



# LESLIE THOMAS JUNIOR HIGH

Home of the Lions

100 Metropolitan Ave, Lower Sackville, NS

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## September 1, 2022

### First Day

When students arrive, they will be asked to wait outside until their grade level is called. As busses and staff will be arriving, we ask students to wait in the following areas: Grade 6s are to wait near the back entrance. Grade 7s and 8s will wait in the side parking lot away from cars, or in the front on the sidewalk or steps. Those students waiting on the front sidewalk should stand behind the yellow safety line.

### Picture Day – Friday September 9, 2022

Adams Photography will be onsite Friday September 9, 2022 for student photos.

### Public Health Guidance

Public Health reinforces that the following practices are effective in this current phase of living with COVID-19: getting vaccinated; staying home if feeling unwell; frequently sanitizing hands; and supporting those who choose to wear masks. Masks will continue to be available at LTJH.

### Regular School Day

8:55 School Opens - Breakfast Items / Lockers  
9:05 Homeroom / First Period Class – Announcements and O’Canada  
12:05 Lunch  
1:00 End of Lunch / Locker time  
1:05 First Class after Lunch  
3:05 Dismissal

## Calendar of Events

September 1 - Organization Day P-12 (No classes)

September 2 - PD Day P-12 (No classes)

September 5 - Labour Day

September 6 – PD Day (No Classes)

September 7 - First Day of School for Students

September 9 – Picture Day

September 15 – Curriculum Night 6 Pm

September 30 – Truth and Reconciliation Day (No Classes)

## Arrivals and Dismissals

For safety reasons, it will be important that we all do our part to limit the number of non-staff vehicles in the parking lot before and after school.

If you drive or walk your child to school, you can support this measure by

- Dropping off between 8:45 and 9:00
- Picking up between 3:05 and 3:15

*During arrival and dismissal, parents picking up their child(ren) are asked not to enter school property.*

## Orange Shirt Orders Due September 12

We are selling Orange Shirts for Orange Shirt Day. SchoolCash Online will continue to be the preferred payment option. The paper order forms will be required regardless of how you pay for the clothing. The paper order form will tell us the size, name embroidery. The SchoolCash Online system is just the payment method. If you experience any difficulty with this payment system, please contact our school admin Bev Purdy at: [bpurdy@hrce.ca](mailto:bpurdy@hrce.ca)

The option to purchase the clothing should be live on SchoolCash Online. Orders are due Monday September 12. This is to ensure the shirts are available for Sept 29 (Orange Shirt Day at LTJH)

## SchoolCash Information

To get started, please register for SchoolCash Online. It's free and takes less than two minutes. You will receive an email once items are posted for purchase.

Visit <https://hrce.schoolcashionline.com/> and click Register to get started.

Need support? Connect with the SchoolCash Online help desk at [schoolcashionline.com/Home/Support](https://schoolcashionline.com/Home/Support)

We hope that SchoolCash Online makes paying school-related fees more convenient!

## Lunch Registration

We will once again be offering lunch registration. Students have the option to sign up to stay for lunch each day or to sign up to leave school property each day. A form will be going home on the first day with further details and we ask families to complete this registration as soon as possible.

For the first week, **until lunch registration is complete, if you are granting your child(ren) permission to leave school grounds, please write a note daily granting them permission to leave school grounds.** Students leaving school property should be going to a predetermined location such as their home, childcare or alternate location.

## Lunch Lady (Tuesday) / Pizza Thursday

The Lunch Lady, a local meal provider, will be returning. We will give further details in the near future. For now, you can check out their website at: <https://thelunchlady.ca/>

Thursday Pizza Orders will also be returning in the near future. Details to follow.

## Water Bottles

We recommend students bring a water bottle each day to reduce the sharing of water sources in the school. Water coolers will still be available. Sending your child with a full water bottle in the morning is greatly appreciated. Students are to sanitize their hands before and after using the water cooler.

## **Lunch Preparation**

Families should prepare lunches that do not require to be heated.

## **Lunch Monitors**

We are looking for several lunch monitors for the upcoming school year. Lunch will be from 12:05 – 1:05. If interested please contact Principal Ferguson at [dferguson@hrce.ca](mailto:dferguson@hrce.ca). You can also apply for this position on the HRCE website at the following location: <https://www.hrce.ca/employment>.

All applicants will be required to provide a current Criminal Record Check and Child Abuse Registry Search.

## **Volunteers and Coaches**

Throughout the year, we may put a call out for coaches and volunteers (field trip chaperones as an example). To volunteer at LTJH we require a 'Child Abuse Register' and a 'Criminal Record Check with Vulnerable Sector Check' for more information and links please go to the [HRCE Volunteering webpage](#).

## **Lock and lockers**

During the first week, all students will receive a school lock and locker. No outside locks are to be used.

## **Windows**

For safety, only staff are allowed to open and close windows.

## **Student Fees**

Due to continued economic pressures, LTJH will not be collecting student fees again this year. However, we may ask for fees for extracurricular activities, and events.

## **Use of Technology**

LTJH has an adequate supply of Chromebooks and students will have access to these throughout the day. Cell phones have become a distraction for many of our students during instructional time. Phones should not be seen during instructional time, which includes classrooms, hallways, bathrooms and the office. The expectation will be that phones are turned off and placed in the cell phone hotel in each room. If a phone is sent to the office, it will remain in the office until the end of the day.

## **Video Surveillance:**

Our school uses a video surveillance system as part of our continued efforts to support a safe, positive and effective learning environment. We recognize that the images recorded by this video surveillance system are personal information and, as with all other personal information, we take steps to balance privacy rights with safety and security concerns. The school has the legal authority to collect this personal information under Section 24 of Nova Scotia's *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

Only designated staff has access to our video surveillance equipment and such access is restricted as required by law. The system is used to enhance school safety and to deter or take action in response to unlawful behaviours.

# Introducing SafeArrival by SchoolMessenger

## *A New Way for Families to Report Student Absences*

One of our greatest priorities is ensuring that all our students arrive safely at school each and every day. Our school will be implementing a new way to report absences through SchoolMessenger. As of **Thursday, September 1**, you will be able to report future absences using an app, website, or toll-free phone number. Starting on **Wednesday, September 7**, if your student is absent and the absence has not been reported in advance, you will receive notifications via email, text, and phone calls from SchoolMessenger.

To report your student absent, you can use any of the following methods:

### **PowerSchool Parent/Student Portal**

Parents/guardians can log in to <https://sishrsb.ednet.ns.ca/public/> to access the link to the SchoolMessenger website to report future absences.

### **SchoolMessenger App**

Parents/guardians can download the SchoolMessenger app for Android and iOS devices, create an account and use their email that the school has on record for them as their username

### **Toll-Free Number**

Parents/guardians can call 1-833-582-6940 to report future absences using an automated system.

All three methods are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Absences can be reported at any time before the start of school on the day the student will be absent. Up to five consecutive absences can be recorded at once.

If you have students attending other schools, please continue to report absences using the existing procedures for those schools.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation as we implement this new tool. Please visit <https://www.hrce.ca/SafeArrival> for more information.