



2023/2024 Eugene Reimer Middle Parent/Guardian Information Booklet

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Land Acknowledgment

Éy swáyel.

We acknowledge that the Abbotsford School District is located on the traditional and unceded territory of the Stó:lō people, the Semá:th and Mathxwí First Nation. With this, we respect the longstanding relationships that Indigenous Nations have to this land, as they are the original caretakers.

Our Commitment

The Abbotsford School District acknowledges historical and ongoing injustices that Indigenous Peoples endure in Canada, and we accept responsibility as a public educational institution to contribute toward revealing and correcting miseducation as well as renewing respectful relationships with Indigenous communities through our teaching and community engagement.

Message from your Administrative Team

Welcome to a new year at Eugene Reimer Middle School! Whether this is your child's first year at ERMS, or they are a continuing student, we are looking forward to working with your child and with you this school year.

In this handbook you will find information about expectations of all members of the Eugene Reimer Middle community. These expectations are a guide to promote a healthy, safe, and caring environment for all students to learn. Please take time to read over our school routines and policies and discuss this information with your child. Following these routines and policies will result in a successful school year for your child and all members of our school community.

Lastly, communication is key. Family involvement is an important part of Eugene Reimer Middle School. The Ravens Parent/Guardian Page outlines information on how parents/guardians can become involved at school. It is our belief that *Eugene Reimer Middle School is a community working together to provide engaging learning opportunities for all to become respectful, responsible, and educated citizens*.

The year ahead will include many experiences and opportunities which will assist our students in preparing for their future. We look forward to working with all families to foster, develop and maintain practices that will lead to student success.

Sincerely,

Mr. Johnston, Mrs. Myers & Mr. Sandhu

Our Vision Statement

ERMS is a diverse learning community empowering the whole person toward individual success, community involvement and global citizenship.

2023-24 Bell Schedule

Welcome Bell: 8:15 a.m. Block 1: 8:25 - 9:24 a.m. Block 2: 9:24 - 10:22 a.m.

Nutrition Break: 10:22 - 10:37 a.m.

Block 3: 10:37 - 11:36 a.m.

Lunch (Eat then Play): 11:36 - 12:21 p.m.

Block 4: 12:21 - 1:20 p.m. Block 5: 1:20 - 2:18 p.m.



ABBOTSFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT CODE OF CONDUCT

The Abbotsford School District expects all students to conduct themselves in a manner worthy of the respect of others:

- Be honest and forthright.
- Treat others with respect and courtesy.
- Respect the property of others.
- Attend regularly and punctually.
- Work to the best of their abilities.

And to promote and maintain a climate which is free of:

- Lying
- Weapons
- Intimidation
- Cheating
- Prejudicial Behaviour
- Harassment
- Theft
- Racism
- Illegal substances, or substances that can be abused.

Conduct by any student that adversely affects a school's climate or operation, including disruption of the learning environment, shall be considered a breach of the District Code of Conduct, warranting appropriate forms of intervention that may include suspension from attendance.

About our School Colours

Our school colours are black, silver, red and white.

- **BLACK** represents the predominant colour of the North American raven.
- **SILVER** represents the lining of a cloud where a raven flies. The "silver lining" provides comfort, protection, and an inspiration for the future.
- RED and WHITE represent two important ideals:
 - The colours of the Canadian Flag, the flag and country which Eugene Reimer represented so well, winning over 50 national and 22 international medals over his 22-year athletic career.
 - The colours of BC Disability Sports represent perseverance, strength, ability, dedication, and an opportunity to achieve.



About our Mascot: The Raven

The raven is a black, glossy bird that is a member of the crow family. The raven is known for its competitiveness, intelligence, mastery, adaptability, and ability to cooperate. We feel many of these qualities are ones Eugene Reimer students should strive to accomplish.



Our Namesake: Dr. Eugene Reimer



Our school proudly displays the name of a Canadian hero, Eugene Reimer. Eugene Reimer's story, his commitment to service, unwavering positive attitude, and his passion for enabling others to set goals and realize their potential is a compass for the staff and students at Eugene Reimer Middle School.

