

Lakeview School Parent/Caregiver Handbook



2026-2027



We will create the safest learning environment that nurtures the spiritual, mental, emotional, and physical well-being of the students.

PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME:

Aanii Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back to another exciting school year! I hope everyone had a restful summer and enjoyed meaningful time with family, friends, and community. We are excited to welcome our students back on Wednesday, September 2nd for the first day of school.

I am honoured and grateful to be stepping into the role of Interim Principal and to continue serving our school community. I look forward to working alongside our students, families, staff, Elders, Knowledge Keepers, and community partners to support the success, well-being, and growth of all learners.

As an Anishinaabe Kwe, my leadership is rooted in the understanding that all our relationships are interconnected. I believe in nurturing the whole child—mind, body, heart, and spirit—and creating a school environment where every student feels a sense of belonging, their identity is valued, and their strengths are recognized. We are committed to providing learning experiences that are trauma-informed, culturally responsive, and relevant to our students and community.

We truly believe it takes a community to raise a child. Families, Elders, Knowledge Keepers, staff, and community members all play an important role in supporting student success. We value the relationships we have built and look forward to continuing to strengthen partnerships between home, school, and community.

My door is always open, and I invite families and community members to connect with me throughout the school year. Whether you have questions, ideas, celebrations to share, or would like to work together to support our students, I welcome the opportunity to listen, collaborate, and continue building strong relationships with our school community.

Miigwech for your continued support, trust, and commitment to our students. Together, we will create a year filled with learning, growth, connection, and meaningful opportunities for our students to thrive.

Miigwech,

Mrs. Deana Debassige-Wood
Interim Principal



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Balanced School Day:

The balanced school day supports learning in the classroom, promoting healthy eating and encouraging daily physical activity. The schedule is balanced to provide two nutrition breaks for students, allowing them to eat/snack more appropriately for the needs of their young bodies, increasing their concentration and energy levels. The balanced school day also offers longer periods of uninterrupted learning blocks and physical activity. There are two breaks from instruction each day, which are divided into a nutrition break and recess.

Time	Activity
8:30am - 8:50am	Student Arrival/Breakfast Program
8:45am	Announcements
8:50am - 10:30am	Classroom Instruction
10:30-10:50	FDK-Gr. 3 Nutrition Break / Gr. 4-8 Recess
10:50-11:10	FDK-Gr. 3 Recess / Gr. 4-8 Nutrition Break
11:10-12:50	Classroom Instruction
12:50-1:10	FDK-Gr. 3 Nutrition Break / Gr. 4-8 Recess
1:10-1:30	FDK-Gr. 3 Recess / Gr. 4-8 Nutrition Break
1:30-3:10	Classroom Instruction
3:10	Dismissal

Lakeview Meal Program:

At this time Lakeview offers a Breakfast Program, where cold cereal, yogurts, fruits and vegetables are offered to students daily from 8:30am-8:50am. Hot lunch is offered for the afternoon nutrition break, and a menu is provided monthly. Please ensure that your child is prepared with food and snacks for the morning nutrition break. Examples of healthy and nutritious foods to fuel a growing brain & body include: fruits, vegetables, sandwiches, protein rich foods, water for hydration, and home prepared meals vs. processed foods, sugary drinks and caffeinated beverages. We do not have microwaves in the classrooms, please ensure that any "warm" lunches are in thermoses. It is also important to note we are a peanut/nut-free school.



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Medical/Medication/Allergies:

Medical – Parents/caregivers must inform the school of any medical conditions that their child/ren have. All staff will be informed of these medical conditions.

Medication – Students that require medication during the school day must have a Medication Form completed by the parent/caregiver who must deliver the medication to the school. All medication will be properly secured and monitored.

Allergies – We continue to promote a nut free policy at Lakeview School. Please continue to ensure that all snacks are peanut/nut free.

Attendance:

At Lakeview School, we know how important school attendance and established routines are for students to build knowledge, skills, and confidence. Regular attendance is more than just a requirement; it's a critical building block for academic success, social development, and future opportunities. While there may be challenges that can make school attendance difficult, it's important to understand the impact of frequent absenteeism and how we can work together to support regular attendance.

If a child is going to be absent or late, parents/caregivers are expected to contact the school (email, telephone) immediately. The school will contact families that have not notified the school directly to confirm the child's whereabouts. Please see our attendance policy for more information. As needed, information will be shared with families regarding the support services available to ensure good attendance at school.

Accidents/Illnesses:

Children that are presenting with a fever, bad cough, sore throat, earache, head lice, or any contagious illness must be kept at home. Some illnesses (including head lice) may require a note to return to school. Please inform the school as soon as possible if children are staying home due to an accident/illness. In the case of an injury at school, first aid will be administered and parents/caregivers will be notified. Depending on the severity of the accident, notification may be a telephone call, and a copy of the accident form sent home with the child. Any suspected head injuries are monitored closely and a concussion form will be completed; it is recommended that students are seen by medical professionals when there are any suspected head injuries.



