

2023-24

Parent and Student Handbook

École St. Gerard School

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ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

HISTORY

École St. Gerard School opened its doors in the fall of 1959 with eighty-one students in three classrooms from grades one to eight. The first principal of the school was Mr. William Loran. During the first 10 years, the school underwent further expansion and the two-story portion of the school was added.

St. Gerard School became a dual-track school (English and French programming) in the 1981-1982 school year. In the fall of 1987, the school became what we know it as today: a single-stream French Immersion School. In the late 1980's, further additions and renovations were made to the building and playground.

By the fall of 1989, 464 students were enrolled in the school. During the 2009-2010 school year, 400 students with their parents and staff members celebrated the school's 50th Anniversary. Tongo, the school panda mascot, was re-introduced to the school! At the end of the 2016-2017 school year, there were 586 students enrolled from Kindergarten to grade 8. At the beginning of the 2017-2018 school year, a new French Immersion program was developed on the West side of the city to assist with the growing population at École St. Gerard School.

OUR MISSION

Greater Saskatoon Catholic School Division Mission Statement

Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools: A welcoming community where we nurture faith, encourage excellence in learning and inspire students to serve others, making the world a better place.

We love because He first loved us. 1 John 4:19

École St. Gerard School Mission Statement

Be it known to all who enter École St. Gerard School that we are striving to be like Jesus at all times. Our mission is to develop our hearts and minds as we journey together toward the light of God.

We are Children of the Light!

SCHOOL SONG

All students will learn to sing our school song, which is sung weekly:

We Believe

We believe in our Lord; We believe in Jesus Christ; We believe in the Holy Spirit
We believe, we believe in our Church

We believe we will learn; We believe we will grow; We believe we will flourish
We believe, we believe in École St. Gérard

Dans nos cœurs on a la joie; Dans nos cœurs on a la paix; Dans nos cœurs on a l'amour
Dans nos cœurs, dans nos cœurs, Dieu est avec nous

Dans nos cœurs, (3x) nous sommes unis. We believe, (3x) that we are one.

WE BELIEVE!

ÉCOLE ST. GERARD SCHOOL STAFF 2023-24

Administration

Jill Clapson - Principal

Chad Sawatzky - Vice-Principal

Classroom Teachers

Kindergarten

Mikhala Hart

Grade 1

Heather Whyte, Chantal Gauthier

Grade 2

Sonia Gouin

Grade 2/3

Lisa Evans

Grade 3/4

Kaeli Trew

Grade 4

Rae Waslen

Grade 4/5

Danielle Bearss

Grade 5/6

Robert Sturgeon

Grade 6

Lynn Bui/Colton Ward

Grade 6/7

Ismaël Besharah

Grade 7/8

Hazel McLachlan/Rylan Smith

Grade 8

Lynette Manuel

Curriculum Support

Release Teachers:

Chad Sawatzky, Raysha Harrison, Melanie Wiley

Education Assistant:

Bisola Olowobayaki, Grace, Sakr, Monica Lich, Faustin Mutongolo

Band:

Britni Shingoose

Counselor:

Laurie Paul

LAT :

Daby Asham-Friesen, Lisa Evans

Librarian:

Chad Sawatzky

EAL:

Jill Deacon, Sherri Schindel

Facility and Office Support

Office Coordinator:

Amanda LeBlanc

Evening Caretaker:

Roly Callanta

Head Caretaker:

Eric Linatoc

STUDENT GUIDELINES

BEHAVIOUR EXPECTATIONS

PBIS

Positive Behaviour Intervention and Supports (PBIS) is a proactive approach used to improve school safety and promote positive behavior. The focus of PBIS is prevention, not punishment.

At its heart, PBIS calls on schools to teach students positive behavior strategies, just as they would teach about any other subject—like reading or math. At our school, all students learn about behavior, what is expected and what is not.