Eugene Reimer's significant contributions to sports and to athletes with a disability are unparalleled. An inspiration to thousands of disabled individuals, Eugene has proven that a wheelchair is not a handicap, but rather, an opportunity for athletic achievement.

Following a childhood bout with polio, the longtime Abbotsford resident was left with only minimal use of his legs. In the 1960s, when wheelchair sports were in their infancy, Eugene took on sports with a passion. He excelled in a wide variety of competitions, including weightlifting, archery, swimming, basketball, volleyball, and track and field events. Eugene Reimer quickly became one of British Columbia's top all- around athletes.

From 1968, until his retirement from sports in 1980, Eugene amassed over 50 national and 22 international medals, 10 in the Paralympic Games (5 Gold, 4 Silver, 1 Bronze) He participated and excelled in prestigious world events, such as the International Paralympics (4 appearances), PanAm Wheelchair Games, and B.C. Wheelchair Games. In 1972, Eugene set new world records at the Paralympic Games in Heidelberg, Germany, by taking gold medals in both discus and pentathlon, and a silver medal for the 4 x 60 m relay.



Eugene was named "Canadian Outstanding Male Athlete of the Year" in 1972, the first time that such a level of recognition had been awarded to an athlete with a disability. In 1974, he was awarded the Order of Canada medal for his "inspiring example to the handicapped". In 1991, the B.C. Sports Hall of Fame and Museum presented Eugene with the W.A.C. Bennett Award, in recognition of his special contribution to the Province of B.C.

In 2000, Eugene was inducted into the Terry Fox Hall of Fame (now known as the Canadian Disability Hall of Fame). Later that same year, the Eugene Reimer Award was established. This award is presented annually and recognizes a British Columbian who makes an outstanding contribution in the field of sport, recreation, or physical education for persons with disabilities. Abbotsford's own Eugene Reimer was honoured as the inaugural recipient. On May 2nd, 2002, Eugene Reimer was the first disabled athlete inducted into the B. C. Sports Hall of Fame.

A valued ambassador for people with physical disabilities, Mr. Reimer chaired the 2002 BC Disability Games held in Abbotsford. In nominating Mr. Reimer for this honour, renowned British Columbian Rick Hansen noted, "Eugene was an incredible inspiration to me as a young athlete and he continues to inspire all who know him and/or his story." Board Chairman, John Smith, added, "Eugene Reimer is a highly distinguished Abbotsford Native whose courage, dedication and many achievements are an excellent model for the youth of our community, and particularly those attending the school that will bear his name."

In June 2023, community members joined students and staff at Eugene Reimer Middle School to remember the life and legacy of Eugene Reimer, as well as to celebrate the school's 20th anniversary.



Eugene Reimer Middle School and Abbotsford City of Character Shared Values

ERMS is a school of character, and members of our school community strive to live the following character traits every day:

ERMS CHARACTER TRAITS

RESPECT Respectful people are self-disciplined and

courteous, and they protect the rights and

dignity of others.

RESPONSIBILITY Taking responsibility means being accountable

for your actions, your words, and your

obligations.

INTEGRITY Integrity is a commitment to honesty that is

clear because actions are consistent with stated beliefs or promises. Honest, truthful,

trustworthy people have integrity.

EMPATHY Empathy is sensing, sharing, and

understanding the experiences, feelings, and

emotions of others.

COURAGE Courage is the ability to face and endure what

is dangerous, difficult, or painful without giving

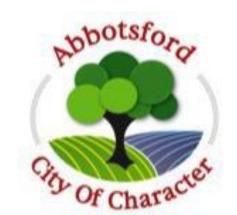
in to fear.

SERVICE Service is committing talents, resources, time,

and effort to support, guide, and enrich

individuals, organizations, and initiatives in the

community.



ERMS STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Statement of Purpose

The ERMS Code of Conduct serves as a guide for all members of our learning community. It is designed to promote a healthy, safe, caring environment for students of all abilities to learn. We value diversity and equality in our building and always strive for a learning environment free from discrimination as stated in the Human Rights Code.

Conduct Expectations

Eugene Reimer Middle School students are expected to always demonstrate character traits while at school in all settings, and when off campus representing our school on field trips, at sports events and extra-curricular activities.



