

2025-2026

PARENT / STUDENT Handbook



Killam Public School

5007 - 49 Ave; P.O. Box 130

Killam, AB T0B 2L0

Phone: (780)385-3690

Website address: <https://killam.brsd.ab.ca/>

Table of Contents

About Killam Public School

Mission, Motto, Logo.....	3
Programming.....	4
Healthy School Community.....	5
Staff.....	6
School Enrollment.....	6

Teaching and Learning

Welcoming and Caring.....	7
21st Century Learning Practices.....	7
Assessment.....	8
PowerSchool Portal.....	8
Real-time Reporting.....	9
Parent-Teacher Conferences.....	10
Appeal Procedure.....	10
Inclusive Education.....	10
School Days.....	11
School Programs.....	12
Learning Commons.....	13

Celebrating Excellence..... 14

Communication

Contact Information.....	16
Parent/School Communication.....	17

Getting Involved as a Volunteer

School Council and Parent Advisory Society.....	19
Parent Volunteers.....	19
Volunteer Drivers.....	19

Extra-Curricular Activities

Athletics - Killam Kougars.....	20
Intramurals.....	21
Student Leadership.....	21
Transportation for Extra-Curricular activities.....	21

School Policies and Practices

KPS PAWSitive Behaviour.....	22
Attendance.....	23
Sign In/Out Procedures.....	24
Academic Integrity.....	24
Appropriate Dress.....	24
Lunchtime Activities.....	25
School Health and Safety Procedures.....	25
Emergency Preparedness.....	27
Killam Public School Technology Procedure.....	26
Personal Communication Devices.....	29
KPS Missing Evidence Policy.....	30

About Killam Public School



Every STUDENT, Every DAY, a SUCCESS

Mission

Our mission is to develop confident and responsible individuals who aspire to achieve their full potential and be constructive members of their community.

Vision

Knowing Potential

Pursuing Success

Strengthening Knowledge

Beliefs

We believe in creating a connected and engaged community where students feel supported and inspired to learn.

We believe in nurturing critical thinking, creativity, and hands-on experiences to develop eager and responsible learners.

We believe in empowering students to be accountable leaders who contribute positively to their world.

Motto

KNOWLEDGE, PRIDE, SUCCESS

Our Logo



About Killam Public School

Programming

Killam Public School provides high-quality learning opportunities that support the success of all students. Our core academic subjects are enhanced by a variety of complementary programs that encourage creativity, wellness and skill development. Literacy and Numeracy continue to be a focus across all grade levels and subject areas.

We offer a strong academic focus in core subjects, supported by non-core complementary courses such as Physical Education and Wellness, French, Music and Art. Junior high students also have a range of complementary courses Drama, Foods, Athletic Pursuits, Study Skills, Art and more. We are grateful to our Parent Advisory Society and *100 Women Who Care* for their support in renovating our Foods Lab, giving all students access to additional hands-on learning experiences.

Elementary Programs (Grades K - 6)

In addition to the core academic subjects, Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies, students in Kindergarten to Grade 6 participate in complementary courses including:

- **Physical Education and Wellness** - Students focus on active living, movement skills, mental health, personal growth and financial literacy.
- **Music** - Students explore a range of musical activities and perform in the annual Winter Concert.
- **Art** - Students explore opportunities to develop creative skills through a variety of forms, techniques and mediums.
- **French** - Beginning in Grade 4, students are introduced to foundational second-language skills.

Junior High Programs (Grades 7-9)

Junior high students receive instruction in core subjects, Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies, as well as Physical Education, Health and additional complementary courses such as Drama, Foods, Athletic Pursuits, Study Skills, Art and more. Complementary courses (often called options) follow the Career and Technology Foundations (CTF) curriculum and operate on a quarter system:

- **Quarter 1:** September - November
- **Quarter 2:** November - January
- **Quarter 3:** February - April
- **Quarter 4:** April - June

In each quarter, students select two option courses:

- **A Course** - Mondays and Wednesdays (1 period)
- **B Course** - Tuesdays and Thursdays (2 periods)

Priority in course selection is given to Grade 9 students, followed by Grade 8, the Grade 7.

At Killam Public School, our goal is to offer a well-rounded education that develops academic skills, creativity, physical well-being, and personal growth for every student.

About Killam Public School

Healthy School Community

Healthy children are better able to learn. At Killam Public School, we work intentionally to establish relationships and environments that support healthy habits. A 10-minute support and social-emotional learning block, called 'Kougar Time', has been added to the end of our day. This time allows teachers to connect with students to reinforce executive functioning (organizational) skills, provide support where needed, and continue to emphasize the importance of relationships.

In partnership with our School Council and Parent Advisory, all students have access to our Breakfast Program to ensure our students start the day with proper nutrition. Daily physical activity and nutrition breaks in all grades support students in being healthy and active. In conjunction with Battle River School Division's Mental Health Capacity Building team, we offer programming that contributes to the mental well-being of our students. Eating well, being active, building relationships, and maintaining positive mental health can help keep kids healthy and prevent serious health conditions later in life. Our Student Wellness Facilitator (SWF, formerly FSLW) takes referrals to provide greater support, working one-on-one with students and their families.