PBIS recognizes that students can only meet behavioral expectations if they know what the expectations are. Everyone learns what's considered to be appropriate behavior and uses a common language to talk about it. Throughout the school day—in class, at lunch, and on the bus—students understand what's expected of them

Together with students and staff, we developed 3 school-wide values:

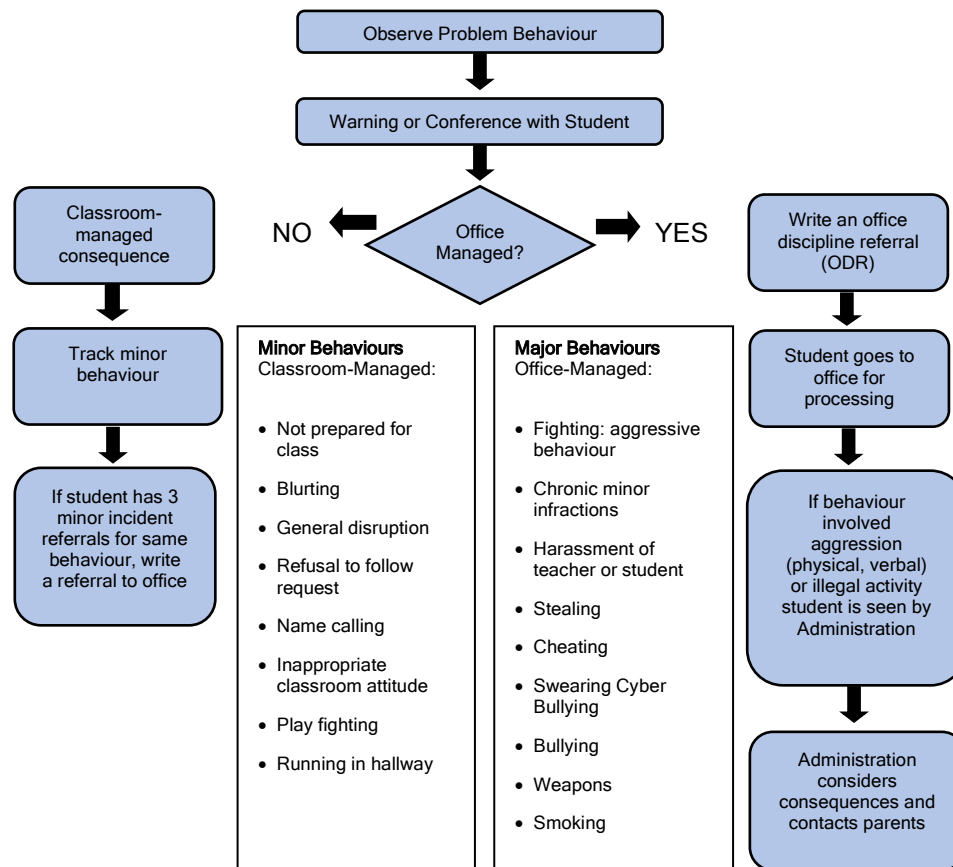
1. We come to school to love and learn.
2. We are responsible for our learning and our actions.
3. We are caretakers of our school community.

After that we discussed what each of these values would look like in different parts of the school and we created shared expectations:

	Class Time	Hallway/ Transitions	Bathroom	Recess	Lunch	Technology	Liturgies	Bus
We come to school to love and learn	I am prepared. I am on-time	I walk quietly.	I am quick and quiet. I return to straight to class.	I am willing to learn new games. I accept others and their ideas.	I pray before I eat.	I use technology for learning. I am kind on-line.	I enter silently and wait reverently. I participate.	I am kind and listen. I share my space.
We are responsible for our learning and actions	I am on-task. I ask for help. I do my best.	I lead by example. I keep my hands to myself.	I respect others' privacy. I wash my hands when I am done.	I am inclusive and kind. I use words to solve problems. When the bell rings, I stop playing and go in.	I use my inside voice. I sit down and eat all my lunch.	I follow the classroom AUP.	I live the Gospel virtues. I listen to God.	I use an inside voice. I remain seated.
We are caretakers of our school community	I keep my things organized. I clean-up. I recycle.	I respect bulletin boards. I pick-up garbage. I wear non-marking shoes.	I flush. I put my paper towel in the garbage. I leave the bathroom clean and tidy.	I leave my indoor shoes in the classroom. I play safely. I put all garbage in the can (mine and others).	I clean-up after myself. I recycle.	I put equipment away properly and carefully.	I listen and help others to listen.	I am tidy. I respect the seats.