Rising Expectations

As students mature, they can expect to be presented with more opportunities to demonstrate responsibility in our building. As such, they will become leaders in the school community. They will develop leadership skills and recognize the value they present as role models to younger students and community partners.

As students get older and become more aware of personal responsibility, they will also understand the need for increasing consequences for inappropriate behaviour.

Acceptable Conduct

Students are expected to conform to high standards of behaviour when at school, on the way to and from school, and while attending any school function or field trip. Students should strive towards — but are not limited to the following behaviours:

- Demonstrating exemplary character traits
- Respecting the rights of members of the ERMS community
- Promoting an environment of understanding & mutual respect Becoming an expert at something
- Working to the best of their abilities
- Being honest and forthright

- Caring for each other
- Leaving a situation better than it was found
- Representing ERMS positively at all times

Consequences

Violations to the ERMS Code of Conduct will result in consistent and fair disciplinary action. The development of self-discipline is an important goal at our school. The goal of the disciplinary action is for students to learn from their mistakes and be restorative rather than punitive. The violation will be dealt with on an individual basis. The severity and frequency of the violation and the age, maturity, and needs of the student will be considered when determining appropriate action.

Harassment & Bullying

Harassment or Bullying is against the District Code of Conduct and will be dealt with severely and quickly. Harassment or bullying is inappropriate remarks, jokes, taunting, comments, gestures, sexually suggestive comments, or actions that create an uncomfortable environment.

A Bully is someone who:

- · uses power to hurt others or harm their possessions;
- · purposely scares or intimidates others;
- · often hurts the same person repeatedly;
- · is sometimes supported by other people who just watch and laugh, instead of helping the person being bullied.

If a student feels s/he is being harassed or bullied, he or should:

- · tell the person to stop
- · tell a parent/guardian, teacher, or another adult with whom you feel comfortable discussing the issue
- · try to stay away from places or times they might be alone with the harasser or bully

Student Rights & Responsibilities

Every student has the RIGHT to an education. Students also have the RESPONSIBILITY to be on time, be prepared, listen to instructions, do assigned work, and work in a way that does not infringe upon the learning of others.



- Every student has the RIGHT to be heard. Students have the RESPONSIBILITY to listen and not
 interrupt those who are speaking.
- Every student has the **RIGHT** to be safe. Students have the **RESPONSIBILITY** to treat others in a way that does not hurt them or cause them to be afraid at school or on the way to and from school.
- Every student has the RIGHT to be respected and free from discrimination as set out in the BC
 Human Rights Code. Students have the RESPONSIBILITY to treat others with respect, and not tease, harass, or discriminate against other people.
- Every student has the **RIGHT** to privacy and to his or her own personal space. Students have the **RESPONSIBILITY** to respect the personal property of others, and to accept their right to privacy.

Student Dress Expectations

As per AP 318 – Student Dress Code and School Uniforms, guidelines are

- 1. Clothing and accessories cannot pose a safety concern or conceal one's identity.
- 2. Specific attire may be required for a variety of classroom settings such as Explorations, Physical Education/Fitness, science labs, etc.
- 3. Clothing must cover undergarments.
- 4. When there are differences in perspective, all involved have a duty to seek common understanding in a mutually respectful manner. Ultimately, the school administration has the responsibility to apply the dress policy where necessary. If any person dresses in an inappropriate manner, they will be advised personally and discreetly.

Care of School Property and Vandalism

The destruction or defacing of property belonging to the school or to others is strictly prohibited. Students are responsible for taking care of all of school property, as they will be held accountable for any damage to desks, chairs, locks and lockers, textbooks, library books, school technology and other equipment. Students will be charged full replacement cost for loss or damage to any school equipment.

Profanity

As per <u>Board Policy 15 – Student Code of Conduct</u>, the use of inappropriate language, including language that is profane, obscene, racist, sexist, homophobic, or otherwise offensive, is not acceptable school behaviour. Disciplinary action will be taken for violations.

