

# Maplehurst Middle School Guiding Principles (2024– 2025)

Our Husky community will support each other to *envision the impact* we have on the world.

*Realize Your Impact*



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## **Welcome to Maplehurst Middle School Home of the Huskies**

We are excited to welcome all huskies at Maplehurst Middle School. This document provides important information concerning our values, beliefs and corresponding expectations that will continue to support our school in becoming everything we envision for our community. Our Guiding Principles inform all members of the Husky community of our shared obligations and responsibilities and reflect the guidelines of [Policy 703 \(Positive Learning Environment\)](#), [Policy 322 \(Inclusion\)](#), and the [Education Act](#).

Maplehurst is a welcoming environment for all community members that values inclusion of diverse peoples and ideas, reconciliation, and renewal of the relationship with Indigenous peoples and worldviews, equity among all people, plurilingualism, and pluriculturalism. **We value excellence and diversity in learning, wellness, and community.** Every decision we make will be based on our values.

**Our Husky community will support each other to *envision the impact* we have on the world.** This is an endless cycle of continuous improvement.

At Maplehurst Middle School, we support each other in the development of positive life skills and habits as we strive to realize our impact on ourselves and our community. The development of self-awareness is an individual challenge and we encourage Huskies to personalize their journey through Maplehurst Middle to their passions, talents, and abilities. We will all participate to inspire, guide, and support each other as we acquire new skills, increase our level of wellness, and develop responsibility. Our Husky community will celebrate each other as we envision the impact we have on the world.

Our official **Husky** mascot is named Maple. The Husky was chosen by our student body in 2019 when our values were identified by our community. The Husky represents strength, hard work, intelligence, and the willingness to function as a pack or team. Our school colours are grey with accent colours of gold and light blue and these colours are proudly displayed throughout the school. The new grade 5 and 6 Huskies will be involved in naming our second mascot this fall.

Our school community is looking forward to welcoming grade 5 this year, making Maplehurst Middle a grade 5 – 8 school with approximately 750 students and 80 staff. Maplehurst offers many unique learning opportunities within our innovative learning spaces. Our school has a library learning commons, music rooms, a cafetorium with a stage area for student talent, science labs, art rooms, technology and culinary labs, a triple gymnasium, multipurpose rooms, student leadership spaces, student support areas, and 30 modern classroom spaces. We made the move into our amazing facility in January 2020.



## EXCELLENCE IN LEARNING

Our schedule has been designed to support teaming, expertise in teaching, and flexibility to meet the diverse needs of everyone. As the year progresses, we will embed choice and variety into our planning so Huskies can pursue challenges and learn about areas of interest. The bell schedule is common for grades 5 – 8. The Huskies will be dismissed at 2:35.

2024-2025 Bell Schedule		
Time	Period	Length
8:20	Music	5
8:25-8:35	Homeroom	10
8:40-9:25	Period 1	45
9:30-10:15	Period 2	45
10:15-10:25	Break	10
10:30-11:15	Period 3	45
11:20-12:05	Period 4	45
12:05-12:55	Lunch	50
1:00-1:45	Period 5	45
1:50-2:35	Period 6	45

### Transitioning

During the 5-minute transition periods, student will be trusted and supported to be responsible as they transition throughout the building.

### Attendance

It is extremely important that all Huskies are at school and ready to learn by **8:20 am**. This on time arrival sets the tone for the day. To ensure the safety of all Huskies, students who arrive after 8:20 must sign in at the office before proceeding to class. Our drop off zone will be open and supervised from 7:45 – 8:20 am. Please ensure your Husky is on time to prevent disruption to the classroom learning environment. The Education Act refers to **regular school attendance as both a duty of the pupil and an expectation on the part of the parents**. The Act recognizes that regular attendance supports the learning success of the student and contributes to the learning environment of the school. By taking a few moments to log your attendance on our new [School Messenger System](#) you are helping us to ensure your child's safety in a timely manner.



## **Technology/Devices/Cell Phones**

A set of 5 iPads has been purchased for each classroom and learning space to ensure access and support student learning. During instructional times, technology is to be used solely for learning purposes, and is always at the discretion of the teacher.

