



2109 12th Avenue S • Lethbridge, AB T1K 0P1 • 403-329-0125

Email us at: paterson@lethsd.ab.ca

Visit us online at: gp.lethsd.ab.ca

A Message From the Principal:



Students and Parents:

Welcome to Gilbert Paterson! Here is some important first day information. We want to make this transition as easy as possible for parents and students. We are completely ready to receive your new middle school child come September.

School begins **Tuesday, September 4th, 2018**. We will have a staggered entry with grade 6 coming first thing in the morning and grade 7/8 students coming after lunch. We feel this will give our grade 6's a smooth transition and the chance to learn about their new school and routines with help from all staff. As a result, start times are:

Grade 6 – meet in the small gym at 8:00-8:10 – meet your homeroom teacher. Homeroom teachers (advisors) will collect students and then return to their homeroom classroom. In the homeroom classroom, students will receive their timetable, locker, lock, bus information and anything else they need to know. They will find out where their options and PE are, have a grade 6 assembly and learn the lunch routine. These tasks will take all morning and go into the afternoon.

Grade 7 and 8 – meet in the small gym (grade 7) and large gym (grade 8) at 12:20 – Homeroom teachers will collect their class and pass out timetables, lockers and other important information. Students will spend the afternoon in their homeroom or dyad. All students will finish the day with a school-wide assembly and regular classes will begin Wednesday.

Please keep this booklet handy as it contains important information you may need to reference throughout the year.

You will find the **bell schedule** on the back of this booklet, and please, get in the habit of periodically checking the school website at gp.lethsd.ab.ca. There you will find a 'Year-at-a-Glance' calendar and a school month-by-month calendar, as well as newsletters, class assignments, event information, and important links to School Cash Online & Safe Arrival.

Thank you, and we all look forward to seeing you in September!

Darryl Christiansen,
Principal

NEW! Class Placement Process for the 2018-2019 School Year

Following extensive discussions regarding the merit of accommodating requests for specific teachers, it has been determined that the volume of requests make it impossible to maintain optimal class balance both with respect to size and composition. As such, **we will not be granting teacher requests by name**. At the same time, we believe that parents can provide us with invaluable insight with respect to what we should consider when placing your child.

Rather than accepting notes, letters, emails or phone calls from parents requesting a specific teacher for their child, a **“Student Profile Form 2018-19”** has been created. This form allows for communication of considerations that lie outside of requesting a specific teacher. It will be **available on our website by April 11th**. It will be found under the **“Parents”** heading at the top of the web page.



About

Arts

Athletics Calendar

Calendar

Parents

Library

Counselling

Staff

Contact



There is much to consider in the creation of the composition of each class for the upcoming year and this takes us several weeks to work through each spring. We look at academic, physical, second language, and social / emotional / behavioural considerations. We consider children's personalities and how well they have worked together in the past. Gender ratios help us to balance out the rest. Finally, class sizes are considered so that each grade level class is similar in size. The current year's teachers play a large role in creating classes based on their experience working with the children in the school. We also transition with all of our feeder schools to gather the same insight and information regarding incoming grade 6 students.

The key is to find the best balance for all of those factors within each class to help ensure that each child, and teacher, has the most successful year possible. Additionally, we need to remember that our staffing process is often not completed until after class lists are formed. Given all of these factors, we feel that it is best practice to no longer grant requests for specific teachers. **Should you wish to complete the form, please submit it to the office by Friday, April 27th.** Please contact school administration if you have any questions.

General Information

This booklet is designed to help you plan your year at Gilbert Paterson, please keep it handy and refer back to it as necessary.

As you are aware, students are assigned to a homeroom for their core classes: Language Arts, Social Studies, Mathematics, Science and French Language Arts (for French Immersion students only). These core classes are built to maximize learning opportunities for all students. Physical Education and Health are also required to be taken by all students and are delivered by specialized teachers trained in those disciplines.

Gilbert Paterson has three program streams available for student enrollment:

English Learning

The default stream, all classes are taught in English. French and/or Spanish may be taken as options.

French Immersion

French Immersion is only available to those students who have been in this specialized program during elementary years.