Banned Substances and Weapons

All alcohol products, marijuana and its paraphernalia, all vaping (e-cigarettes) and tobacco products are NOT allowed on the school grounds or in the school at ANY time. Parents/guardians will be contacted, and disciplinary action will follow the school district <u>AP 331 – Drugs and Controlled Substance Abuse</u>. Additionally, pop and energy drinks are not to be consumed at school.

As per <u>Board Policy 15 – Student Code of Conduct</u>, any type of weapon, replica or genuine, including but not limited to guns, knives, slingshots, clubs, brass knuckles, lighters and matches, laser pointers, firecrackers or fireworks, bear spray, etc. are not allowed on school grounds or in the school at any time, or at any school activity. Parents/guardians will be contacted, and disciplinary action will be levied on any student who is found to be carrying a weapon (or replica) to, from, or within the school, or to, from, or at any school activity.



Hallway Behaviour

The hallways are quiet areas in the building as is the Library Learning Commons to ensure that learning environments are not interrupted. Students and classes are to walk on the right-hand side of the hallways for safety reasons. Hallway behaviour and language should be suitable to an institution of learning. No profanity or inappropriate touching of others should occur at any time. Play fighting or rough housing is not permitted.

Cell Phones, iPods, and other valuables

Students are strongly discouraged from bringing valuables including ear buds, cell phones, valuable shoes, and clothing articles to school. All cell phones must be powered off and left in lockers during the school day (including nut-break and lunch). Cell phones can be used before and/or after school.

Do not bring large sums of money to school and never leave money or valuables in the PE change rooms.

Valuable items are brought to school at the owner's risk; the SCHOOL is NOT responsible for any loss.

Bikes, Skateboards, Scooters, Hoverboards and Rollerblades

Students wishing to ride bikes, skateboards, scooters, hoverboards, or rollerblades **must wear a helmet and use** a specific area of the school that will be identified. Other safety equipment (e.g., knee, wrist, and elbow pads) while not mandatory, is strongly encouraged, and left to the discretion of each child's parent. The use of bicycles, skateboards, scooters, and rollerblades is not permitted on school property during the school day. Bikes and scooters must be walked upon arrival at school and locked on the racks. Bike locks are required - please purchase a heavy-duty bike lock. Students are not permitted to be around the bike rack area during the school day.

Students are expected to use common sense in terms of the safety of other students and themselves; stay out of the parking lots/driveways, use the crosswalk, and stay out of construction.

ERMS is <u>NOT</u> responsible for lost or stolen bikes, skateboards, scooters, hoverboards, or rollerblades.

Closed Campus

ERMS has a closed campus policy. This means that only students who attend Eugene Reimer Middle are to be on the school grounds during the school day. It also means that once you arrive at school you remain on the grounds until the end of the day. Students being picked up or dropped off during the school day (for medical appointments, etc.) should be met in the school office by a parent or guardian to be signed out.

Getting to and From School

Our traffic loop is a very busy place in the 20 minutes before school starts as well as 20 minutes before and after the dismissal bell. Drivers and students are reminded to be aware of their surroundings, especially as the days get shorter and the weather worsens coming into Fall and Winter. The first priority of staff is to ensure student safety. While active transport (walking, cycling) is encouraged, if students are dropped off at the school, please leave enough time to account for the traffic around the school. Due to our school being in a busy area of the city, students are advised to always use crosswalks and never jay-walk anywhere, anytime. It may take a little extra time, but your safety is worth it. Please be careful!

ROUTINES AND POLICIES

Attendance

Except for illness, appointments or unavoidable family concerns, all students should attend school every day. Absent students miss the lessons of the day and the learning that takes place in group discussions where



students begin to appreciate the different views and abilities of others. Learning that is lost due to absence can never be adequately replaced!

When students must be away, parents are asked to inform the school before classes commence using an automated student attendance management system called Safe Arrival. Register at the Safe Arrival website: go.schoolmessenger.ca, download School Messenger App (use your mobile device to visit the App Store or Google Play Store) or call 1-844-487-3701. These options are available 24 hours/day, 7 days a week. These Future absences can be reported at any time. Always, students are responsible to find out what work was missed and to make it up.

We strongly discourage students who have missed part of the day's instruction from attending social functions later the same day. Please help us keep the priority on studies.

