



LEN WOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL

ᑭwsaltktnéws ne Secwepemcúl'ecw School District No. 83
3700 Patten Drive, Armstrong, B.C. V4Y 0H9
Telephone: 250-546-3476 Fax: 1-250-804-7789
www.lwm.sd83.bc.ca

September 3, 2025

Hello Len Wood Middle School Students and Families!

Welcome to LWMS for the 2025-2026 school year! The staff at the school and district have been working hard to get everything set for an AWESOME year.

A big welcome to all our new Grade 6 students, our returning Grade 7s, our "graduating" Grade 8s, and to every student who is new to us. We also have new staff members that we're excited to work with.

Our school has a wonderful environment for learning, in and out of the classroom. We encourage ALL students to get involved in the many aspects of life at LWMS. Remember: your experience will be as good as you make it, so get involved in your school, join teams and clubs, and, of course, study hard!

To set students up for success, we are reviewing our Extreme Team Expectations Thursday and Friday. A copy of the LWMS Extreme Team Expectations will be sent home on September 8, 2025. Please read through this booklet with your child. Please sign and return the booklet to indicate that your family has discussed the expectations for our school. Booklets are due back by September 26th, 2025.

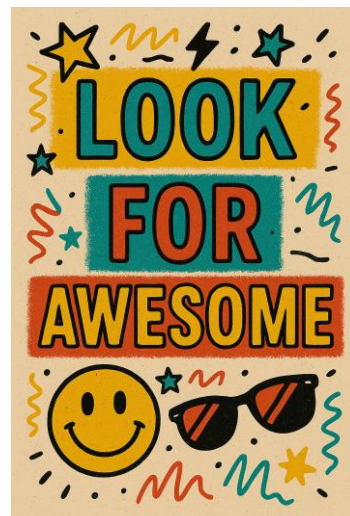
As well, we will be focusing on the following slogan this year! "BE MORE AWESOME and LOOK FOR THE AWESOME!" "BE MORE AWESOME" focuses on healthy living so students are ready to learn and "LOOKING FOR THE AWESOME" focuses on having a positive attitude to enhance our school community! We are reinforcing our messaging with an "AWESOME BINGO" challenge. It will be sent home on September 8th, 2025, and is due September 26, 2025. Parents need to sign off on this AWESOME challenge!

I thought I would share a little bit about myself. As I'm sure you are aware, I am a retired principal. I have been in education for 40 years as a Learning Resource teacher and classroom teacher before becoming a principal. I spent the last 8 years of my career at AES and LWMS as principal. As a child, I attended both AES and Lenwood and graduated from Pleasant Valley. I truly love education, as you can tell I am having trouble fully retiring! I am very much looking forward to getting to know all the students and families at LWMS. Please stop by and introduce yourself - and give me a bit of grace as I work on my goal to learn everyone's name this fall 😊.

Best wishes to all our students for a successful school year. Please reach out if you have questions or concerns or to say hello!

Yours truly,

Mrs. Moore, Acting Principal
Ms. Mitchell, Vice Principal



"WHERE GREAT MINDS MEET"



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Communication

We truly value the partnership that we have with families as we work together to make each year the very best for students. Having great communication with families is a critical part of this. The more we talk and work together, the better we will be able to support your child. Please reach out to your child's teacher early on and start building that relationship. We are always happy to have discussions and answer any questions that you might have.

There are several ways that you can stay informed about what is happening at LWMS in general. Today's newsletter is the only one we will print out and send home with students. Future newsletters will be emailed and posted to our website www.lwm.sd83.bc.ca. Printing over 300 newsletters multiple times a year is expensive and perhaps not very environmentally friendly! Please visit our website often for up-to-date information.

Student cell phone and electronics policy

In accordance with the provincial Ministry of Education and Child Care mandate, cell phones and other electronic devices will not be permitted at any time during the school day, including on a student's person, without the expressed permission of teachers for educational purposes. Devices must be secured in lockers or classroom storage areas. If parents need to get an important message to their child, please call the office and we will be happy to make that connection happen. It is amazing the difference in both learning and social environments when cell phones are away.

Welcome Barbecue

It is tradition at LWMS to host a Welcome barbecue for families. It is a great time to meet staff and other families and attend a TEAM meeting with your child's teachers. The barbecue is September 10th from 5:00 – 7:00 pm. A hamburger with a drink and chips can be purchased for \$5.00 each! The following is the schedule for team meetings in the library.