Knowledge & Employability (Gr.7/8)

A hands on, skill based program. Students must meet special requirements to enroll in this stream.

Each homeroom grouping will have a unique timetable indicating the time and location for each class. Some homerooms travel to a different classroom each period. For the option blocks, students will not remain in homeroom groupings - these options are determined on an individual basis according to student requests. Every effort will be made to schedule students into their top option choices, however, due to the availability of space, some students may not get every option they want. For this reason it is imperative that students return registration forms in a timely manner.

General Guidelines for Electives/Options:

1. The school year is divided into 3 terms, each term having 2 option blocks. This means students could potentially have six different options each year.
2. Band, Choral, and Soccer are FULL YEAR options, meaning they will take up 3 of the 6 option blocks. Students who choose one of these options will then only fill an additional 3 option blocks.
3. On the registration form, students will be asked to indicate 6 - 8 options they have an interest in.
4. Be advised that some options have a supplementary fee attached to them to cover additional material and supply costs.
5. Option choices may change by fall start up based on numbers and staffing.

Grade 6: Full Year Option Choices

BAND

This option focuses on the fundamentals of wind & percussion instruments. In addition to performances, students will study some music theory. Regular private practice and attendance at a small number of noon hour concerts, festivals and community performances will be expected.

Additional Costs: Instrument rental will be necessary for most students. If renting from the school, the cost is **\$65.00/year**. (Local music stores also rent instruments) Each student will be required to purchase a Method Book for **\$15.00**. Students are strongly encouraged to attend a beginner workshop in September at a cost of **\$30.00**.



CHORAL

This option facilitates the learning of choral skills such as breathing, vocal production, communication, music theory, cooperation, commitment and self-discipline. Students enrolled in this course will be expected to attend performances at concerts, festivals & events. Some out of town travel may be required.

Additional Costs: **\$75.00** per student includes a performance shirt and covers the cost of a spring trip to ChoralFest South in Calgary.

♪ **Select Choir** ♪: An extra-curricular audition group open only to students taking the Choral option. Select choir rehearses 2x weekly during lunch hour and will attend ChoralFest North. Fee of **\$300** per student will apply.

SOCCER

This option is for students who are currently playing organized soccer and would like to develop their skills further. Focus will be on technical & tactical skills, injury prevention, nutrition, equipment care. Space is limited; please indicate current level of minor experience on the registration form.

Additional Costs: Players must provide their own shin-pads & appropriate indoor shoes. An additional **\$60.00** per student for soccer gear will be required.



HOCKEY DEVELOPMENT

The Paterson Hockey Development is not technically an option, and will not take up any of a student's 6 elective spaces. As part of this program, students will miss the last class each Monday during the 'season' and travel to a local rink for some ice time. Space is limited; please indicate current level of LMHA experience on the registration form.

Additional Costs: Each student enrolled in PHD will be required to pay a fee of **\$300.00**. Students are required to supply their own equipment & skates.

Grade 6: Single Term Option Choices

ART

The focus will be on components of visual learning while simultaneously exploring students' creative side. Some supplies will be required by students.

Additional Costs: \$20.00 per student

BABYSITTING/WRECK YOUR JOURNAL

This new option combines two 6 week mini courses. Students will learn about first aid and caregiving skills as set out by the St. John Ambulance Babysitting Course. You will then paint, poke, create, destroy, and wreck to end up with a journal as unique as you are.

Additional Costs: Materials fee of \$20.00 per student (for journal & supplies)

BOOK CLUB

Calling all Book Worms! Book Club is a place where students get to follow their own interests, share good reads recommended by peers and teachers, or indulge in a favorite author. The formula for this class is simple: read and share books.

CLAYMATION

Learn to combine stop motion animation, storytelling, technology, and your creativity to produce videos through the use of plasticine characters and other materials.

Additional Costs: Materials fee of \$10.00 per student.

COMPUTER GRAPHICS & ANIMATION

Use special software to explore the creative side of computers to create and produce graphic artistry, magazines, brochures, and music videos. **Additional Costs:** \$10.00

CODEMAKERS 6

In this introduction to computer programming, students will learn the basics of writing code. Patience and persistence will be essential as minor errors can cause program faults. All students will start at their own level of understanding with the chance to progress throughout the course. **Additional Costs:** \$10.00/student for supplies/equipment.

