

A silhouette of a person standing on a rock with arms raised against a bright, cloudy sky. The person is positioned in the center-right of the frame, with their arms spread wide. The background is a vibrant blue sky with large, white, fluffy clouds. The overall mood is one of triumph and achievement.

*Welcome to WCHS!*

*New Grade 9 Student  
Orientation Handbook 2020*

# **new Student** **ORIENTATION**

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## ***PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE***

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Welcome to Wetaskiwin Composite High School! It will be a completely new experience for you...a new school, new friends and new opportunities. It is truly a new beginning. We are excited to offer our Grade 9 students a top tier educational program. We will provide our students a structured Grade 9 curriculum focused on preparing our students for High School as well as providing them with the options courses of a Composite High School. The experience we offer our Grade 9's is both unique and exciting.

As you begin your new school experience, be sure to explore the many opportunities we offer in and outside of class. From archery, golf, cross-country, volleyball, basketball, curling, badminton, track and field, wrestling, drama, choir, jazz band, student council, and more, there are so many ways to become involved in your school. These experiences allow you to meet new people, make new friends, and enjoy your time at school.

Of course, you will want to start your new school experience in a great way, so be prepared to know the expectations that the school places on its' students. Be ready to learn each day, be open to work with the staff, be respectful, and be accountable for your success. Adhere to this guidance and I can guarantee that you will be successful at WCHS! The staff at WCHS is open, energetic and passionate. We believe that each student that enters our school can and will be successful. We are here to support and guide you on your journey to graduation. For you, that journey begins this fall. Good luck and we look forward to meeting you!

Kris Denney  
Principal

# Wetaskiwin Composite High School



*Home of the Sabres*

Website: [www.wetskiwincomp.ca](http://www.wetskiwincomp.ca)

Facebook: WCsabres

Twitter: @wchscool

## **THE REGISTRATION PROCESS**



1. All grade 8's within WRPS will meet our Grade 9 Learning Team this spring several times through our Orientation process.
2. The Grade 9 Learning Team will visit your Grade 8 classrooms to provide students an opportunity to select option courses.
3. A timetable will be created in PowerSchool and given to students in the fall.
4. Just **prior** to the first day of school in the fall, new grade 9s will be invited to the WCHS for an orientation activities.

# School F E E S

## School Fees

Textbook rental and associated fees are due at the start of September. Depending on the courses taken, the fees are approximately \$50.00. Fees are somewhat higher in option subjects. Yearbook costs (approx. \$35) are not included in the above mentioned prices.

The fees will be calculated at the time of registration in August and parents will receive an email when their fees are ready to be paid. Online payment information is found on our website ([www.wetaskiwincomp.ca](http://www.wetaskiwincomp.ca)).



# **ATTENDANCE**

Attendance is **so** important to be successful at school.

Regular Daily Attendance = Achievement

Grade 9 skills, work ethic, and achievement will ensure that all doors are open for High School and Post-Secondary School.

WCHS runs on the semester system. In grade 9, some courses may be semestered while others will be offered over the entire year.

- ◆ Semester One:     September to January (Quarter 1 & 2)  
                            Final grades in January
- ◆ Semester Two:     February to June (Quarter 3 & 4)  
                            Final grades in June

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All year courses such as Math will have Final Grades issued in June

- ◆ A student who struggles with attendance creates a situation that frequently leads to students not being successful in a course which means that they would not be able to take certain courses in Grade 10. For example, if students do not pass Science 9, they are not eligible to take Science 10. They must enroll in Science 14.

Note: Attendance is the number one factor of students not completing High School.

What is the Attendance Policy in WCHS?

Details of the Attendance Policy will be explained to students during the first week in September. If students or parents have questions regarding their attendance they should speak to the Office. If parents have questions about the Attendance Policy, they should speak to the Administration.

- ◆ If you are absent your parents/guardians must contact the office.
- ◆ Student Attendance can be viewed in PowerSchool
- ◆ Unexplained absences result in a phone call by the *School Messenger*.

## **STUDENT SERVICES**

The WCHS Student Service Department is set up to support our students along their path towards graduation. Our Student Services Department consists of:

- Guidance Counsellors
  - Help you with social, emotional, and personal matters.
- Learning Support Teachers and Success Coaches
  - Help you with any academic needs.
- Indigenous Support Worker
  - Supports Indigenous students and families

### **PowerSchool**



WCHS has fully integrated PowerSchool into our school. PowerSchool is used to view marks, attendance, and receive final grades. All new students receive log in information in the fall. Student and Parents will need to be able to access and log into PowerSchool on a regular basis.