About Killam Public School

KPS Staff

Administration

Principal: Mrs. K. Nelson

Teachers

Elementary:

ECS	Miss. J. Prichard	Gr. 4 Math/Science/SS	Ms. S. Gibb
Gr. 1/2	Mrs. V. Borgel	Gr. 4/5 Language Arts	Ms. S. Gibb
Gr. 3	Mrs. K. Brusse-Paterson	Gr. 5 Math/Science/SS	Mrs. T. Pedersen
		Gr. 6	Ms. K. Armitage

Junior High:

Gr. 7/8 Language Arts	Mrs. T. Pedersen
Science/Language Arts/Gr. 7/8 Homeroom	Mr. R. Gratrix
Math/Social Studies/ Gr. 9 Homeroom	Ms. C. Nielsen
Physical Education	Gr. 7 - Mrs. K. Nelson; Gr. 8/9 - Mr. R. Gratrix

Athletic Director: Mr. R. Gratrix

Support Staff

Administrative Assistant Mrs. A. Brodie

Educational Assistants Mrs. G. Armitage, Mrs. C. Hogman, Ms. S. Irving, Mrs. K. Walline

Librarian Mrs. B. Cox **Custodian** Mrs. Faye McLeod

Student Wellness Facilitator TBD

Mental Health Capacity Building Worker Kim Kienitz

School Enrollment

ECS	12	Grade 5	11
Grade 1	7	Grade 6	16
Grade 2	15	Grade 7	14
Grade 3	18	Grade 8	15
Grade 4	14	Grade 9	<u>11</u>
		TOTAL	133

Teaching and Learning

Welcoming and Caring

At Killam Public School we strive to provide an environment where students, staff, parents, and community members feel welcome and cared for. Our PAWSitive Behaviour Matrix outlines ways we work to ensure a positive school experience for every child.

We focus on building relationships with our students and school community both in and out of the classroom, as well as accessing specific programs through our Mental Health Capacity Building programs and our Student Wellness Facilitator (SWF). Connections and relationships help to ensure that each student has at least one adult within our school family they know and can turn to for assistance. Our students understand the importance of treating themselves and others with respect and dignity. We value every member of our school community.

21st Century Learning Practices

21st-century learning and teaching allow us to envision and prepare for a future in which the classroom, and maybe even school, walls have come down; teaching is student-centered, flexible, and inclusive of all; and technology is prevalent.

It is our goal to provide opportunities for our students to learn in innovative classrooms designed for the 21st Century Learner.

- We promote collaborative, transformational learning experiences that challenge our students to engage in and develop higher-level thinking skills, motivating students to take ownership of their learning and success.
- We provide outcome-aligned and inquiry-based learning opportunities. All students are engaged in authentic learning tasks which are relevant, practical and align to the Digital Age.
- We role model effective use of technology, both within the classroom and in our day-to-day lives.

At KPS, Kindergarten to Grade 9 students develop essential computer skills and use these skills in a variety of subject areas. The ICT curriculum integrates technology into all subject areas. Students use technology in presentations, document production, and managing data. The school has Chromebooks available for classroom use. We are grateful to our Parent Advisory Society which provides funds for the purchase of new Chromebooks to replace out-of-date devices.

Teaching and Learning

Assessment

Assessment is the process of collecting and interpreting information that can be used to inform teachers, students, and parents about the progress being made toward academic program goals guided by the curriculum. Assessment is ongoing and focuses on both the process and product of learning. It may include things such as conversation, observation, various products, peer evaluations, and/or self-reflections of learning. Regular assessment of work, either formal or informal, allows the teacher to provide students and parents with ongoing feedback about each student's learning.

Evaluation refers to a professional judgment on the overall achievement of the learner outcomes within the course curriculum. It is made based on the various assessment data collected and analyzed over a period of time. The learner outcomes are the key concepts students are expected to know as they move through the curriculum in any course. Students will be evaluated based on those learner outcomes.

Elementary students are evaluated using the descriptors below:

N - Not meeting expectations: The student has not provided enough evidence to evaluate their progress towards achieving the outcome.

D - Developing: Evidence indicates that the student is making progress towards achieving the outcome.

A - Achieving: Evidence indicates that the student has achieved the outcome.

P - Proficient: Evidence indicates that the student has a solid understanding of the outcome.

E - Exemplary (gr. 4 - 6 only): Evidence indicates that the student has demonstrated an in-depth understanding of the outcome.

Junior high evaluation is communicated using percentages. At the beginning of a course, students will be provided with a course outline that clearly defines the evaluation standards for the course and provides a description of the learning outcomes being addressed throughout the course.

PowerSchool Portal

Students and parents can access personal up-to-date academic progress in any course, including assessment information and attendance history on the PowerSchool Portal. The portal can be accessed using the link provided on our school website under [‘Parent Portal’](#) or the PowerSchool app.

This information is password protected and each student will have access using their school username and password. Parents use an individual username and password. If you have not received your username and password or have any questions about the PowerSchool Portal, please contact the school.

Teaching and Learning

Real-Time Reporting

Printed report cards will no longer be sent home as a progress report. Instead, we are embracing digital reporting through the PowerSchool platform. Here's why we believe this change is beneficial for both you and your child:

- ❖ **Real-Time Information:** With PowerSchool, you can access your child's academic progress in real-time. This means you can stay up-to-date on their learning journey whenever you want, rather than waiting for periodic report cards.
- ❖ **Unlimited Access to Assessment Results:** You are no longer limited to seeing your child's progress three times a year. With digital reporting, you can check assessment results at any time, enabling you to have a deeper understanding of their academic performance.
- ❖ **Active Partner in Learning:** This transition empowers you to become an active partner in your child's education, rather than merely an observer. You can now be more involved and engaged in their learning process.
- ❖ **Timely Support:** If your child is facing challenges or has missing assignments, you can address these issues promptly, preventing them from becoming larger problems. Digital reporting allows for timely intervention.
- ❖ **Access to Teacher Feedback:** You'll have easy access to teacher feedback on assignments, which can help you better support your child's learning by understanding their strengths and areas for improvement.
- ❖ **Engagement in the Learning Process:** We view education as a partnership between parents and educators. Digital reporting fosters greater collaboration and engagement in the learning process.
- ❖ **Close Communication with Teachers:** The PowerSchool platform also facilitates closer communication with your child's teachers, allowing for quick and efficient exchanges of information.

We understand that not everyone may have access to technology. If you find yourself in this situation, please contact the school. We will work with you to establish alternative arrangements to ensure you can still receive timely updates on your child's progress if you wish. If you have not signed up for the PowerSchool 'portal' to access your child's information please contact the school and we will support you through the process.