Behaviour Discipline

The following describes how we address unexpected behaviour:



Once a student is seen by Administration, consequences may include the following:

- Loss of privilege
- Time in office
- Conference with student
- Parent call
- Restitution- Act of apology
- Behaviour referral to school PBIS team
- In-school suspension
- Out-of-school suspension
- Referral to:
 - educational psychologist
 - school counsellor
 - occupation therapist
- Other

DRESS CODE

Students are expected to take pride in their personal appearance. They are encouraged to dress appropriately for an educational setting.

- Students in all grades can wear shorts of appropriate mid-thigh length during the very warm weather.
- Short shorts, halter tops, spaghetti straps, tube tops and brief T-shirts are not considered appropriate for an educational setting.
- Undergarments must be covered, and shirts need to overlap the tops of bottoms so that midriffs are not exposed.
- Students are not permitted to wear clothing with crude, rude or suggestive sayings and/or pictures imprinted on them.
- Hats should not be worn during class time.
- Students wearing objectionable clothing will be given alternate clothing to wear or will be asked to have clothing brought from home.
- Students should have a pair of indoor (gym) shoes which are not worn outside.
- All student's boots, shoes, etc. should be clearly labeled with their name
- It will be left to the discretion of staff to decide whether clothing is appropriate.

LEARNING

Study Habits

1. Success comes with CONSISTENCY
 - doing your best on every assignment
 - completing all assignments conscientiously with special regard for organization, neatness and legibility
 - handing in assignments on or before due dates
2. Success comes with RESPONSIBILITY
 - ask for missed assignments from the classroom teacher and peers when absent from class
 - use agenda daily to list assignments, upcoming tests, and events
3. Success comes through STUDYING
 - review written notes to remember important facts and concepts
 - prepare for tests by organizing your study times well in advance of examination dates

Homework

Classroom teachers will assign homework through the year. Students are expected to write their homework in their agenda and complete it on time. Parents can support their child by checking the agenda and by communicating any questions they might have with the classroom teacher via the Remind App.

It is important that students are reading daily in both French and English at home. Students also have access to Mathletics a web-based program to help support math skills. In general, 10 minutes of reading and 10 minutes of math practice per day is a good general guideline for each student. As they get older the time spent on homework should increase.

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The students of École St. Gerard School have the following rights and responsibilities:

- The students have the right to effective programming that develops their abilities and skills. It is their responsibility to monitor their ways of working and to cooperate with teachers and peers.
- The students have the right to have their voices heard. It is their responsibility to be respectful listeners and communicators.
- The students have the right to feel secure and safe in their learning environment. It is their responsibility to act in a Christian manner when engaging with others.
- Students have the right to privacy and to personal space. It is their responsibility to create a positive and supportive school climate by being trustworthy and truthful in all things.

RECESS EXPECTATIONS

Students benefit from fresh air, exercise and opportunities for unstructured social interactions with peers. For this reason, all students are expected to go outside for recess. Students will go outside in light rain or snow and in weather -27°C or warmer including the wind chill.

Indoor Recess

Exceptions are made for inclement weather. Indoor recess occurs when there is:

1. Extreme cold at -28°C or colder including the wind chill
2. A downpour
3. A thunderstorm with lightening
4. A sever windstorm

Dressing for Recess

Please come to school prepared by dressing appropriately for the forecasted weather conditions. During winter, students should be prepared for -27°C with a winter jacket, boots, ski pants, a tuque, mitts and a scarf or neck warmer for the face.

During other seasons, students should be prepared to be outside in light and/or intermittent rain with a raincoat, splash pants and rubber boots.

Permission to Stay Inside During Recess

Students who are unable to go outside for medical reasons will bring a dated signed note from their parent(s) indicating the reason for each day they are to remain inside.

SCHOOL DAY

Supervision:	8:45 am
Reminder Bell:	8:55 am
Classes begin:	9:00 am
AM Recess:	10:30 - 10:45 am
Lunch:	12:00- 12:15 pm
Lunch recess:	12:15- 12:45 pm
PM Recess:	2:15 - 2:30 pm
Dismissal:	3:30 pm
Supervision:	3:45 pm

GENERAL INFORMATION

ADMINISTERING MEDICATION

We encourage parents to administer necessary medications to their children at home whenever possible. When medication must be administered during the school day, the medication must be delivered to the school principal in the original container, properly labeled by the pharmacy or physician, stating the name of the student, the medication, the dosage, and current date. Prior to administering the medication, parent must complete and sign a medication permission form. This form, with signatures of both must also be on file before administering routine over-the-counter medications to students. **Please ask Office Coordinator for appropriate forms.**

Medications given at school must be documented in an individual log. Written documentation must include time, dose, route, and signature of the person administering the medication.