We want our students communicating in healthy ways and recognize our role in supporting the development of socially responsible behavior. Our experience over the last five years at Maplehurst has proven that cell phone use at school causes a distraction to the positive learning environment. If students choose to bring a cell phone to school, it must be stored in their locker for the day. This includes before school, during instructional time, transitions, and the noon hour. [Policy 311](#) will be followed and all students must sign off agreeing to this policy in School Cash Online.

## **Innovative Network Site**

Maplehurst Middle School is excited to continue exploring and creating French Second Language teaching and learning practices in innovative ways by continuing to participate as an Innovative Network Site in collaboration with other schools and the Department of Education and Early Childhood.

Innovation opportunities like this align with our Husky values of Excellence and Diversity in Wellness, Community, and Learning. We want all Huskies to learn at high levels and that includes learning French.

We are a unique learning community where much of our staff speak French and over a third of our student population have joined us from other parts of the world and often speak more than one language. We are striving to create a culture of language learning that celebrates our diversity and that builds on the strengths we are so fortunate to have at Maplehurst.



## EXCELLENCE IN WELLNESS

A focus on wellness has students participating in Physical Education, Health, the Arts, and Technology Education on a regular schedule throughout the year.

### **Closed Campus**

Connectedness to school increases through student involvement. There will be a variety of activities, intramurals, and clubs throughout the noon hour, and we encourage participation to increase engagement and develop school spirit. Therefore, we operate a closed campus, meaning students are to stay on school grounds for the duration of their school day. Students must be signed out at the main office by a parent or guardian if they are leaving school grounds.

### **Dress Code**

Appropriate dress for school is always expected. Items inappropriate for school include clothing with offensive or obscene messages, whether direct or implied, or the advertising of alcohol, cigarettes, or illegal substances. Students will be required to change or cover up unacceptable garments.

### **Allergies and Scent Free Environment**

Maplehurst Middle School is a scent free environment. Some staff and students have severe allergies. All members of our community must adhere to the expectation of not wearing or bringing scented products and any product containing nuts into our environment. Notices will be shared as we become aware of any other allergies.

### **Drugs, Smoking, Vaping, Alcohol and Weapons**

We all want to be healthy for life. Any student possessing or using drugs, smoking, vaping, alcohol, or weapons (including replicas) at school or at school sponsored functions will be dealt with according to District Policy. This will involve notification of the parents, police, and possible suspension. All students are underage and the penalties under the law are serious and will be enforced to encourage healthier choices in the future. Counselling, education, and support will be provided to support our health and wellness.

### **Lockers**

All students will be supplied with a locker with a built-in school lock at Maplehurst Middle School. Students are responsible for the security of their own possessions. Students are to keep the combination private and keep their locker locked during and at the end of the day. Lockers are to be clean and organized to facilitate learning and will be a sense of pride for Huskies. Due to increased enrolment, some Huskies may be asked to share a locker.



## **Cafeteria / Water Fountains**

We are excited to launch our new online ordering program for our cafeteria.

All orders for lunch need to be **pre-purchased online**. Caf Zone is a convenient online ordering system designed to make your mornings easier by making payments online. Now you can choose your child's meal up to two months in advance and pay conveniently online by visiting:

[www.CafZone.ca](http://www.CafZone.ca)

Maplehurst Middle School has several auto fill water bottle fountains that are accessible to students during transition times throughout the day. We encourage water consumption as a healthy routine and discourage the consumption of energy drinks, sugary drinks, as well as coffee products at this age level.



## EXCELLENCE IN COMMUNITY

This section of our Guiding Principles supports open and honest communication between home and school which is essential for student success. Our mission and vision at Maplehurst Middle School require excellence and diversity in wellness, learning and community to enable all of us to *Realize your Impact*. We hold the Huskies to high expectations for both academics and behaviour. These expectations are necessary to ensure we can offer excellent and diverse opportunities to the Huskies; therefore, we rely on parent support and trust to enable us to promote and foster independence for all Huskies.