Teaching and Learning

Parent-Teacher Conferences

At KPS we welcome any opportunity to work collaboratively with parents to provide the best possible learning opportunities for our students. Parent-teacher conferences are a fantastic way to promote collaboration, communication, and teamwork between home and school.

KPS hosts opportunities for these connections twice throughout the year - once in the fall and again in the spring. **Please refer to our [school calendar](#) for specific dates.**

Teachers are willing to meet with parents any time during the year to discuss parent concerns and/or student progress. Please connect with your student's teacher to schedule an appointment.

Appeal Procedure

Any student has the right to appeal a teacher-assigned mark for a course. If a final mark is in question, the following action should be taken:

- Discuss the concerns regarding the final mark assigned with the classroom teacher who provided the evaluation.
- If you are still dissatisfied, appeal, *in writing*, to the school principal. This appeal should be made within one week of receiving the final mark and must include your reasons for the appeal. A reply will be made in early February for semester one appeals and at the beginning of September for semester two appeals. The Principal's ruling may be further appealed to the School Board if desired.

Inclusive Education

To support all students, Inclusive Education provides opportunities for students to reach their potential within the best learning environment at that time. It focuses on building student strengths in a safe, respectful, and supportive environment with school and home communities. In some cases, students may receive specialized one-on-one instruction; in others, in-class accommodations and modifications may be better suited to meet the student's needs.

At KPS, our Inclusive Education Community includes:

- All school staff (classroom teachers, educational assistants, administration and support staff)
- Parents/Guardians
- Division-Based supports (Learning Consultants, Behaviour Consultants, Occupational Therapists and Speech-Language Pathologists)
- Student Wellness Facilitator (for students ECS to grade 9 and their parents; the program offers support services and acts as a resource to families whose child may be experiencing difficulties at home or at school)
- Other outside agencies

Teaching and Learning

School Days

Classes begin at 8:50 each morning and students are dismissed for the day at 3:35. A full [bell schedule](#) can be found on [our website](#). The KPS and BRSD Calendars are also available on the school website.

Arrival

- ❖ Students are asked not to arrive before 8:25 a.m.

Bus Students

- ❖ In the case of inclement weather, the bus driver (or selected representatives) will contact parents of the children on their route if their bus will not run.
- ❖ The 'Bus Status' information can be found partway down the main page of the [Killam Public School Website](#). It is updated early every morning.

Student supervision does not begin until 8:25 a.m. daily.

Killam Public School Bell Schedule 2025-2026

Bell Schedule	
8:40	Doors Open
8:45-8:50	Announcements
8:50 - 9:30	Period 1
9:30-10:10	Period 2
10:10-10:25	<i>Recess</i>
10:27-11:07	Period 3
11:07 -11:47	Period 4
11:47-12:12	<i>Recess</i>
12:12-12:32	<i>Lunch</i>
12:32-1:11	Period 5
1:11-1:50	Period 6
1:50-2:05	<i>Recess</i>
2:07-2:46	Period 7
2:46-3:25	Period 8
3:25 - 3:35	Kougar Time
3:35	Dismissal

Teaching and Learning

School Programs

Killam Public School meets the time guidelines set by Alberta Education and offers a core program to students in Kindergarten to Grade 9. Provision is made for complementary subjects at elementary and junior high levels.

FINE ARTS: Fine Arts programs are offered in grades 1-9 to support development of creative talents. Student work is featured throughout the school and community. Periodically, we host touring cultural groups throughout the year.

Music is offered in grades K – 6. This program is essential to supporting our annual Winter Concert and performing at school and community events.

FSL: French as a Second Language is offered to students in grades 4 to 6.

COMPLEMENTARY CLASSES: A variety of programs are offered to grade 7-9 students. These programs are offered on a quarter basis allowing students to take 4-8 different courses throughout the year. A variety of high interest courses are available for students to select and are reviewed each year.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION & WELLNESS: All students receive regular physical education and wellness instruction. The program is enhanced by taking advantage of the facilities available within the community. Our Parent Advisory Society and the Town of Killam partner with us to provide students with opportunities to participate in healthy activities that utilize the community and area facilities.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION AND FIELD TRIPS: Field trips may take place at any time during the school year. They provide opportunities for students to learn outside the regular classroom. Field trips are designed to enhance student understanding of the learning outcomes.

Junior high classes may have the opportunity to participate in overnight camping trips and/or outdoor education experiences. Grade 7 and 8 attend Ranch Camp every other year. The final grade 9 field trip provides a final opportunity for connection and leadership as students transition to high school. Additional fees may apply based on the fee guide.

We are grateful to our Parent Advisory Society which provides all grades with funds to assist with their participation in educational field trips during the school year. If you are unable to pay the fee, please contact the school.

Teaching and Learning

Learning Commons



The Learning Commons is a creative space for discovery, study, leisure reading, research and other curriculum-related projects. The Learning Commons has a large collection of items that include reference books, works of general fiction and non-fiction, magazines and DVDs. All materials must be signed out and most may be borrowed for a two-week period. Reference books are to remain in the Learning Commons at all times, although special arrangements may be made with the Learning Commons facilitator for an overnight loan. It is expected that all Learning Commons materials will be returned in a timely fashion so that these items are available for other students' use. Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that is not disruptive to others using the facility. The school shares the Learning Commons space with the town of Killam Public Library, but it is available exclusively to KPS students on Tuesdays & Thursdays.

Communication

Junior High Awards

The Killam Public School community is extremely proud of the accomplishments of our students. Although our celebrations of learning are not limited to a one-time event, we publicly recognize their success annually. At our KPS Junior High Awards Evening held at the end of June, junior high students are recognized not only for their academic excellence, but also their accomplishments in athletics, effort and citizenship.

The achievements of our junior high students are celebrated in conjunction with our Grade 9 Farewell. Students are recognized for their outstanding achievements during the school year including Standard of Excellence Awards, Honours and Athletics. Grade 9 students are recognized for their achievements in Humanities and/or STEM. Additional awards are given for Outstanding Effort, Citizenship and Athletics.

