



Senator Joyce Fairbairn Middle School

301 Rocky Mountain Blvd, Lethbridge, AB T1K 6S4 PH: 403-381-2977

Welcome Back Fairbairn Families!

Website: [Home](#) | [Senator Joyce Fairbairn Middle School](#)

Welcome to a new school year! We are excited to see everyone next week.

- September 2nd: First Day for Grade 6 students only
- September 3rd: First Day for Grade 7 & 8 students only
- September 4th: All grades attend!


New Bell Schedule:

Bell Times		
Period	Monday- Thursday	Friday
Warning Bell	8:35	8:35
Period1	8:42 - 9:34 (52)	8:42 - 9:28 (46)
Period2	9:36- 10:28 (52)	9:29—10:15 (46)
Break 1	10:28- 10:34 (6)	
Period 3	10:34—11:26 (52)	10:16—11:02 (46)
Period 4	11:28—12:20 (52)	11:03—11:49 (46)
Break 2 (Lunch)	12:20—12:40 (in) 12:40-1:00 (out)	Dismissal 11:49
Period 5	1:00—1:52 (52)	
Period 6	1:54—2:48 (52)	
Period 7	2:50—3:42 (52)	
Dismissal	3:42	

- Please be advised of our new 2025 bell schedule. While the morning bell and dismissal bell remain relatively unchanged, our biggest change occurs at lunch.
- Students will now have an extended eating period before heading outside. Students will eat for the first 20 minutes of lunch in their classrooms under the supervision of their homeroom teacher. This is from 12:20-12:40pm.
- At 12:35pm, students can pack up and must head outside by 12:40pm for activity time. Teacher supervision will shift outside at this time.
- Rick and Joy's Canteen will open on Monday, September 8 to students.
- ***Parents, please encourage your child to use the indoor eating time wisely and efficiently. Also, please ensure they are dressed for the weather that day.***
- ***Reminder- SJF does not have classroom student microwave access due to laptop charging stations and the risk of power shortages.***


Personal Device Policy:

- As per the 2024 Provincial government mandate, SJF will continue to implement the following protocols:




Personal Mobile Devices

Devices are to be stored in student lockers at all times. This includes watches and ear buds if they choose to bring them. They won't need them for any learning activities ever.




Messages from Parents

Messages can be checked quickly at either of the two designated break times. Students will do so at their lockers efficiently. No social media at any time.



Ministerial Order Enforcement

Students will receive one warning, then devices may be confiscated and securely stored in the office. Parents will be contacted when the device is confiscated.



Medical Exemptions

Medical exemptions can be secured for health related reasons. The school understands that devices may be necessary to monitor certain conditions.

Related Links:

Ministerial Order: <https://www.alberta.ca/cellphone-use-in-schools-engagement>

Frequently Asked Questions: <https://www.lethsd.ab.ca/download/466187>

Lethbridge School Division Procedure: <https://www.lethsd.ab.ca/download/466181>

Options:

- The students' first day of options will be Thursday, September 4th.
- Students have the opportunity to change their option for Term 1 between September 4-9.
- Please see the 2025-26 Option List for more information. [2025-2026 Options | Senator Joyce Fairbairn Middle School](#)
- Students wanting to change their options will need to fill out an option change form, which they will receive from their homeroom teacher.

School Bus Transportation:

- Bus routes for the **2025/2026** school year can now be found on the Southland Transportation Ltd. website here: [BUS ROUTES](#).
Please note, routes have been adjusted to balance out student counts. The stop that you used last year may be now assigned to a different route. Please look through all the routes to determine your route number and stop location.
- *If you have any questions regarding transportation, please contact the Lethbridge School Division Transportation Department at Transportation@lethsd.ab.ca or 403-380-5303.*
- Students that have been registered for transportation through the Parent Portal in PowerSchool will receive their designated bus passes the first week back.
- All Fairbairn busses drop off and pick up students in front of our school on Rocky Mountain Blvd West.

Visitor Parking and Student Drop Off:

- Parents are asked to avoid dropping off children or parking in our bus zones during the times of 8:25-8:40am and 3:30-3:50pm. We have seven busses along with a complex learning bus, and we require all the space in front of our school. We appreciate your cooperation.

Athletics:

- Middle School athletics consists of five major sports: Volleyball, Cross-Country Running, Basketball, Badminton, and Track and Field.
- All students at Senator Joyce Fairbairn have the opportunity to engage in our athletics program. Our vision at SJF is to ensure that our players develop a love for the game, improve their skill, and grow as a person.
- We have three tiers of athletics for our team sports: Rep (top), Development (mid), and G-Club (beginner). Students are placed on teams where they have the best opportunity to experience success, develop as an athlete, and foster joy for the sport.
- The first sports available to our students are volleyball and cross-country running club. Please look for another email this week with more details and dates for these two programs.
- Once the year gets rolling our Athletics calendar will be available on our website.