5:30 Red Rattlers (Kim Poirier & Karen Clinaz)
5:45 Blue Fins (Dory Holt & Mike O'Brien)
6:00 Black Bears (Steve Lutes, Rachel Wycherley & Hollis Erickson)
6:15 Purple Panthers (Hiapo Poirier & Ethan Faris)
6:30 Fluorescent Flamingos (Ken Liefke & Tracy Moore)
6:45 Tye Dye Tigers (Stuart Matthews & Melissa Ganzeveld)

Action Required - Important Permission Forms (SD #83)

There are quite a few forms which need parent approval each school year. These forms include giving permission for student use of computers at school, walking field trip permission for short educational trips and much more. Please complete these forms prior to **Friday, September 12** using Parent Connect. Instructions are as follows:

1. Go to www.sd83.bc.ca
2. Go to Parent Resources drop down menu, or go to www.parentconnect.sd83.bc.ca
3. Access your account by entering the email address we have on file for you at the school. If you need to update your email, please call our office staff at 250-832-6031 and they can enter your email into the system.
4. If you have more than one child, you will have to request a password for each child. Once you have done this, you can change the passwords so that they are the same and all your children's names come up under one email.

For more detailed instructions, watch a video on "Using Parent Connect", found on the Parent Connect Sign-In screen.

Please click and respond to each of the forms below. To view the form, click on the "Click here to view form" box.



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IMPORTANT - As you review and update each form, **please select the appropriate response on Parent Connect and CLICK SAVE** (located near top right of page).

Please ensure you respond to each of the following:

- District Cloud Services Consent
- Parent Information Code of Conduct
- Student Information Code of Conduct
- Parent Personal Information Consent
- Student Personal Information Consent
- Parent Outside Media Consent
- Student Outside Media Consent
- myBluePrint Consent
- Parent Network Permission
- Student Wi-Fi Agreement
- Walking Parent Permission (Grade 6's and new students only)

It is mandatory that all forms be reviewed and responded to by parent/guardians. Several forms require student completion on Student Connect, as well.

Absences

Parents: Please notify our office if your child is away or will be late for school. Please contact the office by 8:20 am. There is an answering system if you would like to call the night before or before 8:00 am (250) 546-3476 or send an email to LWM@sd83.bc.ca.

School Fees

We request a Student School Fee of \$45 for grade 6 students. This fee includes the Student Agenda which is mandatory for all Grade 6 students, Lock Rental, and Activity & Cultural fees. We request a Student School Fee of \$35 for grade 7/8 students. This fee includes the Lock Rental and Activity & Cultural fees. E-transfer to LWM@sd83.bc.ca is the preferred method of payment, but cash and cheques are also accepted at the office. **The comment in the e-transfer MUST always include the student's name and the reason for funds (in this case, "Student First and Last Name & Student Fees").**

If circumstances do not permit payment or will cause financial hardship, please call or email a confidential note to our Vice Principal – smitchel@sd83.bc.ca. We appreciate your attention to these fees and payment as soon as possible or by September 26, 2025.

Traffic Flow

Len Wood Middle is a very busy place during drop off and pick up times – please be mindful of your driving. Students must be dropped off and picked up in the parking lot across from the school. Thank you for driving slowly and watching for students wanting to cross at the cross walk!

Early Student Departures

Students leaving, for any reason, before the end of the instructional day require Parents/guardians permission. **The office must have parent/guardian permission to release a student, if we do not receive a call from you in advance, a call will be made prior to us signing your child out of school.**

Parent Advisory Council

Your Len Wood Middle School PAC performs an important role in providing ongoing feedback and communications between parents and staff. All parents and guardians are members of the PAC and are invited to attend the LWMS PAC meetings and events. PAC also supports the school in a variety of other ways such as fundraising and the administration of Gaming Funds to the benefit of the school. Your participation is a great way to be involved and to stay informed. All students benefit from the tremendous support of PAC. We hope you will join this dedicated team! Our first PAC Meeting is scheduled for Sept. 9, 2025 at 6:30 in the LWMS Library.



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Upcoming Dates to Note:

September 9-PAC meeting at 6:30 pm

September 10 – Picture Day

September 10-Welcome Barbecue

September 19- School Wide Terry Fox Run

September 22-Orange Shirt Day Assembly

September 26-Awesome Challenge and LWMS Extreme Team

Expectations due

September 29 – Pro-D Day (No School for Students)

September 30 – National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (No School)

October 13 – Thanksgiving

October 20 – Parent/Teacher Conferences – students DO NOT attend classes

October 21 – Photo Retake Day

October 24 – Pro-D Day (No School for Students)



Keep an eye on our website and PAC Facebook page for our weekly “WAAG” (Week at a Glance) messages.