CRITERIA FOR JUNIOR HIGH AWARDS

ACADEMIC AWARDS

Athletics Certificates Grades 7, 8 & 9

- ✓ Presented to students for their participation in extracurricular sports.

Standard of Excellence Certificates Grades 7, 8 & 9

- ✓ A final mark of 80% or greater in any subject will be noted on a *Standard of Excellence* certificate to be presented at the awards ceremony.

Honour Pins (BRSD) Grades 7 & 8

- ✓ Students who achieve a final grade of 80% or greater in all four core classes, Language Arts, Social, Math and Science, will receive a BRSD Honor pin in recognition of their academic achievement.

Grade 9 Humanities and STEM Medallions

- ✓ Students who achieve a final grade of 80% or greater in Humanities (both Language Arts & Social Studies) and/or STEM (both Math & Science) will receive a medal in recognition of their academic achievement.

Grade 9 Honour Pins (Battle River) and Medallions

- ✓ Students who achieve a final grade of 80% or greater in all four core classes, Language Arts, Social, Math and Science, will receive a BRSD Honor pin and medal in recognition of their academic achievement.

Communication

***The following awards are decided on by Administration and Junior High staff ***

OUTSTANDING EFFORT AWARDS

A student must meet the following criteria to be eligible for this award:

- ✓ display a positive attitude towards learning
- ✓ display a consistent effort in all classes
- ✓ work to the best of their ability
- ✓ participate in school activities
- ✓ be capable of independent work
- ✓ display a willingness to take advice from staff and peers

OUTSTANDING CITIZENSHIP AWARDS

A student must display the following criteria for this award.

- ✓ participation and effort in school events
- ✓ service in student leadership
- ✓ contribution for school rather than personal glory
- ✓ positive contribution to school spirit
- ✓ cooperation with staff and students
- ✓ displays appropriate citizenship manners

OUTSTANDING ATHLETICS AWARDS

In order to be a candidate for these awards a student must possess more than just athletic ability. A student must display the following criteria to win the award:

- ✓ demonstrate excellent and consistent effort in PE and school athletics
- ✓ demonstrate excellent sportsmanship in PE and school athletics
- ✓ must be able to motivate themselves
- ✓ have the desire to improve their skills
- ✓ show discipline at school as well as on the court/field
- ✓ demonstrate a positive attitude towards the school, teammates, coaching staff, as well as athletics in general
- ✓ participate in several school sports both individual and team
- ✓ these awards will be awarded only if suitable candidates exist for that year

Communication

Contact information

Killam School Office
5007 - 49 Avenue; Box 130
Killam, AB T0B 2L0
Telephone: 780-385-3690

Parent/School Communication

The staff at Killam Public School appreciates the importance of communication between the school and the home.

For students in grades K to 5 the major means of communication is the daily agenda, the cost of which is included in your school fees. Teachers and/or students record daily and long-term assignments, assessments, and important notes for parents. Agendas are to be reviewed and initialed daily. Parents are encouraged to write or attach any notes to teachers in the daily agenda.

Students in Grades 6 - 9 are encouraged to keep their own agenda/Google Calendar. Assignments and due dates may be communicated through Google Classroom and/or emails from students or the teacher. Some teachers may utilize communication programs such as Remind for individual classes.

KEEPING YOUR PERSONAL INFO UPDATED

It is important that the school have current contact information for parents and guardians of ALL students. This includes accurate email addresses and phone numbers for parents/guardians during the school day and evenings. Please inform the school if there are any address or phone number changes during the school year.

PHONE and EMAIL

There are several ways parents may use to reach staff at the school. All teachers have an email address and invite you to correspond with them via email. Email addresses are communicated to parents at the beginning of the school year through course outlines and classroom communications. Messages may be left at the office for teachers to return parent calls. ***Please do not use email to communicate "last-minute" directions, instead, call the office at (780) 385-3690.***

CONTACTING STUDENTS

In order to contact your child at school, please call the office and request that a message be relayed to the student. Except in emergency situations, students will be called to the office to receive the messages at recess, lunch break, or the end of the day.

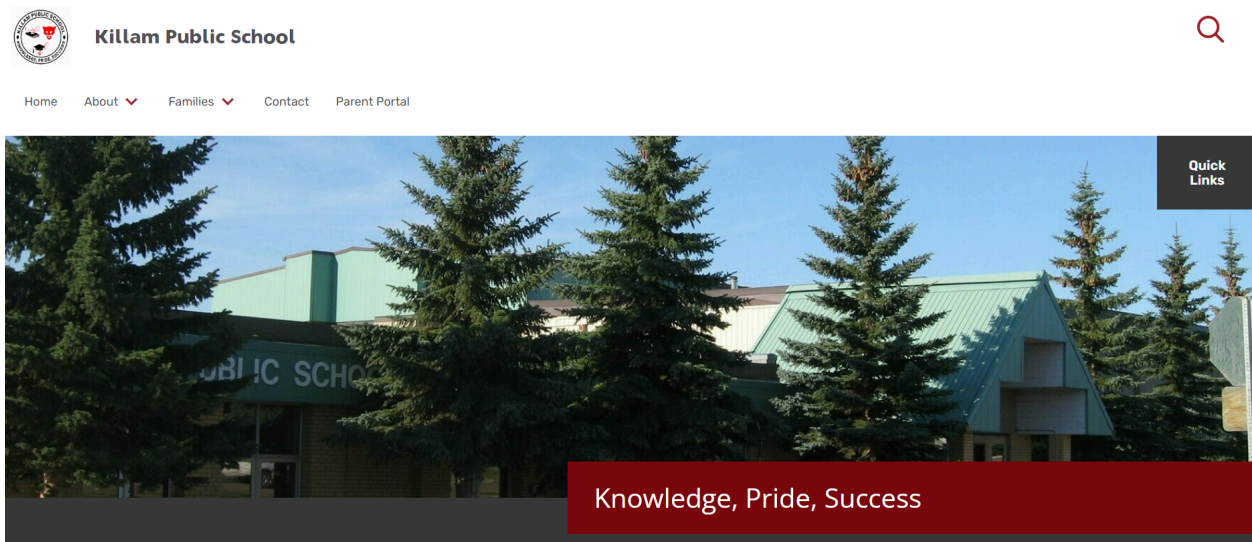
KPS NEWSLETTER

Communication

Important information about what's happening in Killam Public School is published in our newsletter. The newsletter is distributed directly to parents via school messenger every month and can also be found on our website <https://killam.brsd.ab.ca/>. Please ensure your contact information is up-to-date so you don't miss out on valuable communication about school happenings. Parents without access to digital communication are asked to contact the office to make arrangements to receive a paper copy.