## WCHS EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

WCHS offers a wide variety of extra-curricular activities for students to choose. If you want to get the most out of your years in high school – in terms of fun and success – then jump right in and get involved with something that interests you! The sooner you get to know people and feel a part of something, the sooner you will feel ‘at home’ in the high school. To learn about the various clubs and activities listen to the announcements.

Here are some of the activities that are offered:

### ATHLETICS - COMPETITIVE TEAMS

Fall: Cross-Country Running  
Football  
Golf  
Volleyball



Winter: Basketball  
Curling  
Wrestling  
Handball  
Archery

Spring: Badminton  
Tennis  
Track & Field  
Rugby



## *INTRAMURAL ACTIVITIES*

All students are encouraged to participate in various activities through the year.

### Possible Student Council Activities

Executive Meetings

Committees on Jackets/Rings

Dress-up Days

Taste of WCHS

Possible Special Events – Ice Cream Eating, Rodeo Days, Assemblies, Liaison with Yearbook/Graduation Celebrations

Awards Night



### Possible Clubs

Yearbook  
School Reach  
School Newspaper



Art Club  
GSA  
Debate Club

NOTE: If you would like to organize a specific club (listed or not) discuss your idea with a staff member, who may agree to supervise.

### Possible Special Events



Career Days

Field Trips

Music Trips

### Student Council

The WCHS Student Council supervises the extracurricular activities of approximately 900 students.

The Council of Wetaskiwin Composite High School Students' Association consists of:

- ◆ President
- ◆ Vice President
- ◆ Secretary
- ◆ Treasurer



School Colors: Burgundy, Gold and White  
School Logo: WCHS Sabre  
School Motto: Veritas Vincit (Truth Conquers)  
School Mascot: Sabre

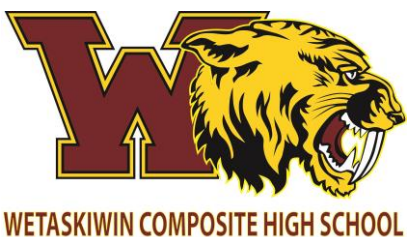
**To get involved -**

**Listen for Announcements and check Social Media**

## **GENERAL INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS**

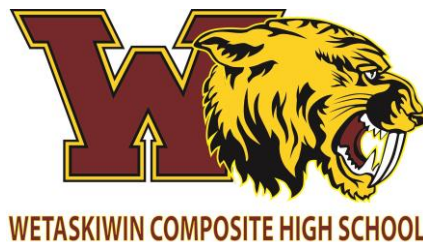
In order to maintain a positive and safe learning environment a number of general expectations have been established that all students are required to follow.

1. Regular attendance is required. A note or call to the main office, from parents, is expected if students will not be in school.
2. Students can eat lunch and snacks in the school cafeteria, atrium, the coffee loft and certain designated classrooms. Students are reminded that all garbage must be cleaned up and disposed of.
3. Cell phones are not allowed to be used in class. They are permitted to be used in other areas of the school.
4. WCHS has a dress code which will be explained to students on the first day of school.
5. Hats (including toques, hoodies & bandanas) are to be removed upon entering the school building.
6. Food or drinks will not be allowed in the computer labs, or gymnasiums. Teachers will make individual decisions about allowing food or drinks in their classroom.
7. WCHS has a “Zero Tolerance” policy on violence and vandalism. Fighting, uttering threats, intimidation, or initiating vandalism at a school will not be tolerated. Suspensions/expulsions may result from such actions.
8. Students found with, or under the influence of, alcohol or drugs will be suspended immediately and a hearing will be arranged for the students, parents, and school administration to determine the academic future of the student.
9. Smoking / Vaping and smokeless tobacco are **NOT** allowed to be used on school property and their use at any time is also discouraged.



