



2026.01.22 SD8 Weekly Bulletin - Family Edition



Mission - We inspire and support each learner to thrive in a caring learning environment

INFORMATION TO SHARE WITH SCHOOL FAMILIES / PARENTS / GUARDIANS

Reporting Student Absences and Late Arrivals

Over the past year, SD8 has offered [SchoolMessenger - SafeArrival](#) as a district-wide tool for families to report student absences and late arrivals. Many families have already made the switch to using SafeArrival.

During this transition, absence and late reporting forms on school websites remained available. With SafeArrival now fully implemented and supported across the district, SD8 is ready to complete the move to one consistent system for all schools.

As a result, **school website absence and late reporting forms will be retired at the end of the school day on Friday, February 6.**

Going forward, families can report absences and late arrivals using SchoolMessenger - SafeArrival through the SchoolMessenger app, online, or by phone. The app is optional.

Using one system helps schools confirm students are safe, keeps attendance records accurate, and supports timely follow-up when students are unexpectedly absent.

To sign up or find out more, [visit the SD8 School Messenger page](#).

Attendance

Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school - and themselves. You can help your children start building this habit early so they learn that going to school on time, every day is important. Good attendance will help your children do well in school, post-secondary, and at work.

Did you know?

- ▶ Research shows that good attendance is one of the most important factors in student success.
- ▶ Did you know that missing school only 1 or 2 days every few weeks can impact student achievement?
- ▶ Students who attend school regularly have more opportunities to make friends and build very important relationships with our staff and students.

Family Engagement Sessions (virtual) - [LINK](#) for all sessions

Attend by [ZOOM](#), Password: parent

April 9, 2026 - 6:00 pm - Scholarships: What to Expect During Adjudication

Review for students and families.

DPAC Meetings (virtual)

Please join us virtually for our next DPAC Meeting!

Find meeting dates, agendas, DPAC contacts and more [here!](#)

Next meeting is February 19, 2026 - hope to see you there!

[SD8 News](#) - catch up on the latest announcements, Board Highlights and news in SD8!

[Superintendent's Report](#) - Read the latest blog from Superintendent Smillie to find out what's being celebrated and what is going on around the district this month!



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