ANTIBULLYING POLICY

A student is bullied when he or she is repeatedly exposed to negative actions on the part of one or more students causing emotional, psychological, and/or physical harm. These negative actions are intentional and hurtful. Bullying can be verbal, physical, electronic, relational, and reactive. Bullying involves an imbalance of power, creates fear, and is not gender specific.

Student Expectations

Our school has zero tolerance of bullying. Our aim is to ensure that children in this school learn in a supportive, caring and safe environment without fear of being bullied.

Students are expected to:

- Promote a positive and caring environment
- Refuse to bully others or to be a bystander to acts of bullying
- Actively participate in school-wide and classroom anti-bullying initiatives and social skills programs
- Report all acts of bullying they may experience or observe to appropriate school personnel.
- Parents are advised to report any incident of bullying to the class teacher, Vice-Principal or Principal.

Prevention of bullying behaviour is the ultimate goal. Prevention strategies are ongoing and should include: a broad-range of educational experiences for students, staff, parents/guardians, and community; common language and understanding of bullying; open communication and collaboration.

Reporting an Incident

When something has been reported, an investigation of reported bullying behaviour will occur.

If investigation determines that bullying behaviour is evident, actions to address incidents of bullying behaviour shall take into account the following:

- developmental and maturity levels of the students involved
- levels of harm that have occurred
- surrounding circumstances and the context in which the incidents occurred
- nature of behaviors in the past related to similar incidents or continuing patterns of behaviour
- relationships among the parties involved.

ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING

Educators of the Greater Saskatoon Catholic School Division are committed to providing strong academic, social, and religious programs, which foster positive self-esteem and character development. Assessment and evaluation of student achievement are an on-going and integral part of the learning process and supportive feedback is important between parents, students, and teachers.

Report Cards and Conferences

Three formal reporting sessions are used to communicate student achievement with parents. These are in addition to the many other opportunities such as informal conference, telephone calls, notes, etc. Report cards will be issued in November, March, and the final report is issued at the close of school in June.

3-way conferences will be scheduled prior to the November and March report cards via an on-line scheduling system. This system will provide information to the mother's email address regarding access. This code is meant to be a lifetime code for students to use throughout their education in the GSCS system. Please remember and keep your conference booking login information for future conferences until grade 12.

Report Card Evaluation Scale

We communicate student progress to parents using the following scale:

- 1- **Developing**
 - work does not meet grade level expectations
 - may be evidence of progress toward relevant learning outcomes
 - requires ongoing intervention
- 2- **Minimally meeting expectations or meeting expectations with assistance**
 - work may be inconsistent, but meets grade level expectations at minimal level
 - evidence of progress toward relevant learning outcomes
 - needs support in some areas
- 3- **Meeting expectations**
 - work meets grade level expectations
 - evidence that relevant learning outcomes have been met
 - demonstrated proficient academic performance
- 4- **Exceeding expectations/meets with distinction**
 - exceeding grade level expectations
 - consistently demonstrates superior performance and in-depth understanding of learning outcomes

* The asterisk beside any of these numbers indicates that a student is working below grade curricular outcomes.

ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance is required for good achievement in school and it also helps children develop a sense of responsibility. Students should arrive each day before classes begin, so they can be well prepared for the day. If a student is not in their classroom by 9:00 am they are marked late.

Reporting Absences

Please report absences with Edsby.

Edsby Communication

Edsby

We will be using Edsby as our no. 1 communication tool for teachers, parents, and students. Below is information to set up your account. The auto generated password may be customized when you sign up.

If you have more than one child attending our school or at one of our high schools, you can use the same information to log in and see information for all of your children.

Step 1: Create an Edsby account. You will receive an email from Edsby/GSCS with information to login in and create an account in Edsby. If you do not receive the invite today, please check your junk mail folder.