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Parental/Caregiver Support:

Parents/caregivers want the best education for their child/ren and we recognize that you are your child/ren's first and lifelong teachers. Lakeview School values our education partnership and recognizes home involvement is a key contribution to student success. Please maintain regular contact with the classroom teacher(s) and the principal or vice principal.

Here are some habits to consider, which will encourage your child/ren to fulfill their responsibilities at school and at home:

- Set consistent routines (bed time, meals, hygiene, dressing/outerwear/indoor shoes).
- Provide a quiet place to work and study.
- On a daily basis, discuss what your child/ren are learning at school.
- Read together and discuss what has been read.
- Encourage your child/ren to seek assistance at school when it is required.

Bussing and Safe Arrival:

School transportation is a privilege. Ignoring bus rules and safety practices may result in bus privileges being withdrawn.

- Students should be at their designated pick-up location on time.
- Buses will be making their pick-ups between 8:00 am - 8:20 am.
- ***All students will be picked up and dropped off at their designated location only. Any other arrangements are the responsibility of the parents/caregivers.***
- Parents/caregivers must contact the school directly for any alternate arrangements (e.g., if someone else has permission to pick-up, or for early pick-up).
- Please connect prior to 2:45pm so that sufficient notice can be provided to the classroom teacher.
- ***Kindergarten students MUST be with a parent/caregiver at pick-up and MUST be met by a parent/caregiver at drop-off. If the parent/caregiver is not present at drop-off, the student will remain on the bus and return to school. A phone call will be made to contact the parent/caregiver for pick-up at the school.***

Bus Cancellations:

- If buses are unable to safely travel the roads due to weather conditions, buses will be cancelled.
- Notices will be emailed and posted on Lakeview School & M'Chigeeng Facebook pages.
- Please note that when the Rainbow District School Board buses cancel for the Manitoulin area, we will cancel as well.

For students who are dropped-off at school, please do so between 8:30 am and 8:45 am.



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School Closures:

In the event of any school closures due to weather or any other situations, notices will be emailed and posted on the Lakeview School & M'Chigeeng Facebook pages. In the event of early school closures during the day, parents/caregivers will be contacted directly by telephone. Please ensure that your contact information is up to date.

Outings and Field Trips:

Classes will be planning field trips with educational expectations. Outings within the M'Chigeeng community will require one permission form at the beginning of the school year to be signed. Classroom teachers will keep parents/caregivers informed of all outings. For outings outside of the community, separate permission slips will be sent home for parents/caregivers to sign.

Reporting Periods:

One progress report and two report cards will be issued during the school year. Parent/caregiver interviews will be scheduled after the progress report and first-term report cards.

Remedial Support / Special Education:

Lakeview School provides remedial education and services based on the premise that:

- All students have a right to quality education.
- All students are an integral part of society, entitled to respect and dignity.
- The variety of needs of exceptional students can be best served by a continuum of support.
- Communication and interaction amongst remedial education and regular education personnel must be ongoing and goal directed.
- All students share in the responsibility for learning and in the planning of their program, based on maturity and ability.

There are many ways in which our children learn and some of those ways require a support system of teachers, teacher assistants, and other personnel. Lakeview School has been able to create a safer, more structured and specific learning environment based on the learning needs of our student population.



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Individual Education Plan (IEP):

An IEP is a written plan describing the education program and/or services required by a particular student, based on a thorough assessment of the student's strengths and needs that affect the student's ability to learn and demonstrate learning. This is a legally binding document that is a working document and schools are required to provide each service and piece of equipment that is written in the IEP. As a parent/caregiver, you can decide whether to have your child assessed. These tests might include measures of specific school skills, such as reading or math, as well as more general developmental skills, such as speech and language. The IEP should be reviewed annually to update the goals and make sure the levels of service meet your child's needs. However, IEPs can be changed at any time on an as needed basis. If you think your child needs more, fewer, or different services, you can request a meeting and bring the team together to discuss your concerns. The IEP process is complex, however, it's also an effective way to address how your child learns and functions. If you have concerns, please ask questions about the evaluation findings or the goals recommended by the team. You know your child best and should play a central role in creating a learning plan tailored to their specific needs.

Identification, Placement, and Review Committee (IPRC):

An IEP will be developed for each student that has been identified as having an exceptionality through an Identification, Placement, and Review Committee (IPRC) within 30 days of the student's placement in the remedial program. It will outline the program and services required to meet the student's needs and how the program will be monitored and delivered. The involvement of the parents/guardians is needed in order to develop the best possible IEP; however, a parent/guardian can waive their rights to this process and will be notified of its development and the status.