CONSTRUCTION

A hands-on introduction to the safe use of hand tools & selected power tools.

Additional Costs: Materials fee of \$20.00 per student.

DRAMA & THEATRE

This class is designed to promote performing arts, ignite imagination and breed creativity through the study of mime, script work and other mediums of performance.

FITNESS

Students will acquire the knowledge, skills and attributes associated with fitness and a overall healthy lifestyle: cardiovascular, muscular strength, flexibility and muscular endurance. Effort, attitude and participation are keys in taking this option.

Additional Costs: \$10.00/student for supplies and equipment repair and maintenance.

FOODS

Students will work in groups to create culinary masterpieces and learn about food & kitchen safety, nutrition, simple meal planning, and food preparation techniques.

Additional Costs: \$20.00 per student to help offset the cost of food and supplies.

Grade 6: Single Term Option Choices (cont'd)

FRENCH

Students will acquire various skills and knowledge through communication, experience, culture, language formation and general language education. Four components of language learning are integrated, each having its own focus and emphasis.

HANDBELLS

Using handbells and hand chimes, students will learn many aspects of classic and contemporary music. No prior musical training or extensive instruction is required. Students will perform at a small number of concerts outside of school time.

Additional Costs: A shirt for performances (to be supplied by school) **\$20.00.**

LEADERSHIP

Students will discover and explore personal strengths through games, lateral thinking puzzles, movie character comparisons, small group discussions and team building activities. You will learn qualities to make you a great leader in your life and will discover personal skills that you already have to create better relationships and focus on skills for success in high school and beyond.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Students will learn about many species of animals and will develop note taking skills from videos which will then culminate in reports on chosen species of animals. Other topics of study will include making shelters, outdoor safety and environmental awareness.

OUTDOOR TEAM GAMES

Through a variety of games and activities, students will develop fundamental body movements, an understanding of rules and fair play, teamwork and collaboration, and a personal enjoyment of activities.

PHOTOGRAPHY & SCRAPBOOKING

In this option, students will explore digital photography and printing, culminating with a dive into the world of scrapbooking. Each themed page will feature the photographs in an exciting and unique way. At the end of the term, students will be able to take their scrapbook home to share with family and friends.

Additional Costs: Scrapbooking materials - **\$20.00** per student.

SPANISH

The learning of Spanish as a second language enables students to develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes they need to communicate efficiently and effectively in a variety of situations and contexts. The program develops an appreciation of other cultures as well as a greater awareness of their own.

TECHNOLOGY 101

Students will be given first hand opportunities to use various pieces of technology that will allow them to gain the knowledge, skills and attitudes for each. Moreover, students will be introduced to 13 pieces of technology, one a week, which students will be able to learn about, use and evaluate.

Grade 7: Full Year Option Choices

BAND

This option focuses on the fundamentals of wind & percussion instruments. In addition to performances, students will study some music theory. Regular private practice and attendance at a small number of noon hour concerts, festivals, and community performances will be expected.

Additional Costs: *Second & Third year instrument rental is \$90.00/year. (Local music stores also rent instruments) Each student will be required to purchase a Method Book for \$15.00. Students are strongly encouraged to attend a band retreat/workshop in October at a cost of \$55.00.*

CHORAL

This option facilitates the learning of choral skills such as breathing, vocal production, communication, music theory, cooperation, commitment, and self-discipline. Students enrolled in this course will be expected to attend performances at concerts, festivals & events. Some out of town travel may be required.

Additional Costs: *\$75.00/student includes a performance shirt and deposit on the spring trip to ChoralFest North in Edmonton. An additional \$225.00 will be required to be paid prior to the festival date.*

♪ **Select Choir** ♪: *An extra-curricular audition group open to students taking the Choral option. Select choir rehearses 2x weekly during lunch hour and will attend ChoralFest North. Fee of \$300/student will apply (if they are not enrolled in the Choral option).*



SOCCER

This option is for students who are currently playing organized soccer and would like to further develop their skills. Focus will be on technical & tactical skills, injury prevention, nutrition, equipment care. Space is limited, please indicate level of minor soccer experience on registration form.