SCHOOL WEBSITE

The [Killam Public School](https://killam.brsd.ab.ca/) website is a fantastic resource for all aspects of our school's life. The site also contains current information on bus route cancellations, upcoming events and hosts the access link to the PowerSchool Student Information System.



GOOGLE CLASSROOM

Many teachers use and maintain Google Classrooms for their students. Parents may also join these classrooms to access information, assignments, and assignment completion. If you have any questions, please contact your child's teacher.

POWERSCHOOL PORTAL

Students and parents can access personal up-to-date academic progress in any course, including assessment information and attendance history on the PowerSchool Portal. The portal can be accessed using the link provided on our school website under '[Parent Portal](#)' or the PowerSchool app.

PowerSchool information is password protected and each student will have access using their school username and password. Parents use an individual username and password. If you have not received your username and password or have any questions about the PowerSchool Portal, please contact the school.

Communication

BATTLE RIVER SCHOOL DIVISION WEBSITE

Our school is part of the Battle River School Division (BRSD). The website is <http://www.brsd.ab.ca> and contains up-to-date information including district policies and procedures, and division calendars for the current and upcoming years.

SCHOOL MESSENGER

Our school utilizes the School Messenger system to deliver messages to your mobile phone and/or email with important information about events, school closings, safety alerts, and more. Parents and students can receive text messages or can use the School Messenger app. With the SchoolMessenger app, parents have 24/7/365 access to important school notifications such as bus cancellations, emergency alerts, etc. To sign up, text the word “YES” to 978338 or contact the office at (780) 385-3690.

WHO TO CONTACT

At times, it can be unclear for parents who they should contact with a question or concern. Parents are encouraged to communicate with their child’s teacher early, as this is the primary contact for school dealings. If you require further clarification, please feel free to contact the office or School Administration. If a concern or issue is of great significance, or the likelihood of a misunderstanding is great, a conversation over the telephone or face-to-face with the person is always best. Please feel free to book an appointment with either the teacher or administrator. Teachers and Administration are always willing to address questions, concerns, or issues and appreciate open communication. We recognize ongoing dialogue between the school and home is always in the best interest of the students.

Getting Involved as a Volunteer

School Council and Parent Advisory Society

KPS has a School Council which meets every second month to provide input on a variety of school issues, to assist with parent-school intercommunication, and to undertake a variety of projects. Many activities within the school year would not be possible without the volunteer time and talents of our School Council and the parents they represent. Meeting dates and times are published in the school newsletter. All parents are encouraged to participate and get involved in actively supporting the school and its programs.

As their main fundraiser, the School Council works to support a hot lunch program, run by parent volunteers. To become involved, please contact the School Council.

Parent Volunteers

Parent involvement in their child's education is strongly encouraged. Parent volunteers may assist with a wide variety of tasks under the direction of the classroom teacher. The teachers are always the ones responsible for the instructional program, and the use of volunteers is left to their discretion. If you are interested in volunteering, please speak directly to your child's teacher.

Volunteer coaches are essential to the success of our athletics program. We appreciate the time and effort these volunteers dedicate to the success of our athletics programming. If you are interested in coaching, please contact the office.

To ensure the safety of all our students, volunteers need to apply to become an 'Agent of the Board'. BRSD requires a criminal record check (with a vulnerable sector check) completed within the last 5 years, additional paperwork, and a meeting with an administrator. The school will provide a letter of support for getting a criminal record check. It is important that the application be made in a timely manner to ensure approval by the superintendent prior to the volunteer date. Please contact the office for more information about this requirement.

Volunteer Drivers

Due to limited bus driver access, we rely heavily on parents to support transporting their children to and from sporting events. In many cases, parents are unable to drive their children and other arrangements need to be made. School-based sporting events require that parents driving children other than their own have approval through our transportation department. If you are willing and able to transport children other than your own the following process applies:

- Completion of Form 559-1 and approval of administration
- Completion of waiver authorizing division to obtain a current Driver Abstract
- Provide a photocopy of a valid Operator's Licence
- Provide proof of liability coverage (minimum \$2,000,000 liability)

Please contact the office if you have any questions or require a copy of the forms. Thank you for your support!

Extra-Curricular Activities

Athletics - Killam Kougars



At KPS we offer a wide range of extracurricular athletic activities students may have the opportunity to participate in. We are proud of our Killam Kougars! Our 25-26 athletics division includes the following schools: Tofield, Ryley, Viking, Round Hill, Daysland, Forestburg and Sedgewick.

CROSS-COUNTRY RUNNING

Grade 4-9 students are invited to participate in cross-country. Students attend races throughout the Battle River School Division.

VOLLEYBALL and BASKETBALL

Grade 5/6 students may have the opportunity to participate in Mini-Slammers (volleyball) and Mini-Dunkers (basketball). Students learn the basics of the sport through practice and game play on mixed teams. Most practices take place during lunch recess and games are after school. Teams will be formed based on interest.

Grade 7-9 students have the opportunity to participate on the Junior High team. All students, regardless of grade level or ability, are encouraged to try out. Students from grade 6 may be invited to try out if there are spots available. Games and practices are after school.