Expectations for excellence will be clearly explained and we expect students will take full responsibility in owning their learning and behaviour. At Maplehurst Middle School, we strive to provide learning opportunities that are only possible when students are independent and responsible. Your support, trust, and respect of our professional judgment concerning both learning and behaviour is vitally important for our learning community to attain our vision.

Parents and guardians are asked to respect teachers' professional judgement, and all communication with school staff must remain professional in nature.

Please respect the following:

- Maplehurst has a large school population of approximately 750 students and ensuring a safe and positive learning environment is our priority. We are consistent with our expectations, and we take this responsibility seriously.
  - Thank you for your support and understanding of how important it is that the teacher's judgement and authority be respected.
- Teachers are scheduled to supervise students and teach specific classes throughout the day. Due to preparation time required to meet and plan for student learning, as well as the teaching component, teachers are not able to provide immediate responses to emails or telephone calls during the school day.
  - Teachers will always strive to provide a timely acknowledgement or response to parents. Depending on the nature of the request, it could potentially take more than one business day to provide a response.
- Your child's homeroom teacher is the first contact for questions concerning day to day topics (attendance, school events, family concerns).
- The subject teacher is the first point of contact for curriculum concerns.
- Teachers will not discuss another colleague or another child with you.
  - This violates our code of ethics.
- Detention operates after school. This is a consequence that teachers may assign when level 1 behaviours occur.
  - We can support transportation home if that is a challenge for you as a parent.
- Teachers will not accept any inappropriate language or raised voices when communicating with parents.
  - Conversations and /or email communication with parents or guardians will end if this occurs.

Teachers are making decisions to support your child and we thank you for your trust.



## **Words Matter**

We are striving for a consistent response to all discriminatory/racial language and an elimination of that behaviour in our school community. We also encourage the Huskies to report if they are a victim of discriminatory language or if they witness this behaviour.

The following consequence process will be explained and discussed with all Huskies and will be followed when these behaviours occur. This process is based on Anglophone Easts' *Pathways to Human Rights Discourse*.

**First Offence:** Administration will investigate, record the behaviour in Power School (our student information data base), and communicate with parents:

### **1 day in school suspension**

- Completion of a reflection exercise
- Meeting with Guidance to build understanding using a restorative approach

**Second Offence:** Administration will investigate, record the behaviour in Power School, and communicate with parents:

### **Out of school suspension \***

**Third Offence:** Administration will investigate, record the behaviour in Power School, and communicate with parents:

### **Out of school suspension \***

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Parent meeting will be held

Discriminatory language that is being used is unacceptable and hurtful. This process will both clarify the consequences as well as reinforce a consistent message that supports our values: *We value excellence and diversity in learning, wellness, and community.*

\*The intent of removal from the common learning environment is to protect the victim and ensure effective restorative interventions for all parties.

Thank you for reinforcing this message with your child.

## **Volunteers**

Our school community will be built on volunteers so please let us know if you have time to be involved in the life of the school and we will match your skills with our community needs. In the interest of maintaining a safe and secure environment, visitors must apply through the district to be approved as a volunteer. The link to apply can be located here:

<https://asdeast.nbed.ca/volunteer-in-a-school/>





## **Bussing**

Busses are an extension of our classroom. All Huskies will respect each other and Bus Drivers, who play an important role in keeping our community safe. Students may only travel on the bus to which they are assigned by the District Transportation Office. Please use this link to access bussing information:

<https://asdeast.nbed.ca/transportation/>

## **School Cash Online**

Maplehurst Middle School uses the School Cash Online system to accept payments throughout the school year for any fees or purchases. The other purpose of School Cash Online is to review and sign various documents including media coverage, guiding principles, and updates to the student profile sheet. Once you are registered with School Cash Online, you will receive reminders for both forms and fees. Please use the following link to register or sign in:

<https://angloeast.schoolcashionline.com/Home/SignIn>

## **Supplies for Learning**

School supply lists by grade level can be found on our school website and are purchased by parents. Personal items like indoor sneakers, lunch bag, pencil case, water bottle, and backpack are to be purchased by families.