Additional Costs: *Players must provide their own shin-pads & appropriate indoor shoes. An additional \$60.00 per student equipment fee will be required.*

HOCKEY DEVELOPMENT

The Paterson Hockey Development is not technically an option, and will not take up any of a student's 6 elective spaces. As part of this program, students will miss the last class each Monday during the 'season' and travel to a local rink for some ice time. Space is limited; please indicate current level of LMHA experience on the registration form.

Additional Costs: *Each student enrolled in PHD will be required to pay a fee of \$300.00. Students are required to supply their own equipment & skates.*

Grade 7: Single Term Option Choices

ARCHERY

You will learn the basics of archery as well as proper maintenance and care for the equipment. Focus will be on technique and different ways to enjoy the sport of archery.

Additional Costs: \$25.00 per student for equipment repair and replacement.

ART

Grade 7 Art focuses on three major components of visual learning: Drawing, Composition, and Encounters. Students will also be introduced to the history of art.

Additional Costs: \$20.00 per student.

BOOK CLUB

A Novel Idea - Do you love to read? If so, this is the option for you. Come and share your passion for books. "Books give a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and life to everything."-Plato

CODE MAKERS 7

Welcome to the world of computer programming! Students enrolled in this course need to have patience and persistence as 20% of our time will be spent writing code, while 80% of time is often spent trouble-shooting problems. Students enrolled in this class need to be able to follow directions closely as minor errors can cause program faults. All students will start with basic level program challenges with the option to progress to more advanced programming while learning at their own pace. Students are encouraged to bring their Android phone to class.

Additional Costs: \$10.00/student for supplies and equipment.

CONSTRUCTION

Students will develop basic production and hand tool skills to transform common building materials into useful products. Emphasis will be on learning the safe use of hand tools as well as selected power tools. The course includes solid stock and composite material construction. Design Studies will include sketching, drawing and basic drafting techniques, skills which will enhance student's ability to perform in Construction.

Additional Costs: \$20.00 fee for project materials.

DIGITAL ARTS

Creativity and imagination will be the focus in this project-based course. Elements of design will be emphasized both in photography and in post-production. This course can help overcome particular difficulties when using traditional art media by utilizing technology to assist students. **Additional Costs: \$10.00** for supplies and equipment.

DRAMA & THEATRE

This class is designed to promote performing arts, ignite imagination and breed creativity through study of movement, speech, improvisation, script work and other forms of theatrics. Sets, direction and script writing will also be studied.



Grade 7: Single Term Option Choices (cont'd)

FITNESS

Students will acquire the knowledge, skills and attributes associated with fitness and a overall healthy lifestyle: cardiovascular, muscular strength, flexibility and muscular endurance. Effort, attitude and participation are keys in taking this option.

Additional Costs: *\$10.00/student for supplies and equipment repair and maintenance*

FOODS

Students will work with other students to create simple snacks and meals. Areas of study will include kitchen safety, nutrition, simple meal planning, food preparation techniques, recipe reading, table setting, measuring and presentation of food. Also included in this exploratory module: influences on food choices and planning for social occasions.

Additional Costs: *\$20.00 per student to help offset the cost of food and supplies.*

FOODOLOGY: EDIBLE SCIENCE

Wanted: Middle School Foodies with an appetite for science! In this hands-on science option, you will explore the science behind some of the basic ingredients found in your kitchen cupboard – Mythbuster style! Together we will extract the DNA from a strawberry, investigate the gelatin in gummy worms and debate hot food topics. If you like food and love to perform experiments, then this option is for you!

FRENCH

Students will acquire various skills, knowledge and attitudes through communication, experience, culture, language formation and general language education. Four components of language learning are integrated - each with a different focus and emphasis. Themes are Friends and Activities, Media, Foods, Travel, and Adventure stories.

LEADERSHIP

Students will discover and explore personal strengths through games, lateral thinking puzzles, movie character comparisons, small group discussions, and team building activities. Build strong inter-personal skills that will help you be successful in high school and beyond, while participating in fun events and programs in and around the school.