BADMINTON

Grade 7-9 students are encouraged to try out for the badminton team. Students from grade 6 may be invited to try out if there are spots available. After tryouts, team places are filled to maximize the success of all our participants. Practices occur after school and students participate in Area, County and Division tournaments based on their level of success.

TRACK and FIELD

Elementary students participate in a track meet that is run by our Junior High students. Students receive ribbons recognizing their achievements.

We encourage all Junior High students to attend the Division Track Meet. This is part of their regular Physical Education programming. Students who achieve well in the regional track meet, move on to compete in the Regional Track Meet. Both track meets will be held in Camrose.

Extra-Curricular Activities

COACHING

Volunteer coaches are essential to the success of our athletics program. Whether staff or community members, we appreciate the time and effort these volunteers dedicate to the success of our athletics programming. If you are interested in coaching, please contact the office.

Intramurals

In 2024-25, a junior high intramural program was initiated. Junior high students compete in a variety of physical activities during lunch recess twice a week. This supervised competition runs in a tournament format with all students being encouraged to participate. Each new activity allows for students to become involved and be placed on a team.

Student Leadership

At KPS, we are proud to support student voice and leadership through SAVY (Students' Advisory Voice for Youth) program in Battle River School Division. SAVY gives students the opportunity to develop leadership skills, build confidence, and contribute to their school community in meaningful ways.

The KPS Student Leadership group includes students from grade 6 - 9 and meets weekly during lunch recess. With support, students plan activities and organize events to support school spirit. It provides an opportunity for input into decisions that affect their learning. These opportunities help students grow as responsible, engaged citizens who are prepared to make a positive impact both in school and in the wider community.

Transportation for Extra-Curricular Activities

Due to limited bus driver access, we rely heavily on parents to support transporting their children to and from extra-curricular events. In many cases, parents are unable to drive their children and other arrangements need to be made. School-based extra-curricular events require that parents driving children other than their own have approval through our transportation department. If you are willing and able to transport children other than your own the following process applies:

- Completion of Form 559-1 and approval of administration
- Completion of waiver authorizing division to obtain a current Driver Abstract
- Provide a photocopy of a valid Operator's Licence
- Provide proof of liability coverage (minimum \$2,000,000 liability)

Please contact the office if you have any questions or for a copy of the forms. Thank you for your support!

School Policies and Practices

Code of Conduct: Killam Public School's Behaviour Matrix



KPS PAWSitive Behaviour



	Classroom	Hallway	Gym	Playground
Respectful How you act shows you are considerate of yourself and others.	Use inside voices Listen to others Be honest Treat others how I want to be treated Be kind and helpful Perceive myself as capable of learning	Talk quietly Respect other people's things Clean up after myself Respect other students' work by looking and not touching.	Be understanding of everyone's abilities Take care of gym equipment Enter only with permission from an adult	Use appropriate language Follow agreed upon rules for play Look after the environment and equipment Include others
Responsible How you act without guidance or supervision shows you can be trusted or depended upon.	Be on time & prepared Complete work & stay on task Follow the expectations Be diligent – do my best Take responsibility for my own learning Persevere through challenges towards a solution Be resilient – see failure as a part of growth	Take off dirty/wet footwear Keep lockers neat and organized Use appropriate language Move effectively through the halls Enter/exit the school efficiently when the bell rings	Regulate emotions Take care of sports equipment Follow expectations for gym and changeroom Wear appropriate clean indoor footwear Give your best effort regardless of the activity	Follow playground expectations Play safely Put garbage in the garbage can If I don't like the situation I'm in, I need to find a positive solution
Collaborative How you work with your others shows you value their input and share responsibility.	Work to strengthen the group by sharing ideas Listen to ideas and take turns speaking	Help others who are having difficulties	Be a positive team player Include everyone	Share space and take turns on equipment Include all peers Listen to others ideas

At KPS, students are expected to practice the behaviours in our matrix. This helps them grow as respectful, caring leaders while gaining real-world, problem -solving and learning experiences, both in and out of school.

School Policies and Practices

Attendance

Regular attendance is essential for student learning and success. In the classroom, students engage in intentionally planned activities, meaningful discussions, and real-world problem-solving to help connect new ideas to what they already know. Teachers provide ongoing feedback to guide student progress. When students are absent, they miss these important experiences, which can make it harder to understand future concepts. If a student is away for an extended time, teachers will provide as much of the missed work as possible. However, parents should understand that classroom instruction and interaction cannot be replaced.

Please call the school office at (780) 385-3690 or email our general office account at (killam-aa@brsd.ab.ca) to let us know if your child is going to be late or absent from school, ideally prior to the start of class. If not reported before the start of school, you will receive a SchoolMessenger attendance call-out.

Planned absences during the school day

When a student is planning on leaving the building during the school day, they must sign out at the office in addition to letting their teacher know. (See procedures below). **Students who are absent from a class are expected to work with their teachers to ensure that all missed assignments, quizzes, tests, etc. are completed within a reasonable, agreed upon time frame.** In the case of an extended absence due to a family activity, we ask parents to contact the school well in advance of the absence to coordinate a plan for the classes and activities that will be missed.

If attendance is becoming a concern as we track attendance throughout the school year, further measures will be taken to offer assistance and support to ensure that your child is being provided with the best opportunities for success at school. Administration, with the help of Division Leadership, will work with families to offer additional support as needed.

Procedures

1. School Messenger will report all student lates and absences to parents/guardians.
2. Parents/Guardians will be contacted by the homeroom teacher regarding chronic student lates and absences throughout the year.
3. If the attendance does not improve, an email or letter of concern will be sent by the teacher to parents/guardians of students who exhibit poor attendance.
4. Excessive absenteeism will be referred to school administration. Parents/Guardians will be contacted to reiterate the importance of attendance and requesting a meeting with the parent/guardians to develop an action plan to improve attendance.
5. A letter from KPS administration will be sent to parents/guardians of the student who exhibits poor attendance.
6. If none of the preceding strategies work to improve the student's attendance, the school will be required to report the attendance issue to the Assistant Superintendent - Learning to determine next steps.