Step 2: Turn on Notifications. Edsby makes it easy to stay organized and up-to-date. Edsby enables various notifications to ensure parents are notified of the important things happening within the school. **You will need to be using a computer during set-up to enable notifications. If you would like to receive messages to your phone, you will need to ensure that push notifications for the Edsby app are enabled.**

Step 3: Download the Mobile App. App code is GSCS.

Future absences can be reported at any time.

In addition, we will use the SchoolMessenger Communicate automated notification system to contact parents whose child is absent when the absence was not reported in advance. The automated notification system will attempt to contact parents at multiple contact points until a reason is submitted for the absence.

Late Arrival

Late students are to report to the office for a late slip before going to class. In cases where a student shows a continued pattern of being late, the Principal, teacher and parent will meet to discuss that matter and attempt to resolve the problem.

Extended Absences

Consistent attendance is essential to your child's academic success. Extended absences during the school year affect student performance. Since the concepts and skills covered during instructional time build foundational understanding for future studies, an extended absence does impact your child's ability to meet curriculum expectations. At the same time, experiences with family outside the classroom are opportunities for learning. Please communicate in advance with your child's teachers to plan for continued learning during the absence.

Before School Drop-Off

Students can be dropped off in the morning at 8:45 am. At this time, adequate supervision is available. Students are encouraged to play outside until the bell rings to come in. If your child needs to be dropped off before 8:45 am, the YMCA Before and After School program is available. Please register if necessary.

After School Pick-up

Students going on the bus will exit through their assigned doors. Students who are being picked-up will be sent to the front office. For safety purposes, we ask that those picking up children remain at the front entrance for their child. When doing this, it is much easier to identify anyone who is not supposed to be in the building. Students must be picked-up after school by 3:45 pm.

During the Day Pick-up/Drop-off

Parents/guardians picking up/ or dropping-off a student during the school day must use the attendance book at the front office. After signing the attendance book, please inform the Office Coordinator and she will notify the both teacher and student. Once on school grounds, students are expected to remain at school until dismissal time, unless signed out by parent.

Reasonable efforts are made to ensure the safety of all students. For this reason, we want to ensure that students are released only to appropriate persons identified on the registration form. When someone else is picking up your child, please inform the teacher prior to. If you have specific concerns regarding access to your child, please contact the principal. Parents/guardians are to enter the school building through the front door only. Please do not go to your child's classroom and disrupt instruction.

BAND

Our band program is offered to students from Grades 6 - 8. Students learn to play their instruments in a group setting with a music specialist and receive lessons twice a week during school hours. Performances will take place throughout the school year in our school and community. Parents will be informed of such happenings and will be invited to support the music/band program.

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

We are pleased to offer a before and after school program for children who require care outside of school hours. This YMCA program provides care before school (7:30 a.m. - 8:55 a.m.) and after school (3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.), Monday through Friday on school days. For more information, please contact the YMCA or stop by the front office for information.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL (CSCC)

The CSCC includes both elected and appointed members. The CSCC works with the school administration to plan school community events as well as support the school's learning improvement plan.

All parents or guardians of students enrolled in the school may participate in the election of the school's CSCC. Parents are invited to attend monthly CSCC meetings. Meeting dates are posted in the newsletter as well as on the school website.

Please consider supporting your child's school by being a member of the CSCC. Many committees need your help throughout the year! Examples are helping out hot lunches or community building committees. Each classroom will need a room parent and most classrooms would benefit from having a library parent to assist with weekly book exchanges or working at the book fairs.

For more information about the École St. Gerard CSCC, please call the school at 659-7330.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Students in grades 3 - 8 have the opportunity to get involved in a number of extra-curricular activities. These activities take commitment and effort from staff members and students. The school community appreciates the sharing of their talents and abilities in the following activities:

- Cross-country
- Soccer
- Volleyball
- Basketball
- Westside Winds
- Choir
- Floor Hockey
- Student Leadership Team
- Social Justice Club
- Green Club
- Relays
- Track & Field

ELECTRONIC USE

Please note that cell phones, cameras, iPods, or other portable internet devices are to be used under teacher supervision and in conjunction with Acceptable Use Policy (AUP). We strongly suggest that students refrain from bringing these items to the school. Please keep in mind that some parents/guardians have requested that their children not be photographed.