PROBLEMS & PUZZLES

Are you interested in challenging yourself with creative problem solving, brainteasers, and a wide variety of puzzles and logic? Put your skills to the test using an assortment of materials and technology.

SEWING

Students will learn how to use sewing machines in order to make three projects.

Additional Costs: Students will be asked to provide the materials necessary to complete two of these items. (A letter outlining the details will be given to students in the class).

SPANISH

The learning of Spanish as a second language enables students to develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes they need to communicate efficiently and effectively in Spanish in a variety of situations and contexts. The program develops an appreciation of other cultures as well as a greater awareness of their own

Grade 8: Full Year Option Choices

BAND

This option focuses on the fundamentals of wind & percussion instruments. In addition to performances, students will study some music theory. Regular private practice and attendance at a small number of noon hour concerts, festivals and community performances will be expected.

Additional Costs: *Second & Third year instrument rental is **\$90.00/year**. (Local music stores also rent instruments) Each student will be required to purchase a Method Book for **\$15.00**. There will also be a band retreat to Banff in May, the cost of which will be determined at a later date (fundraising opportunities are available).*

CHORAL

This option facilitates the learning of choral skills such as breathing, vocal production, communication, music theory, cooperation, commitment and self-discipline. Students enrolled in this course will be expected to attend performances at concerts, festivals & events. Some out of town travel may be required.

Additional Costs: ***\$75.00/student** includes a performance shirt and deposit on the spring trip to ChoralFest North in Edmonton. An additional **\$225.00** will be required to be paid prior to the festival date.*

♪ Select Choir ♪: *An extra-curricular audition group open to students taking the Choral option. Select choir rehearses 2x weekly during lunch hour and will attend ChoralFest North. Fee of **\$300** per student will apply (if they are not enrolled in the Choral option).*



SOCCER

This option is for students who are currently playing organized soccer and would like to develop their skills further. Focus will be on technical & tactical skills, injury prevention, nutrition, equipment care. Space is limited; please indicate level of minor soccer experience on registration form.

Additional Costs: *Players must provide their own shin-pads & appropriate indoor shoes. An additional **\$60.00** per student equipment fee will be required.*

HOCKEY DEVELOPMENT

The Paterson Hockey Development is not technically an option, and will not take up any of a student's 6 elective spaces. As part of this program, students will miss the last class each Monday during the 'season' and travel to a local rink for some ice time. Space is limited; please indicate level of LMHA experience on registration form.

Additional Costs: *Each student enrolled in PHD will be required to pay a fee of **\$300.00**. Students are required to supply their own equipment & skates.*

Grade 8: Single Term Option Choices

ARCHERY

You will learn the basics of archery as well as proper maintenance and care for the equipment. Focus will be on technique and different ways to enjoy the sport of archery.
Additional Costs: \$25.00 per student for equipment repair and replacement.

ART

The Grade 8 Art Program focuses on three major components of visual learning: Drawing, Composition, and Encounters. ART 7 is a valuable asset, but not a prerequisite.
Additional Costs: \$20.00 per student for materials and supplies.

CONSTRUCTION

Students will develop basic production and hand tool skills to build useful products with an emphasis on safety.
Additional Costs: \$20.00 fee for project materials.

COSMETOLOGY

If you have an interest in hair, nails, and/or makeup, then you will have fun learning about the art and science of beauty care in Cosmetology. This course will introduce students to some fundamental skills in a variety of topic areas of the beauty industry such as make-up applications, manicures, and hair styles using braids, twists, and knots.
Additional Costs: \$20.00 per student for materials and supplies.

DESIGN

You will have a chance to discover and follow your interests in this course that will explore the basic elements of design. Explore the worlds of architecture, interior design, and fashion design - just to name a few. Hands on project learning will be the focus of this class, so bring your creativity!

DRAMA & THEATRE

This class is designed to promote performing arts, ignite imagination and breed creativity through study of movement, speech, improvisation, script work, and other forms of theatrics. Sets, direction, and script writing will also be studied.

