

At SJDA We Make Great Choices

SIR JAMES DUNN ACADEMY

Student Calendar

Our Mission Statement is:

**To Ensure that all Become Lifelong Learners
in a Safe and Inviting Environment**

We encourage each student to develop academically and socially, challenging them to set and reach meaningful, realistic goals. Sir James Dunn Academy has a proud tradition of preparing students well for their post-secondary careers.

Academic Success

Middle School Years

In Grades 6, 7 & 8, students will build the foundations for future academic success. The Middle School Team will implement programs to help each student develop confidence, form healthy relationships, and succeed academically. A variety of same grade and combined grade groupings will provide a diverse learning experience for each student. There are numerous extra-curricular activities in which students are encouraged to participate.

There are three reporting periods for middle level students equally distributed over the school year.

High School Years

Students in Grades 9 will follow a set curriculum in Math, Science, History, English, Technology, and Physical Education, preparing them for their final high school years. Grades 10, 11 and 12 students will work towards fulfilling the requirements for graduation: (100 credit hours). In Grades 10, 11 and 12 the students will combine compulsory and elective courses. The Guidance Counsellor and Administrators will help students plan their programs to meet the requirements of specific post-secondary institutions or to prepare for the work force.

There are four reporting periods for high school students in November, February, April, and June. Students are evaluated on all aspects of their schoolwork, receiving percentage grades that indicate their level of achievement. The pass mark in all subjects is 60%.

Regular class work is important, so students should attend school each day, be prepared to contribute to the class, and make up work missed due to absence. Homework is often necessary to reinforce what has been done during the class.

Teachers are available to assist students or conference with parents to update them on student progress.

ESS- Educational Support Services Team

The Guidance Counsellor, Teacher Representatives, the Resource Teacher and Administrators meet to address students' needs. The team works within the school and with outside support agencies to better meet the needs of SJDA students.

Peer Tutors/Mentors

Peer Tutors both at SJDA are senior students who assist younger students with academic and social concerns. Questions concerning this program should be addressed through the office.

COMMUNITY AND RESPECT

We encourage a sense of community in which everyone is respected and valued. We acknowledge the unique needs, talents and aspirations of everyone within the community, and celebrate successes. To this end, we clarify the following expectations for acceptable behavior:

Positive Conduct

All members of the community will maintain a high standard of positive conduct and mutual respect.

Students will bring materials to class and complete assigned work to the best of their ability.

Students will respect school property, and the property of others.

Attendance

SJDA encourages regular attendance at school to ensure that each student achieves success.

To participate in extra-curricular programs, students need to maintain an acceptable attendance record and be present at school on the day of any scheduled event.

Our safe arrival program provides daily phone calls to the homes of absent students. Parents should call or send a note to explain absences. Students with unexcused absences may be required to make up lost time from classes.

At the High School Level, students who are absent from more than 15 classes in a course might need to comply with a re-entry program; this would be explained during a case conference.

A student needing to leave school early must have permission to do so from a parent, either through a note or a phone call prior to the student signing out at the office. Middle Level students must be signed out by a parent in the Office.

Students should arrive at school on time for both the morning and afternoon sessions; late students must obtain a late slip at the office. Chronic lateness will be reported to parents and a plan will be put in place to encourage timely arrival.

Student Automobiles

Students may park on school property in designated areas. For safety reasons, the staff discourages students from travelling in other students' vehicles. Parents should provide the office with written permission for their child to travel with others.

Use of Lockers

Each student is assigned a locker, which should always be closed and locked when not in use. A student who loses a lock will be charged a \$10 replacement. Students should report any problems to Mrs. Pearson. For safety reasons the administration can access students' lockers at any time.

Textbooks

Students are issued textbooks for which they are responsible at the beginning of each semester.

Smoking & Vaping

SJDA actively discourages the use of tobacco & vaping, and there are consequences for students who disrespect the smoking & vaping policy. A smoking cessation program can be provided for students who wish to stop smoking.

Drugs and Alcohol

The use or possession of illegal drugs or alcohol while in school or during a school-sponsored activity is strictly prohibited and will result in suspension from school and referral to the RCMP.

Health Services

A student who becomes ill at school should report to the office, so that we can contact parents and make appropriate arrangements. Parents should provide information about chronic health conditions and ensure access to essential medications, such as Ventolin puffers or EPI pens. We do have a Public Health Nurse available on Thursdays. Please sign up in the Office for an appointment.

Lost and Found

Lost and found articles are handled by the school office.

Using the Bus

Students who travel on the school bus must respect the driver and other passengers. Drivers will report misconduct to the office, resulting in consequences for the student involved.

Student Activities

Student Activity Student Fees

The \$50.00 student fee collected in September will be used by the school and student council for funded activities such as dramatic or musical productions, co-curricular programs, and special events; it also entitles each student to the use of a locker and provides student calendars. A portion of the fee will go to the Student's Grad Class to help offset the cost of Graduation. Please pay fees online if possible.