When students need to leave early for an appointment, please provide a note for the teacher requesting early dismissal. The student will then be required to take this note to the office where they must sign out. Upon returning to the school later in the day, the student is expected to sign back in at the office.

Late Arrival

Students who are late to class disrupt and consume the time of fellow classmates, teachers, and office staff. Please ensure your child arrives at school on time. Students who arrive late at any time must sign in at the office.

Illness at School

When a student becomes ill at school, parents will be contacted to confirm that it is safe to send the child home. The medical room can be used with the permission of a staff member until parental contact is made. In any case of illness or injury, no student is permitted to go home on his/her own initiative but must seek help at the office. Please make sure the most up to date emergency contact information is provided to the office in case of emergency. Accidents and emergencies are to be referred to the office immediately.

Textbooks

Textbooks and other educational resources are property of the school and school district. Students are issued textbooks at the start of the year. Students are responsible for returning the same textbook they were originally issued upon "textbook checks" and the end of the year. Students will be charged for lost or damaged textbooks.

Lockers and Locks

All students will be issued a combination lock and a locker. No personal locks are permitted; locks must be obtained from the school for security reasons. Lock combinations are to be memorized and NOT shared with anyone. A \$7.00 fee is charged to any student who needs a lock replaced because they lost it or shared the combination with another student. Lockers are not to be shared. Graffiti, unacceptable pictures, and writing are not permitted, and a student can be instructed to remove them at any time. Student lockers are the property of the school and are subject to search at any time, with or without notice. Students may only go to their lockers outside of instruction time or outside of the designated times with teacher permission. To minimize the loss of instructional time we encourage students to maintain one binder organized by subject.

Homework

Homework shall be monitored by individual teachers as well as teams of teachers. Work done at home is an important part of all learning. It is an expectation for all students to have homework completed and all assignments handed in on time. Eugene Reimer Middle School may offer a homework club available after school to assist students needing extra help and support.



It is our expectation that students in grades 6 and 7 spend 30 to 45 minutes per night, and grade 8 students between 45 to 60 minutes per night on homework. However, we need to keep in mind that although an evening school activity is important, students need time to be children too. There must be a balance between work and play. If parents believe their child is doing excessive amounts of homework, please contact your child's teacher.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Visitors

All visitors are required to report to the office upon arrival to receive authorization for their presence in the school. Visitors must sign a book stating their name, the time they arrived, the room they will be in and then must sign out when they leave. Visitors on official business are welcome at our school. Those who arrive with no purpose are not welcome on school property.

Parent Volunteers

The quality of education in our school is greatly enhanced by parent volunteers. If you could spare some time each week to work at the school, please let us know of your interest. All volunteers must go through the mandatory screening process required by the District. A criminal record check may be required.

Administration of Medication

As per AP 328 – Administration of Medication to Students, if a student requires medication to be administered at school on a regular basis or emergency basis (excluding medication for the treatment of anaphylaxis or Type 1 Diabetes – see below), parents/guardians must complete AP 328-1 Request for Administration of Medication at School. This form must be completed annually. Please have the form completed by your doctor, signed by the parent/guardian, and returned to the school as soon as possible. Please contact the school (604-504-5343) for any questions. This procedure complies with District Procedures regarding medication to be taken at school.

If a student requires medication for the treatment of Type 1 Diabetes, please refer to <u>AP 323 - Support for</u> Students with Type 1 Diabetes (T1D)

If a student requires medication for the treatment of anaphylaxis, please refer to <u>AP 330 – Allergic Shock</u> (<u>Anaphylaxis</u>)

Additionally, it is imperative that parents keep the school informed on any health and or safety issues affecting a student attending Eugene Reimer Middle.

Learning Services

If your student requires help with schoolwork, or has a personal concern, there are several ways to get the support they need. Seek help from classroom teachers, student services teachers including counselors, Youth Care Worker, school administration, or any school staff member.