DRIVERS EDUCATION

Learn what is required to write the Learner's License test as laid out in the Government of Alberta Basic Drivers Handbook. Through a variety of activities, students will prepare for the world of driving. If interested, please indicate your birth date on the registration form.

FITNESS

Students will acquire the knowledge, skills and attributes associated with fitness and a overall healthy lifestyle: cardiovascular, muscular strength, flexibility and muscular endurance. Effort, attitude and participation are keys in taking this option.

Additional Costs: \$10.00/student for supplies and equipment repair and maintenance

FOODS

We focus on the basics: meal planning, nutrition, and cooking fast, convenient, healthy food through a variety of projects, and participation in "secret ingredient show-downs".
Additional Costs: \$20.00 per student per class to help offset the cost of food and supplies.

Grade 8: Single Term Option Choices (cont'd)

FOODS: ADVANCED

If you loved **Foods** and are ready to kick it up a notch, then **Advanced Foods** is for you! Designed to be a mini culinary school experience, this class will explore the finer, more advanced aspects of creative cooking.

Additional Costs: \$20.00 per student per class to help offset the cost of food and supplies.

FRENCH

Students will acquire various skills, knowledge and attitudes through communication, experience, culture, language formation and general language education. The four components of language learning are integrated, each with a different focus.

LEADERSHIP

Students will discover and explore personal strengths through games, lateral thinking puzzles, movie character comparisons, small group discussions, and team building activities. Build strong inter-personal skills that will help you be successful in high school and beyond, while participating in fun events and programs in and around the school.

PRODUCTION ARTS

Students will learn videography, script writing, storyboarding, set design, lighting and sound design as well as directing and producing live video productions. Projects will work directly with school fine arts and athletic programs.

SPANISH

The learning of Spanish enables students to develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes they need to communicate efficiently and effectively. The program develops an appreciation of other cultures as well as a greater awareness of their own.

TECHNOLOGY

In this class, students will explore a variety of visual design, basic code making, and/or other computer applications. The focus and breadth of this course will be fully determined once staffing has been confirmed.

VIDEO/FILM STUDIES

This course is designed to enhance language skills in a different medium. The goal is to help students understand how images and language can convey ideas, values, and beliefs.

YEARBOOK & PHOTOGRAPHY

Students will serve as the leaders and decision-makers of the yearbook while learning how to create a quality record of school memories and events. Students will gain skills in one or more of the following areas: page design, publishing techniques, copy writing, editing, and photography. There is an emphasis on journalism in this class! To be gained are real world skills in time management, marketing, teamwork, and design principles.

YOGA

In this class, students will participate in the different types of yoga practices and explore the history of yoga. Students will engage in self-regulation and experience the positive impact that yoga practice has on your overall well being.

Sports & Extracurriculars



Intramurals!

Belly Baseball
Floor Hockey
Basketball
Badminton

Theme Days!

Jersey Day
Halloween Costume Day
Tiger Pride Day
Orange Shirt Day
Pyjama Day
Crazy Hat Day
Crazy Hair Day
Pink Shirt Day
St. Patrick's Day
Tacky Tourist/Twin Day

Student Clubs & Activities!

Me 2 We
Stage Band
Handbells
Select Choir
Robotics
Board Game Clubs
Girls In Science
Yearbook
Percussion Ensemble
Theatre Production
Braille Club
Lego Club
Library Club
Rocky Mountain Book
Award Club
STEM Club
Gr. 8 Book Club



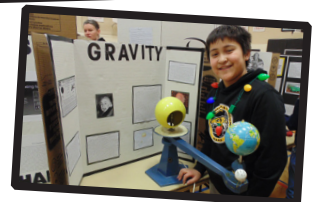
Sports To Play!

Cross Country
Volleyball
Basketball
Badminton
Track & Field



Fundraising Activities!

Terry Fox Run
Feed the Bug
Food Drives
Student Dances
Guide Dog Bottle Drive



Get ready for a GREAT year!



See you in
September!

****Parents/Guardians Please Read Carefully****

The information that follows is very important.

Please review it carefully and keep these documents handy for future reference.

