



REPORT

to the community



Hedges Middle School

VISION

Students at Hedges will develop good character, self-respect and pride in themselves and their work. They will be good citizens by respecting and getting along with others. They will have opportunities to develop their creative abilities and increase their desire for lifelong learning.

MISSION

Hedges School is committed to providing students with opportunities to develop personally, socially, and academically in a safe environment and to become lifelong learners.

About Middle Years

The Middle Years (Gr. 6–8) provides a stimulating and supportive learning environment where high expectations, collaboration and continual learning are provided. Early adolescents have unique emotional, social and developmental characteristics. Staffing, curricula and programming in middle schools are focused on meeting these needs. The programs in the Middle Years build on the programming in the Early Years.

Profile



28

Teachers



13

Support Staff



389

Students



SUPPORTING & CELEBRATING STUDENTS

A Culture of Success

Hedges Middle School is committed to helping students grow and succeed. We celebrate achievements in academics, arts, and athletics through monthly assemblies and school-wide events.

Our focus on learning, emotional well-being, and social development prepares students to be responsible global citizens. With strong support from families and the community, we ensure student success is recognized both in and beyond the classroom.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Hedges Middle School strengthens community ties by encouraging collaboration among families, local partners, and the school. Events like student-led portfolio conferences, sports, arts, camps, and volunteer opportunities bring everyone together.

We partner with local businesses and organizations—including WJHA, Sobey's, Walmart, and Food Fare—to provide resources and enrich learning. These connections help create a supportive, inclusive environment where students thrive academically and socially.



LAST YEAR'S BROAD AREAS OF FOCUS

What did the evidence of student learning tell us?

At Hedges Middle School, student learning is driven by a strong focus on skill development across all subjects. Our writing program incorporates on-demand activities and the Optimal Learning Model (OLM) to enrich instruction, while revision checklists are used in Language Arts and Social Studies to strengthen student work. Language Arts also emphasizes grammar and conventions, and math instruction is guided by rubrics that help students simplify problem-solving strategies. Daily Hawk Time supports mental health, social connections, and life skills, creating a well-rounded learning environment. Community Engagement is fostered through initiatives like Hedges Helps Harvest, food hamper packing at the Cheer Board, pen pal exchanges, visits with Oakview Place residents, and the Family of Schools BBQ. Student Support includes connectedness surveys, daily smudging practices, and a dedicated focus on student transitions in June to ensure every learner feels supported and prepared.

What are the anticipated next steps?

At Hedges, we're working hard to make learning even better. We are updating how we assess student work to match provincial standards and giving teachers ongoing training to use the best teaching strategies. We're also making sure students have a say in their learning. We'll regularly check how students are doing so we can adjust lessons to meet their needs. We are building stronger connections with community partners and encouraging students to get involved in sports, clubs, and other activities. We will keep listening to feedback from students and families to make sure we are meeting their needs. Mental health programs will continue to support student well-being, and we are working closely with the Indigenous Committee to make our school more inclusive and welcoming for everyone.



2025-2026 PLANNING



IDENTIFIED AREAS OF FOCUS

Hedges Middle School is centered around three foundational pillars: literacy, numeracy, and fostering a culture of belonging through community building.

Literacy: Hedges Middle School helps students improve their reading, writing, and communication skills in every subject. Teachers use smart strategies and track progress to make sure students can share their ideas clearly and understand different types of texts with confidence.

Numeracy: Hedges Middle School helps students strengthen their math skills by focusing on problem-solving, critical thinking, and applying math to real-life situations. Learning progressions show students what they know and what to work on next. Teachers use different teaching strategies and regular check-ins to support each student's unique learning needs and boost overall confidence in math.

Culture of Belonging and Community Building:

Hedges is a place where everyone feels respected and included. We build strong connections with families and the community, celebrate different cultures and backgrounds, and include Indigenous perspectives in learning. This helps students work together, grow as individuals, and feel proud of who they are.

Together, these pillars provide a comprehensive approach to education, ensuring holistic success for every student.



INDIGENOUS-INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

An Indigenous-inclusive education system is grounded in Indigenous histories, cultures, languages, traditional values, and knowledges. An equitable school community fosters a sense of belonging in that they feel they can succeed, all learners so take responsibility, and find their purpose in life. HEDGES is committed to:

- Promoting authentic Involvement of Elders, Knowledge-Keepers, and members of the community.
- Employing a holistic approach supporting students by putting students at the center.
- Providing an Inclusive and Culturally Safe Learning Environment.
- Valuing and celebrating differences by demonstrating respect for world views, values, identities, and traditions.