Internet Agreement & Social Media Networks

The purpose of the school district network is to facilitate research and education amongst users by providing access to unique resources and the opportunity for collaborative work. Students at ERMS require parent's consent to participate in the use of Internet and digital devices at school, As per AP 334 – Online Communications and Digital Learning, Many students at ERMS have personal computers at home or have access to them elsewhere. More often than we would like, teachers, counsellors, and administration at ERMS are asked to intervene in conflicts between students that began or took on a life of their own "via" internet email or Social Media accounts. Violations of Board Policy 15 – Student Code of Conduct regarding Internet use



can include temporary or permanent revocation of access rights to the System, suspension, expulsion or termination, or legal action. We encourage students to make choices to use the social network sites and email services appropriately and to resist the urge to become "cyber-bullies" by speaking unkindly or spreading rumours. We also encourage parents to be vigilant in monitoring and supervising the length and kind of computer use of their children. Visit

https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/erase/documents/social_media_guidelines.pdf for more information.

Emergency School Closures

During emergency situations schools will be closed to ensure the greatest possible level of safety for students and staff. When it is determined that a school or all schools will be closed, each staff and student's household will receive a phone call from the District's Synervoice System indicating the level of closure. Alternatively, details of school closures can be found at Winter Weather – District Procedures

Student Lost and Found

Lost clothing, bags, etc. can be claimed from the Lost and Found box under the foyer stairs. Jewelry, purses, wallets, phones, and other smaller items should be turned into the office and can be claimed from the office staff. Unclaimed items are donated to charity at various times during the year after being displayed for students to search.

Bus Behaviour

For safety reasons, the bus driver has authority over the students on the bus he/she operates. These drivers are to be given the same respect and courtesy given any staff member. Students who behave inappropriately on school buses will face consequences which may include removal from the bussing program. *ERMS bus students are not permitted inside RHSS while they wait.*

Field Trips/Travel

Permission forms for all school authorized excursions must be signed by the parents/guardians prior to the departure date. Students are expected to behave themselves in a manner which reflects our school's code of conduct.

Emergency Drills

There will be several fire drills, earthquake drills, shelter in place and lockdown drills during the school year. Students should be familiar with the procedures for these emergencies. These drills should be considered serious and conducted without talking. Tampering with alarms or fire safety equipment is a serious offense and is punishable by law.

Telephone

A phone is available for students to use and is in the main lobby entrance of the school. It is only to be used after school or during the day if a teacher has given written permission to the office.

Nutrition Break

Students will be dismissed for a 15-minute nutrition break. Students are encouraged to use this time to visit the washrooms. Students are to go to their lockers, get their snacks, and head outside right away. Note that we go outside rain or shine, so please *dress for the weather*. As the fall and winter weather approaches, hats, gloves, coats, and boots are all essential.

Lunch Time

All students are to eat lunch in their classroom during the eating period. Following the destination bell, student are to go outside. Note that we go outside rain or shine, so please *dress for the weather*. As the fall and winter weather approaches, hats, gloves, coats, and boots are all essential. Students may remain in the school following the destination bell *only if they are being directly supervised by a teacher*.



Canteen Cards ("Nest Cards")

Our canteen, The Nest, is open at Nutrition Break and during the eating period of lunch. There are a variety of snack options that students may purchase, either using cash or a Nest Card, which is a punch card that can be paid for through SchoolCashOnline (see later in this handbook for more information).

After School

At the end of the school day students are to gather their belongings, homework, etc., and follow the routine set up between student and parent. Students are expected to be out of the school 15 minutes after dismissal unless they are participating in a supervised extra-curricular activity.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Extra-curricular activities will be offered to students who wish to participate. These may involve after school clubs, trips, and sporting events. Extra-curricular activities are considered privileges and a student may be denied the opportunity to participate if behaviour, marks, or attendance are not good.