During special school events the use of cell phones for photography and recording will be communicated with parents and students prior to the event.

Parents are to call the school if a message is to be delivered to a child. We will ensure that the message is given. Students may use the school phone with permission from their teacher.

LOST AND FOUND

When items are left unclaimed in areas other than the classrooms they will be turned into the Lost and Found cupboard located in the hallway daily. Any valuables such as jewelry, glasses, phone or money, must be turned into the school office and must be described to be claimed. Unclaimed articles will be donated to charity, every 90 days. Students may check the lost and found area for lost lunch items, articles of clothing, and other.

LIBRARY

Usage

Each student is allowed two books for pleasure reading. Books may be brought home. Typically, students will have one French and one English book at a time. An additional two books may be signed out for research purposes. We ask that library materials please be returned on time. Any reference materials such as dictionaries and other media like newspapers and magazines always remain in the library and should not be removed.

Lost or Damaged Items

Families will be charged replacement cost (\$5-\$30) for each lost or damaged item.

PARKING

Walk-In Parking

Walk-in parking is located on the East side of Montreal Ave N and along 23rd Street W and Bedford Road. On special occasions, such as CSCC events, movie night, band concert, we will use the Mennonite Church parking lot. This will be communicated to families through School Messenger in advance.

Handicap Parking

There is handicap parking, designated by signs, directly in front of the school's main entrance on Montreal Ave N. Only displayed handicap parking permitted vehicles are allowed to use this zone. Those parking or loading in this area may be ticketed.

Drop-Off and Pick-Up Zone

There is a drop-off and pick-up zone, designated by signs, after the school's main entrance to the parking lot along Montreal Ave N. In this zone, all drivers must remain in their vehicles. Those parking and leaving their vehicle in this area may be ticketed.

Bus Zone

The back of the school along Ottawa Ave N is the bus zone. There is no parking on either side of the road between 8:30 am and 3:45 pm on school days. This is for safety reason as we do not want anyone crossing the bus zone road.

PERSONAL BELONGINGS

Identification

We ask to please identify your child's personal supplies and belongings with their name or initials. Periodically, we place lost items on display and the 'Lost and Found' fills up quickly. Students are encouraged to look there for missing items and parents may check at any time. Remember, expensive items are brought to school at one's own risk. Any unclaimed items will be donated to charity and clothing depots at the end of the school year.

Student Personal Transportation

Upon arrival on the school grounds, for safety reasons, students are requested to walk their bikes and scooters, and carry their skateboards. Roller blades are to be taken off at the school entrance and heelys are not permitted. Scooters, skateboards and roller blades are to be carried to the classroom and housed in the locker area. Bikes are to be locked on the playground and at owner's risk.

PRESCHOOL

Petits Pandas Preschool is a one to five-day morning or afternoon program for three and four-year-old children. This is a non-cooperative preschool and offers a wide variety of wonderful experiences for this age group. For information please contact Heather Rhodes at 382-7092 or 659-7480.

SCHOOL BUS

Behaviour Policy

Classroom conduct is to be observed by the students while riding on the bus, except for ordinary conversation. At no time shall there be excessive noise or yelling. If such a condition arises, the driver has been instructed to stop the bus until it is quiet enough for safe conditions.

Students behaving improperly on a bus will receive a verbal warning and parents will be notified. If inappropriate behaviour persists, a written warning will be submitted. If a second written warning is submitted, the student can be suspended from riding the bus for a specified period of time.

Rules and Regulations

The following additional regulations for bus passengers are to be observed on the bus at all times:

- Drivers are in charge of the passengers and the bus.
- Students must be on time, which means 5 minutes early, as the bus cannot wait beyond its regular schedule.
- The driver will assign seats.
- Students should never stand in the roadway while waiting for the bus
- Pupils who must cross the road after leaving the bus or to board the bus shall cross in front of the bus and only upon the signal given by the driver. Students must observe a 10 feet clearance in front of the bus.
- Students are to remain seated while the bus is moving.
- Pupils must not try to get on or off the bus, or move around inside the bus while the bus is in motion.
- Food, pop, or other bottled items are not to be consumed aboard buses.
- The use of any tobacco product is prohibited.
- Unnecessary conversation with the driver is prohibited.
- Students must not extend their arms, head or any object out of the bus windows at any time. Students must observe the directions of the drivers/supervisors when exiting the bus.
- Any damage to the bus must be reported to the driver.