School Policies and Practices

Sign In/Out Procedures

In keeping with our commitment to ***Welcoming and Caring Schools***, Killam Public School operates as a closed campus to ensure student safety. Once students arrive, they must remain on school grounds for the entire school day, including lunch. If a student needs to leave, they must have parent permission, ***sign out*** at the office, and ***sign in*** when they return.

For safety and emergency purposes, the school must always know who is in the building. Between 8:50 a.m. and 3:35 p.m., all visitors (including parents) must check in at the office, sign in, and wear a visitor's pass. Passes must be returned when leaving. Parents picking up children during the school day should wait in the office or entryway. Students arriving late, returning from appointments, or leaving early must also sign in or out at the office.

Academic Integrity

Academic honesty is a core value in our school. It is unacceptable for a student to commit plagiarism and/or cheating on any student work submitted for assessment. This includes the use of uncited AI tools to create content. Academic dishonesty deprives everyone of quality evidence of student achievement and will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

Appropriate Dress

Although students are not required to wear a specific school uniform, they are required to adhere to certain basic guidelines according to dress. School is a place of work, for staff and students. Students must adhere to reasonable standards in dressing for a focused learning environment. Clothes that students wear to school should be appropriate for the school setting.

This standard also applies to when students are representing Killam Public School on field trips and at athletic events. These guidelines will be enforced in accordance with the Behaviour Matrix for PAWSitive Behaviour.

Clothing that is identified as outside these parameters will be given an opportunity to change or be provided with appropriate alternative clothing.

School Policies and Practices

Lunchtime Activities

Lunchtime is an opportunity for students and teachers to eat lunch, have meetings, enjoy time with friends at recess or participate in planned activities. Students eat in their classrooms, and we ask everyone to help keep spaces clean by disposing of garbage properly.

Grade 8 and 9 students may have the **PRIVILEGE** of leaving school grounds during lunch recess with a signed parent permission form. Consent forms will be available on Rycor once routines and expectations are established, and parents will be notified through School Messenger. Students with permission must **sign out** at the office before leaving and must **sign in** when they return. They are expected to represent Killam Public School positively while off campus and return on time ready for afternoon classes. Failure to meet these expectations may result in the privilege being taken away.

Kindergarten to grade 7 students are **not allowed** to leave the school grounds during lunchtime except those who live in town **and** have parent permission.

School Health and Safety Procedures

NUT-AWARE ENVIRONMENT

An anaphylactic reaction is an allergic reaction so severe that it is life threatening. While we cannot guarantee an allergen-free school environment, we recognize the dangers faced by students and staff with severe or anaphylactic reactions (allergies) to foods, and make every attempt possible to provide a safe environment for all. Information will be provided to parents if there is a severe allergy in the classroom.

ENERGY DRINKS

For the health and well-being of our students, energy drinks are not permitted at school. These drinks often contain high levels of caffeine and sugar, which can lead to difficulties with focus, learning, and behavior. They may also have negative effects on student health, such as headaches, increased heart rate, and trouble sleeping. To support a safe and focused learning environment, we ask that students choose healthier beverage options to bring to school.

STUDENT MEDICATION and MEDICAL NEEDS

Parents are responsible for notifying the school of their child's health needs and are asked to provide timely and accurate information about health concerns that could affect their child or students and staff at the school. Students may have medications administered while attending the school if the appropriate forms are completed by the child's physician. Please contact the school office for the forms.

School Policies and Practices

DOOR OPENING TIMES

Supervision is available on the playground at 8:25 am for students who arrive early to the school. The first bell rings at 8:40. Please do not send your child to school earlier than 8:25. On inclement weather days, students will wait in the entryway until the 8:40 bell.

EMERGENCY EVACUATION

In the case of an emergency evacuation, parents will be notified via phone. Please, **DO NOT** phone the school or evacuation sites. Lines need to be kept clear for Emergency Services communications and for contacting parents. It is imperative that we have accurate contact information on file. Please ensure that all contact information is provided to the office and is current. If you have had recent changes, please update those at the office.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

Parents have the first decision in regards to sending their child to school on days when weather conditions are a factor. On occasion, it may be unwise to operate school bus routes due to the risks involved in transporting students as a result of weather/road conditions however, schools remain open.

- Temperature: Bus routes will be cancelled when the air temperature, or air temperature combined with wind chill, reaches -40 degrees celsius
- Fog: When considering cancelling due to fog, the driver will make an effort to determine severity of fog in different areas along the route. If conditions are not foggy for the afternoon route, drivers will most likely make the afternoon run to deliver students home.
- Other Weather Issues: When a morning bus route has been cancelled due to issues such as a winter storm or poor road conditions, drivers will not run their afternoon route. Parents who have chosen to drive their students to school are expected to pick them up at dismissal.

All bus information can be found on the [school website](#).

Emergency Preparedness

At times it may be necessary to take precautions and put extra measures in place to make sure students are safe. Sometimes this may mean evacuating or keeping the students secure within the building. Here are four of the most common procedures:

Fire Drill: Fire drills are scheduled several times a year. Students are taught regular fire exits and alternate fire exits. Students should move in a quiet, orderly manner to their designated meeting place outside the school and quietly await further instructions. An administrator will confirm with each teacher that all students are accounted for. Then an all-clear signal will be

School Policies and Practices

given to return to the school. Students should return to their class in a quiet, orderly manner in the event that other instructions need to be given.

Hold and Secure: The intent of this emergency procedure is to protect your children from an event that may be happening in the neighbourhood or in the school. Classes within the school go on as normal; we are just extra vigilant. We make sure that all the doors are locked, and everyone stays inside. An example would be a police investigation or a fire in the neighbourhood.