Physical Activity

At Eugene Reimer, we encourage students to be physically active while at school. Research has indicated:

- Participation in regular physical activity has a positive impact on behaviour and healthy lifestyle.
- Regular physical activity enhances academic performance.
- Physical activity has a positive effect upon children's academic achievement, academic readiness, and perceptual skills.
- Regular physical activity improves children's mental health and contributes to their growth and development.
- Physical activity is consistently related to improved self-esteem and body image.
- Adolescents who engage regularly in physical activity demonstrate lower anxiety and depression.
- The prevalence of childhood obesity is increasing which is directly linked to a lack of physical activity.
- Overweight and obesity in childhood are linked to many health risks and even mortality in adulthood.
- Participation in physical activity is positively linked to aerobic fitness, body composition, and muscular strength among school children.
- Daily physical activity improves children's skeletal health, which in turn reduces their risk of developing osteoporosis in the future.
- High school students, who are physically active, are less likely to smoke, use marijuana, or engage in sexual risk behaviours when compared to inactive peers.
- Adolescents who are more physically active are less likely to consume alcohol.

Keys for Success

There are many things that students can do to achieve success, and to have a rewarding and happy school year. Students are encouraged to:

- · get involved in special activities there is something for everyone
- · ask for help when you need it
- · complete homework assignments carefully and on time
- · be committed to making this the best year you have had at school.

What are Effective Schools?

According to the most recent research, effective schools are places where . . .

- 1. All students learn as a result of focused teacher actions.
- 2. All students learn regardless of their socioeconomic status or family background.
- 3. Student attendance, behaviour and attitudes improve because of improved achievement.
- 4. Staff accept that "improving schools" share common characteristics.



Student and School Success

Student achievement, attendance, attitudes, and behaviours can be influenced by actions taken by schools. When schools are improving on these measures, they tend to focus on seven indicators:

- 1. An inviting & safe school with positive student behavior
- 2. High expectations with encouragement & recognition for all students
- 3. Effective leadership & shared decision-making
- 4. Focus on teaching & learning
- 5. Shared purpose & mission
- 6. Effective planning & monitoring of student progress
- 7. Parent & community support

School with positive school with positive 2. High expectations with encouragement & recognition 3. Effective leadership & shared decision-making 4. Focus on teaching & learning 5. Shared purpose & mission 5. Shared purpose & monitoring of student progress 7. Parent & community support

Eugene Reimer Middle School Schedule of Fees

In accordance with <u>AP 317: School Fees</u>, the student activity fee covers costs such as guest speakers, student identity cards, school events, student recognition, student leadership, locks and locker rentals.

Eugene Reimer Middle is now a CASH-FREE SCHOOL. All fees must be paid online at abbotsford.schoolcashonline.com for student activity fees, athletic fees, club fees, gym strip, yearbook, field trips, and canteen cards can all be paid by the click of a button. The system is safe, quick, and efficient, you can make multiple payments, check your child's account online, and print off any receipts you may need. Cash from students will not be accepted by teachers or office staff. If you need to pay with cash, it must be paid in-person in the office.

For technical support, click on the <u>"Contact Us" or "Support" link</u> at the bottom of the schoolcashonline.com page or <u>call 1-866-961-1803</u> to get assistance from schoolcash directly.



SchoolCashOnline

Step-by-step sheet for parents/guardians

For safety and efficiency reasons, Abbotsford School District would like to reduce the amount of cash & cheques coming into our school. Please join the thousands of parents who have already registered and are enjoying the convenience of paying ONLINE! It takes less than 5 minutes to register. Please follow these step-by-step instructions, so you will begin to receive email notifications regarding upcoming events involving your child(ren).

NOTE: If you require assistance, select the GET HELP option in the top right hand corner of the screen.

Step 1: Register

- a) If you have not registered, please go to the School Cash Online home page https://abbotsford.schoolcashonline.com and select the "Get Started Today" option.
- b) Complete each of the three Registration Steps
 For Security Reasons your password, requires 8 characters, one uppercase letter, one lowercase letter and a number.

Step 2: Confirmation Email (example on right)

A confirmation email will be sent to the email address you used to register. Log into your email and click on the link provided inside to confirm your email address and School Cash Online account. The confirmation link will open the School Cash Online site prompting you to sign into your account. Use your email address and password just created with your account.

Step 3: Add Student (example on right)

Note: Student Number is Not Required

This step will connect your children to your account.