Student Bus Expectations

1. Follow the driver's instructions promptly
2. Stay seated and face the front of the bus
3. Show respect for everyone on the bus
4. Improper language or gestures will not be tolerated
5. Keep hands, feet, and belongings to yourself and inside the bus at all times
6. Eating, drinking and tobacco products are not allowed on the bus
7. Fighting, causing property damage, disobeying the driver or not obeying any of the above rules are cause for suspension from bus riding privileges.

FirstView Bus App

In continued partnership with our transportation provider First Student, Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools is launching FirstView®, a bus tracking and parent communications app for your smartphone or desktop. Features include:

Available in Multiple Languages

English, French (Canadian), Spanish, Vietnamese, Oromo, Chinese, Amharic, Tagalog, Somali, Tigrinya are available based on your phone's language settings.

Live Tracking

The FirstView® map screen shows you the location and direction of your student's bus, your student's stop schedule for the current day and timestamps for school arrivals and departures. You'll know when the bus arrives to or departs from school.

Predictive Stop Arrival Times

Analyzing route and real-time GPS data, it determines an estimated time of arrival to your stop provided on the FirstView® map. The app is designed to provide parents with a better guideline for bus location and ETA. Students should still be at their assigned bus stop 10 minutes prior to the estimated or scheduled arrival time.

Custom Alerts and Messages

Set up push or email notifications alerting you when your student's bus is a chosen distance or number of minutes away from your stop.

Multi-Stop View

Buses for all your students can be tracked with FirstView®. Using individual colors for each student, every selected stop appears on the map simultaneously for easy viewing.

Additional User Notifications

Connect up to three additional email accounts (including your own) to receive email alerts. This is a great feature for grandparents or caregivers!

Secure and Easy Access

FirstView® requires a password-protected account for app set-up. This way, only you can view your student's stop! These codes are provided to you by your school.

"Getting Started" information will be sent home at the beginning of the school year through School Messenger. For more information and to download the app, please go to www.firstviewapp.com.

SCHOOL-HOME COMMUNICATION

School Messenger

Our main form of communication from the school is through School Messenger. This is the same application used for Attendance. You may receive information from School Messenger via e-mail or through the App.

Remind and SeeSaw

Grade 1-8 classroom teachers will be using the Remind App to communicate with parents directly. In Kindergarten they will be using SeeSaw.

Newsletters

School newsletters will be distributed within the first week of each month via School Messenger to every family. Please see **Important Dates** for the school's monthly events. Our newsletter is also accessible on our school web site located at www.gscs.sk.ca/studentsandsfamilies/schools/ger.

Please take a moment to read the newsletters carefully for important notices, reminders and up-to-date coverage of school events. Also watch for classroom newsletters that highlight special programs, events and projects in your child's class.

TECHNOLOGY ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

We believe that all students should have access to technology that enhances student communication, collaboration, and creativity skills. In addition, we believe that elementary students should have a basic understanding of digital citizenship and how it relates to their learning in an online environment. Our goal in providing these services is to enrich the educational development of our students.

Digital Citizenship

Digital citizenship are the norms of appropriate and responsible behavior with regard to technology use. As good digital citizens we always:

- Keep personal information private
- Give credit to other people's work
- When in doubt, ask an adult

Equipment Use

Students are expected to use technology responsibly and follow teacher expectations for appropriate use. Students will keep all technology equipment and/or account settings set by the district technology team and the classroom AUP. Students will only use their assigned device and accounts.

Internet Use

Use of the Internet, apps, and programs must be consistent with the educational objectives of the task/assignment. Students will use websites, apps and programs that their teacher provides. Students will notify an adult immediately if they see or read something that makes them feel uncomfortable.

Personal Devices

Personal devices will be allowed based on teacher discretion. Students are responsible for any device they bring to school. The division and its staff are not responsible for lost, stolen, broken, or the maintenance of personal devices. The Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) applies to personal electronic devices on division property.

Consequences of Misuse

Students who misuse district technology will receive consequences according to the nature and severity of the misuse and the AUP.