*If you have questions or concerns with any of these uses of information,
please notify the principal in writing.*

Students NEW to the School

If you are registering as a new student you must have the following accompany your registration package:

- a photocopy of your birth certificate (if you were born in Canada)
- a photocopy of your Canadian citizenship status if you were not born in Canada
- a copy of your most recent report card from last school attended
- a copy of a document verifying your address

Important Freedom of Information for Parents

The personal information requested on this form as part of the school registration process is collected under the authority of Alberta's Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP), the *School Act* and its regulations, and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, Section 23.

This information will be used for the establishment of a student record, determination of residency, for a school board's obligation to provide students with an education program that meets their needs, to provide a safe and secure school environment and other purposes that relate directly to and are necessary for an operating program or activity, including program placement, determination of eligibility and/or suitability for provincial or federal funding, contact and health related information in the event of problems or emergencies. Personal information may also be provided to the Minister of Education for the purpose of carrying out programs, activities, or policies under his/her administration (e.g. research, statistical analysis). This information will be treated in accordance with the privacy protection provisions of the *FOIP Act*.

Normal School Information Disclosure

The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act requires that consent be obtained for the collection and use of personal information that is not authorized under the School Act. The Lethbridge School District #51 believes that the uses listed below are part of a vital, healthy and functioning school and participation of all students is important and encouraged.

- the use of a student's name, photo, comments in the school calendar, newsletter, yearbook, graduation book, or other school publication.
- the taking of individual, class, team or club photos for school purposes and the use of student photos for the issuance of identification passes (i.e., library, activity, transit/ bus).
- the use of student names on artwork or other creative work or material of students displayed at school or School Board sites, provided the Copyright Release section of this form is signed.
- the use of student names in honour rolls, birthday recognition, and other such acknowledgements within the school or School Board.
- the publication of student names as part of graduation and award ceremonies.
- the use of student names and academic information necessary for determining eligibility or suitability for provincial, federal or other types of awards or scholarships in the event the Board applies on a student's behalf.
- the use of students' names, related contact information and telephone numbers for absenteeism verification.
- the taking of photos and/or videos of classroom activities, and their use by the media or other organizations where students are not identifiable (the accompanying Media Consent Form may provide consent for situations where individual students are identifiable or interviewed and the material will be used outside the school). Please note that photos and/or videos of school activities that are open to the general public may be taken and used for purposes within and outside of the school. The school may not be able to restrict such activity at public events.
- the circulation of personal information on a "need to know" basis for students who have severe, life threatening medical conditions or for students in emergency situations.
- the taking of photos/videos of classroom or other school activities by the School Board where the material will be used within the school. (Where individual students are identified or interviewed and the material will be used outside the school, a separate and specific consent will be required. You will be contacted prior to this event taking place.)

If you have concerns with any of these uses of information, please notify the school principal in writing.



Is Your Child of First Nation, Metis or Inuit (FNMI) Heritage?

Dear Parents:

In 2004, after consulting with Aboriginal representatives, Alberta Education introduced the Aboriginal Learner Data Collection Initiative. It was introduced to identify First Nation, Metis and Inuit (FNMI) students for the purpose of helping to improve education programs and achievement for FNMI learners. The information helps Alberta Education and our school district determine effectiveness of initiatives for FNMI students, target programs to address student needs, identify promising practices, and determine professional learning needs for teachers. It is important information needed to provide the best possible learning environment for our FNMI students.

You will notice a section on your child's registration form that invites you to indicate if your child is of Aboriginal heritage. This question appears on all student registration forms in school jurisdictions across the province. The choice for an Aboriginal learner to provide this information is voluntary. As part of our on-going commitment to develop programming that reaches all students and to better serve the needs of our FNMI students, we ask that if your child is of Aboriginal heritage you check the appropriate box.

We also encourage all parents to visit our website or call our schools to find out more about the excellent programs and services we offer to our FNMI students.

Sincerely,

Andrea Fox,
District Principal of
FNMI Education



Frequently Asked Questions:

When will I find out who my child's homeroom teacher is?

You will find that out on the first day of school at the opening assembly. Balancing the home room numbers is a BIG job - and we have many factors to consider. As such, we do NOT take requests and we cannot release that information early in case it changes.

Why are my fees different than another student's fees?