Health Center Information – Student Health:

Head lice

- Checks will be done a minimum of three times a year. If necessary, random screening checks will be done when the need arises. If a child is found to have head lice or nits, they will be sent home that day and a community Health Representative must assess your child before returning to school (this can happen as early as the next day). A notice of this check must be presented to the school office upon return to school.

Immunizations at school will only be provided with parental/caregiver consent.

- Grade 7 students – Hepatitis B vaccinations – a series of two needles will be scheduled two months apart



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- Grade 8 students – dTAP (adacel) vaccination – one needle scheduled in April.

Student Dress Code:

We encourage students to dress in comfortable clothing that gives them a sense of pride and a sense that they are prepared for learning.

- Tops must cover the entire midriff.
- Shorts, skirts or dresses must reach fingertip length when their arms are at their side.
- Clothing must not have language or representations which depict violence, gang affiliation, profanity, discrimination of any kind or which demeans an individual or group.
- Halter tops, tank tops, spaghetti strap tops (narrower in width than three fingers), tube tops, half t-shirts, tops with cut outs, short shorts/skirts/dresses, low necklines front or back are not permitted.
- Upon entry, ball caps, toques and other hats/hoods are to be removed.
- Undergarments must be always covered.
- Inside shoes are required for daily wear in class and for physical education classes.
- Any other type of clothing that is deemed inappropriate by the principal or vice principal will be addressed.

Mobile Devices:

A mobile device policy has been approved by Chief and Council. All parents/caregivers will receive a copy to review and sign. Cell phones are not permitted in school or on the bus. Please review this policy with your child/ren.

Student Code of Conduct:

All students attending Lakeview School are expected to attend regularly and honor themselves, their families, their school, and their community. Students will demonstrate a character commitment to displaying the 7 Grandfather Teachings - Honesty, Truth, Bravery, Love, Humility, Respect, and Wisdom. Please review the Student Code of Conduct with your child/ren.



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Discipline and Safe School Policy:

The Safe School Policy is our guideline to handling behaviours that jeopardize school safety. Disciplinary action will be taken according to the procedures set out under the following headings:

- a) Intimidation, Harassment and Threats
- b) Assault: Physical and Sexual
- c) Student Behaviour
- d) Trespass to School Property
- e) Vandalism and Theft
- f) Weapons/Replicas
- g) Illicit Substances i.e., alcohol and drugs, etc.

Consequences for Misconduct:

Effective discipline of students is enhanced by cooperation between the school and parents/caregivers. In the event of student misconduct, a phone call, home visit, or formal conference at the school may be initiated with the parent/caregiver to discuss the specific behaviour of the student and steps to be undertaken to correct it.

The following is a list of consequences that may be used:

- 1. A teacher will speak with the student to reach an agreement regarding the behaviour.
- 2. When student behaviour disrupts the class, the student may be withdrawn or excused to a supervised alternate location to complete their assignment. Such withdrawal will be temporary. If a prolonged withdrawal is recommended, the parents/caregivers will be contacted.
- 3. Privileges may be removed, such as recess or access to bus transportation.
- 4. Parents will be advised of detentions via incident report, email, or telephone call.
- 5. A conference will be held with the student, parents/caregivers, teacher, administrator and/or support staff to develop a plan regarding the student's behaviour (behaviour safety plan – strategies, support systems).
- 6. In some instances, a contract may be used when specific behaviour is required of the student.
- 7. The students and parents/caregivers are required to compensate for any damages to school or bus property.
- 8. As a last resort, at the discretion of the principal, students may be assigned to an in-school or out-of-school suspension.



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Suspensions:

Students may be suspended from school for the following:

- Chemical use/abuse (tobacco, alcohol, controlled substances)
- Physical assault
- Verbal assault, weapons on school property (including but not limited to: guns, pellet guns, starting pistols, model guns, knives, bats, sticks, pepper spray)
- Misconduct as defined in the Safe School Policy.

The principal has the authority to suspend students from one to twenty days as outlined in the Safe School Policy and Education Act. Parents/caregivers will be notified immediately of a suspension. The principal may involve the police or child and family services, as outlined in the Safe School Policy and Education Act.

It is the parent/caregiver's responsibility to ensure the student stays away from school property while on suspension. A meeting with the student, parent/caregiver and principal is mandatory before returning to regularly scheduled classes.

Anishinaabemowin:

Ojibwe Language and Cultural Teachings are being integrated in the school's curriculum. Everyone is encouraged to support and speak Anishinaabemowin as much as they can.

Physical Education:

Physical education is an important part of the regular school program. A doctor's note is required to excuse a student from physical education. For hygienic safety and fire drills, it is necessary that a second pair of running shoes be kept at school for indoor use. If support is required to obtain inside shoes, please notify the school so we can assist.



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