## **GENERAL INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS**

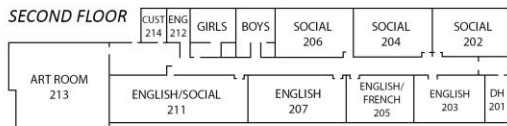
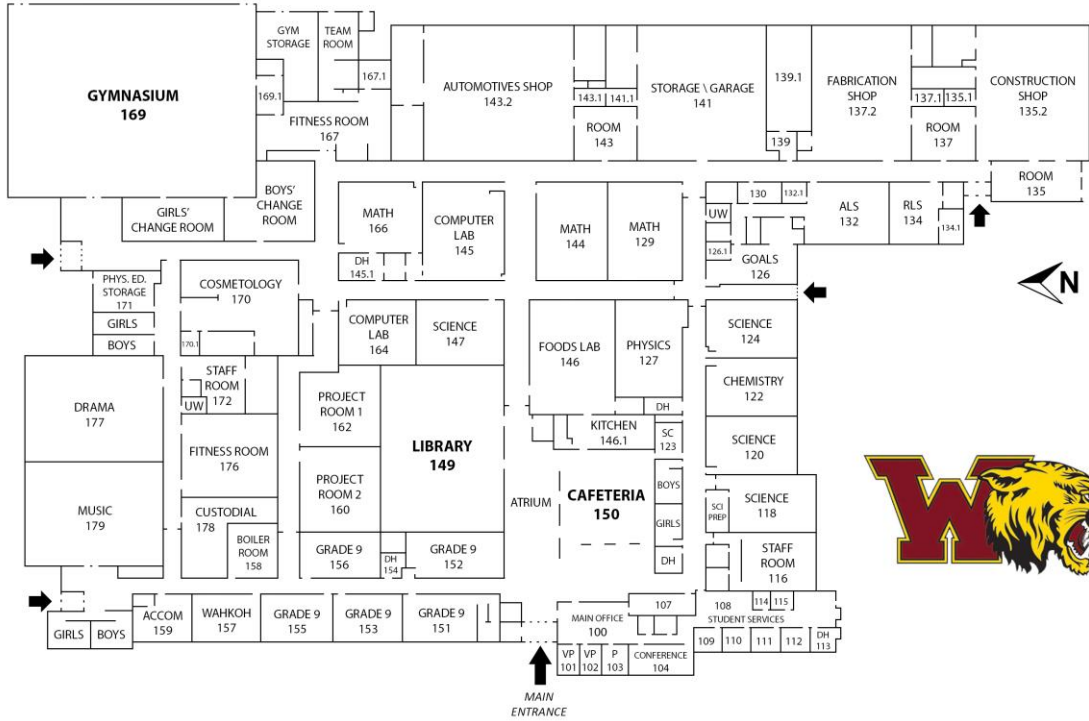
1. If the student registering has a medical condition of which the teachers should be aware, please ensure that their teachers and learning support teachers are notified. If the condition is ongoing each teacher needs to be informed at the beginning of each semester.
2. Please notify student services of conditions or circumstances that will have a significant impact on the attendance and achievement of the student registering. If Students are experiencing difficulties, they are encouraged to seek assistance as early as possible so steps can be taken to resolve and problems before it is too late.
3. If the registering student requires bussing to school from out of town, contact the Director of Transportation at 352-6018. You will be required to give your land location.
4. If a student is away from a class, the parents or guardians are asked to contact the school to explain the absence.
5. At the end of the day *School Messenger* will phone home for any unexplained absences during the day.
6. Students have the privilege of enjoying WCHS as an open campus meaning students may leave at noon. If a student is chronically late this privilege may be revoked.



## 2021-22 Bell Schedule

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4
Warning Bell 8:45			
<b>Period 1-2</b> 8:45-9:15 (30 min)	<b>Period 1-3</b> 8:45-9:15 (30 min)	<b>Period 1-4</b> 8:45-9:15 (30 min)	<b>Period 1-5</b> 8:45-9:15 (30 min)
9:15-9:18			
<b>Period 2</b> 9:18-10:36 (78 min)	<b>Period 2</b> 9:18-10:36 (78 min)	<b>Period 2</b> 9:18-10:36 (78 min)	<b>Period 2</b> 9:18-10:36 (78 min)
10:36-10:40			
<b>Period 3</b> 10:40-11:58 (78 min)	<b>Period 3</b> 10:40-11:58 (78 min)	<b>Period 3</b> 10:40-11:58 (78 min)	<b>Period 3</b> 10:40-11:58 (78 min)
Lunch 11:58-12:38 (40 min)	Lunch 11:58-12:38 (40 min)	Lunch 11:58-12:38 (40 min)	Lunch 11:58-12:38 (40 min)
<b>Period 4</b> 12:38-1:56 (78 min)	<b>Period 4</b> 12:38-1:56 (78 min)	<b>Period 4</b> 12:38-1:56 (78 min)	<b>Period 4</b> 12:38-1:56 (78 min)
1:56-2:00			
<b>Period 5</b> 2:00-3:18 (78 min)	<b>Period 5</b> 2:00-3:18 (78 min)	<b>Period 5</b> 2:00-3:18 (78 min)	<b>Period 5</b> 2:00-3:18 (78 min)

# WCHS School Map



**WETASKIWIN COMPOSITE HIGH SCHOOL**

*Home of the Sabres!*