## **Student Fees**

The Student Fee is **\$50.00**. This fee will be paid through *School Cash online* and you will receive a reminder for this fee if you are registered. This fee is used to support various activities throughout the year including materials and supplies for our Practical Arts programs.

## **Impact Time**

Impact Time played an important part of school life in our opening year. The Huskies will be able to explore an area of interest that will offer opportunities to engage students and develop skills and explore talents. Impact Time will take place during select times and will begin later in the fall. This time supports our mission of *Realizing Your Impact* as students will be involved in activities that impact both themselves and those around them.



## Safety

### **Hold and Secure**

If this occurs, an announcement will be made to indicate our “School is on Hold & Secure”. All outside doors will remain locked. Students and staff are permitted to move about the building as usual. No persons shall be permitted to enter or exit the building until the “All clear” is signaled. Messages will be sent through School Messenger to keep families informed as soon as safely possible during a Hold and Secure.

### **School Lockdown**

Our school will go into Lockdown when “An extreme situation that would make it dangerous for students & staff to leave the building” occurs. An announcement will say “The Lockdown sequence has been initiated”. All students will remain in the classroom. Teachers will lock doors, turn off lights, and students and staff move away from the windows and doors. Phones cannot be used during a lockdown. Messages will be sent through School Messenger to keep families informed as soon as safely possible if a Lockdown has taken place. Families will be informed prior to the school practicing our Lockdown procedure.

### **Emergency Evacuation**

If there is ever a need for an evacuation to an alternate location, Maplehurst will evacuate to the new **YMCA North on Twin Oaks** extension, as our alternate location. Messages will be sent through School Messenger to keep families informed as soon as safely possible during emergency evacuations.

We realize these situations are stressful for everyone involved and appreciate that waiting for a message is difficult. Thank you in advance for your patience and support in not putting yourself or the school community in danger by coming to or calling the school during these scenarios.





Huskies value excellence and diversity in Learning, Wellness and Community.

Learning	Wellness	Community
<p>Huskies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ work hard</li> <li>▪ focus on excellence</li> <li>▪ set and exceed expectations</li> <li>▪ own their learning</li> <li>▪ explore their talents</li> <li>▪ are responsible</li> <li>▪ persevere</li> </ul>	<p>Huskies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ care deeply</li> <li>▪ make healthy choices</li> <li>▪ support and encourage participation</li> <li>▪ respect their body</li> <li>▪ believe in the worth and dignity of all</li> <li>▪ accept challenges</li> </ul>	<p>Huskies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ function as a Pack</li> <li>▪ respect the rights of everyone</li> <li>▪ are courteous</li> <li>▪ display good manners</li> <li>▪ celebrate diversity</li> <li>▪ get involved</li> </ul>

**Excellent and responsible behaviour is always expected.  
Progressive levels of response will occur if choices concerning behaviour impact our learning community and wellbeing of self-and/or others.**

<p><b>LEVEL 1</b> <b>Behaviors that primarily impact the student's learning</b> Do not require administrator involvement Teachers will communicate consequences with home Do not appear chronic</p>	<p><b>Examples could include but are not limited to:</b> Late for school, late for class, inattentive, refusal to complete work, incomplete work</p> <p>Consequences may include after school detention.</p>
<p><b>LEVEL 2</b> <b>Behaviors that impact the learning community</b> Put others at risk or harm May require administrator involvement and parents will be made aware of consequences Includes <b>Chronic</b> Level 1 Behaviours</p>	<p><b>Examples could include but are not limited to:</b> Chronic Level 1 behaviours, interruptions to the positive learning environment, inappropriate behavior on the playground, bus and during transition times, skipping classes, inappropriate language, discriminatory behaviour, disrespect of property and/or others</p> <p>Consequences may include in or out of school suspension.</p>
<p><b>LEVEL 3</b> <b>Behaviors that Violate Policy 703 (Positive Learning Environment)</b> Require administrative involvement and parents will be made aware of the consequences Incudes <b>Chronic</b> Level 2 Behaviours</p>	<p><b>Examples could include but are not limited to:</b> Chronic Level 2 behaviours, physical aggression, threats and/or violence</p> <p>Consequences will include suspension from school.</p>