Every student is assessed the School Activity Fee which helps to offset the costs incurred for extra-curricular activities. Certain options have extra fees, usually for project materials, or gear that the child gets to keep - this is where you may notice variation.

How can I pay for my school fees?

Gilbert Paterson is a 'cashless' school - we do not have debit/credit card capability in the school and cannot take cash and/or cheques. Instructions for setting up a School Cash Online have been included in your registration package

My child didn't get the options they wanted - what happened?

Options are filled on a first come, first serve basis. It is imperative that you make every effort to ensure the registration is 100% complete, legible, and returned by the deadline. Option offerings may change by fall start-up due to staffing and enrolment numbers.

I live far away, how do I know which school bus to take?

The school busses are a municipal service, and the school does not draw the boundaries, or decide who qualifies to ride. Prior to the first day of school, the Board will determine the routes and qualifying students. If your child does qualify, they will be given a bus pass and route information from their homeroom teacher. Pending final numbers, extra bus seats may be available for students who live just inside the boundary. Any 'extra seats' will be identified after the first three weeks of school and will be assigned according to need. If you do not qualify, and would like to be placed on the waiting list for an extra seat, please notify the office for direction.

How do I obtain registration information for tax or immigration purposes?

Please come in to, or call the school - you will need to fill out a Registration Verification form. Once we have the completed form, we will send it to the Board office for you and they will contact you once they have the necessary paperwork for you.

I need to take my child out of school early, do I actually have to come in and sign them out?

Yes, it is absolutely necessary that a verified adult contact comes in to sign the student out - this person should be listed on the registration as a contact.

Can my child come home or walk to Dairy Queen for lunch?

Students MUST stay on school grounds for lunch. You may make arrangements with the school for your student to go home, however, if chronic lateness occurs, this privilege will be revoked. Under no circumstances will students be allowed to leave campus on their own to have lunch at a local establishment, such as Dairy Queen or Starbucks.

Quick Reference

Bell Schedule

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Doors Open	7:50	7:50	7:50	7:50	7:50
Warning Bell	8:08	8:08	8:08	8:08	8:08
Period 1	8:10 - 9:00	8:10 - 9:00	8:10 - 9:00	8:10 - 9:00	8:10 - 9:05
Period 2	9:00 - 9:50	9:00 - 9:50	9:00 - 9:50	9:00 - 9:50	9:05 - 10:00
Break	9:50 - 9:55	9:50 - 9:55	9:50 - 9:55	9:50 - 9:55	10:00 - 10:05
Period 3	9:55 - 10:45	9:55 - 10:45	9:55 - 10:45	9:55 - 10:45	10:05 - 11:00
Period 4	10:45 - 11:35	10:45 - 11:35	10:45 - 11:35	10:45 - 11:35	11:00 - 12:00
Lunch	11:35 - 12:15	11:35 - 12:15	11:35 - 12:15	11:35 - 12:15	Dismissal 12:00
Period 5	12:20 - 1:20	12:20 - 1:20	12:20 - 1:20	12:20 - 1:20	
Period 6	1:20 - 2:10	1:20 - 2:10	1:20 - 2:10	1:20 - 2:10	
Period 7	2:10 - 3:00	2:10 - 3:00	GPMS Staff: Collaborative Time	2:10 - 3:00	
Dismissal:	3:00	3:00	2:10	3:00	

Need to check student marks and/or attendance?

Log in to the PowerSchool Parent Portal: ps.lethsd.ab.ca/public

Need to report an absence?

Call the SafeArrival line:
1-888-879-1041

Need to pay fees?

Log on to School Cash Online:
lethbridge.schoolcashonline.com

Gilbert Paterson Middle School

Phone: 403-329-0125
Email: paterson@lethsd.ab.ca

Website: gp.lethsd.ab.ca

Be sure to check out the:
School Calendar, Athletic Calendar,
News Feed and Quick Links section

ARE YOU NEW TO THE DISTRICT?

We will require the following documents to complete the registration process:



- Photocopy of Birth Certificate
- Copy of recent report card (last school)
- Verification of address - from a personal bill or statement; e.g. phone, utilities, bank