Shelter-in-Place: This emergency procedure is also used for an event occurring outside or inside the school. For example, there may be a wild animal on school property, and we would keep the students inside until the hazard was dealt with. There may be a medical emergency in the school, and we need to keep the hallways clear so we can deal with it.

Lockdown: This takes place when there is an immediate threat to the students in the school. All exterior doors are locked, all the students are asked to go back to their classrooms, and the classroom doors are locked. The goal is to prevent someone from entering classrooms. Students stay in their classrooms away from doors and windows and are quiet. Staff and students review and practice these procedures throughout the year, sometimes with the assistance of the RCMP and Fire Department.

Killam Public School Technology Procedure

To enhance the education of its students, Killam Public School provides students access to its RiverNET wireless network and the option of utilizing personally-owned devices. The network is limited in its bandwidth and is to be used **for educational purposes only**. The purpose of these guidelines is to ensure that students and parents recognize the restrictions that the school imposes on the use of personally-owned devices when they are used at school in conjunction with the wireless network.

These guidelines and policies apply to the use of all laptop/chromebook computers and all other mobile internet devices.

DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP GUIDELINES

During classroom instruction students are being taught about proper rules regarding the use of technology and becoming positive digital citizens. The following websites outline some of the key responsibilities for students using technology. This includes instruction on how students are to deal with cyberbullies.

<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/>

School Policies and Practices

GENERAL USAGE GUIDELINES

1. The School will not be held responsible in any capacity for physical damage, loss or theft of any personally-owned device.
2. Student use of personally-owned devices in the classroom will be at the discretion of the classroom teachers. Classroom teachers may prohibit, restrict or regulate use of personally-owned devices.
3. Cellular network or personal data plan usage on personal devices cannot be monitored by the school. Therefore such usage is prohibited unless otherwise directed by a school authority.
4. Student use of a personally-owned device must support the instructional activities currently occurring in the school environment.
5. Students should be aware that the use of mobile devices could cause distraction for others, especially in regards to audio. Therefore, audio must be muted unless otherwise directed by a school authority.
6. Student devices with camera and video capability must not be used to violate the privacy of students and staff. These capabilities are not to be used during school except upon direction from a school authority.
7. By bringing personally owned devices to school, students and their families accept that school authorities may inspect the device and its contents to ensure compliance with school and District codes of conduct, policies and guidelines, including the Student Acceptable Use Agreement.
8. Students use the RiverNet wireless network at their own risk. The School District will not be held responsible for any damage that may occur as a result of connecting to the wireless network or any electrical power source.
9. Students who share their computer or device understand that the student whose name is on the network account will be responsible at all times for its appropriate use. Students need to keep their passwords protected.
10. Use of network devices for bullying behaviours and/or use or possession of hacking software is strictly prohibited and will be dealt with by BRSD and the RCMP when necessary.

School Policies and Practices

Monitoring and Search

1. Students should expect only limited privacy in the contents of their personal files on the BRSD network system. The situation is similar to the rights they have in the privacy of their locker.
2. Routine maintenance and monitoring of the BRSD network may lead to discovery that the student has violated school/regional policy.
3. Students should expect routine monitoring of computer usage and Internet browsing while logged on to the BRSD network.
4. An individual search of the BRSD network usage will be conducted if there is reasonable suspicion that the student has violated this Policy or the law.
5. Parents have the right at any time to request to see the contents of their child's files.

Due Process

1. In the event there is a claim that a student has violated the User Agreement in the use of the network system, the student will be provided with a written notice of the suspected violation and an opportunity to present an explanation before an administrator.
2. If a student is found to have violated the Acceptable Use Agreement, the consequences will be, but not limited to, restrictions being placed on their network account.

Failure to comply with Killam Public Schools Technology Policy may result in disciplinary action. The disciplinary action will be at the discretion of the Principal.

Personal Communication Devices

Killam Public School will align with [Alberta Education's ministerial order](#) and BRSD's [Administrative Procedure 135](#).

Killam Public School believes in the interest of health, wellness and safety of our students and to maintain a focused and engaging learning environment, we are requiring:

K- gr. 6 No cell phones bell to bell*. This includes the use of Smart Watches

Gr. 7 - gr. 9 No cell phones bell to bell*. This includes the use of Smart Watches

Phones and watches must be in silent mode in their locked locker or 'cell hotel' during class times and not on their person. Students may access their phones for medical or health reasons (as confirmed by a physician) or for educational support as approved by school administration.

*subject to Limited Use Exceptions as outlined in [AP 135](#)

School Policies and Practices

Missing Evidence (Zero) Policy Guidelines

Students at Killam Public School are to be responsible for completing all assessments. Our goal is to support students in taking responsibility for their evidence of learning as they develop into lifelong learners. The following guidelines provide teachers, students, and parents with information about student assessment specific to Killam School and in accordance with BRSD Administrative Procedure 360 <https://www.brsd.ab.ca/download/206598>.

To support students in completing and submitting all assessments, the following practices are embedded in our school culture.

- On a daily basis, homework is recorded on their board and reviewed at the end of class.
- Due dates for summative assessments are accessible on the teacher's Google Classroom or the classroom whiteboard.
- Learner outcomes or targets are shared with students for each topic as well as the success criteria which will be used to assess their level of achievement on these outcomes.
- It is made clear to students that should they need help with work or need to make alternate arrangements for an assessment, they are to speak with the teacher prior to the assigned due date.

In the event that a junior high student fails to complete and/or hand in a summative assessment as evidence of their learning, the following process may be implemented at the discretion of the teacher.

- The teacher will make arrangements for the student to complete the assessment or an alternate assessment at a time requested by the teacher.
- The teacher will communicate with the parents the details of the situation and the full consequences of missing assessments.
- The teacher may determine whether a referral to the principal is required.

If the assessment remains incomplete after a reasonable amount of time, agreed upon by the teacher and the student, the teacher will award a grade based on their professional knowledge of the level of the student's work on the curricular objective(s) being assessed.

The aim of this process is to ensure that students have the opportunity to present evidence of their learning in a timely manner.