- 1) Type in "Abbotsford School District"
- 2) Choose "Eugene Reimer Middle School" from the drop done menu
- 3) Click the box next to "I don't have the student number."
- 4) Enter First & Last Name
- Click on the small red calendar to the right of the "Birth Date" and choose your child's birth date.
- 6) Click Confirm
- On the next page confirm that you are related to the child, check in the Agree box and select Continue
- 8) Your child has been added to your account

Step 4: View Items or Add Another Student

If you have more children, select "Add Another Student" option and repeat the steps above. 5 children can be added to one parent account.

If you do not wish to add additional children, select "View Items For Students" option. A listing of available items for purchase will be displayed.



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Student Added Successfully	
You have successfully added a student to your account.	
Add Another Student	
 View Items For Students 	
⇒ View.My Students	

Note: all information is stored on a confidential basis on a server in Canada.





The RAVENS Parent Page

What We Believe About Parent Involvement

The teaching community at Eugene Reimer Middle School believes that building partnerships with parents is a critical element to a child's success and development. To this end teachers make their School District e-mail addresses available and encourage conversation and dialogue through e-mail, telephone, and this student planner. The most effective means of communication is person to person. We invite parents to visit the school anytime but, particularly during the times set aside for parent/teacher conferences or other events at the school. We encourage parents and their children to work with the teachers to problem-solve issues or concerns; this triadic partnership can be very powerful for students' success.

Our Parents

We have a very active Parent Advisory Committee. The first PAC meeting of the school year will be published in September. We try to keep the meetings to an hour. We also have a very active School Planning Council, the members of which are elected by the PAC. This group meets with the Principal regularly to discuss a range of school related issues and provide direction for and input into school-based decisions

Historically our parents volunteer for the leadership committees described above and help with events around the school such as: Student celebrations, Sports Day, Teacher Appreciation, Library assistance, Fundraising, which is an important source of funding for school programs.

What Does Research Tell Us About the Influence of Parental Involvement on Student Achievement?

- 1. Student achievement improves in a home environment which encourages learning.
- 2. Student achievement improves when parents express high (but not unrealistic) expectations for their children's achievement and future careers.
- 3. Student achievement improves when parents become involved in their children's education at school and in the community.
- 4. Student achievement improves when parents are enabled to play four key roles in their children's learning.
 - *As **teachers**, parents create a home environment that promotes learning, reinforces what is being taught at school, and develops the life skills children need to become responsible adults.
 - " *As **supporters**, parents contribute their knowledge and skills to the school, enriching the curriculum, and providing extra services and support to students.
 - *As **advocates**, parents help children negotiate the system and receive fair treatment, and work to make the system more responsive to all families.

Visit the PAC Webpage in early September for more information and meeting dates for this year.



Local School Calendar 2023 – 2024



School Opening / Secondary - Semester 1 starts (1/2 day dismissal)	September 5	
Non-Instructional Day #1	September 29	
National Day for Truth & Reconciliation (in lieu day)	October 2	
Thanksgiving Day	October 9	
Early Dismissal for Parent-Teacher Conferences	October 18	
Early Dismissal for Parent-Teacher Conferences	October 19	
Non-Instructional Day #2	October 20	
Non-Instructional Day #3	November 10	
Remembrance Day (in lieu day)	November 13	
Report Cards (Elementary/Middle)	December 8	
Last day before Winter Break	December 22	
Winter Break	December 25 – January 5	
Schools reopen after Winter Break	January 8	
Secondary – Semester 2 starts	January 29	
Report Cards (Secondary)	February 2	
Early Dismissal for Parent-Teacher Conferences	February 7	
Early Dismissal for Parent-Teacher Conferences	February 8	
Non-Instructional Day #4	February 16	
Family Day	February 19	
Report Cards (Elementary/Middle)	March 14	
Last day before Spring Break	March 15	
Spring Break	March 18 – 29	
Good Friday	March 29	
Easter Monday	April 1	
Schools reopen after Spring Break	April 2	
Non-Instructional Day #5	April 26	
Non-Instructional Day #6	May 17	
Victoria Day	May 20	
Last day for students (Report Cards for Elementary/Middle)	June 27	
Report Cards (Secondary)	June 28	
Last day for teachers	June 28	

Minutes of Instruction Per Day | Elementary - 291 | Middle - 293 | Secondary - 316