




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

30 Teachers

25 Support Staff

393 Students

SUPPORTING & CELEBRATING STUDENTS

Aligned with the St. James-Assiniboia School Division Strategic Plan, Hedges Middle School fosters a culture where student success, growth, and well-being are recognized and celebrated. The school supports students' academic, emotional, social, and extracurricular development through ongoing assessment, encouragement, and opportunities to showcase their achievements. Monthly success assemblies, school-wide celebrations, and recognition of accomplishments in academics, the arts, athletics, and leadership help students feel valued and motivated to excel. Strong partnerships with families and the broader community further strengthen this culture of support, ensuring that student accomplishments are acknowledged both within and beyond the school. Through these efforts, Hedges Middle School promotes confidence, belonging, and a commitment to lifelong learning.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Aligned with the St. James-Assiniboia School Division Strategic Plan's focus on Family and Community Connections, Hedges Middle School fosters strong partnerships among students, families, and the broader community to support student success. The school encourages meaningful engagement through student-led portfolio conferences, volunteer opportunities, sports, arts programs, and camps, creating opportunities for families to participate in school life.

Collaborations with local businesses and community organizations, including WJHA, Sobey's, Walmart, and Food Fare, help provide valuable resources, enriching learning experiences, and supports for students. Through these partnerships, Hedges Middle School strengthens a welcoming and inclusive community where students are empowered to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.






LAST YEAR'S BROAD AREAS OF FOCUS

What did the evidence of student learning tell us?

Evidence of student learning is gathered from classroom assessments, report card data, provincial assessment results, student surveys, and observations of student engagement. This evidence indicates a continued need to strengthen literacy and numeracy skills while supporting student well-being. Writing growth is monitored through on-demand assessments, the Optimal Learning Model, and revision strategies that develop grammar, conventions, and communication skills. In mathematics, rubrics and problem-solving tasks help students build conceptual understanding and effective strategies. Daily Hawk Time promotes well-being, connectedness, and life skills. Student learning is further enriched through community engagement opportunities, including service projects, intergenerational partnerships, and family events, while connectedness surveys, daily smudging, and transition supports foster student success and belonging.

What are the anticipated next steps?

To address student achievement data, Hedges Middle School will strengthen student-centered assessment practices through the use of learning progressions, tracking tools, outcome-based assessment, and aligned learning targets. Staff will prepare for PowerSchool implementation while enhancing collaboration through PLCs, Numeracy Coach support, and targeted Hawk Time interventions. Literacy initiatives will focus on increased writing opportunities, common language across grades, expanded use of evidence-based programs, and greater student reflection through conferencing and portfolios. The school will also enhance inclusion, equity, and belonging by expanding culturally responsive teaching, embedding Indigenous perspectives across learning, celebrating diversity through school-wide events, and empowering students through Student Voice leadership opportunities that foster engagement, connection, and success for all learners.

2026-2027 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: The school strengthens reading, writing, and communication skills across all subject areas through focused strategies and evidence-based practices, enabling students to confidently share their ideas and thoughtfully engage with a variety of texts.

Numeracy: Hedges promotes strong mathematical understanding by emphasizing problem-solving, critical thinking, and meaningful real-world applications. Teachers use differentiated instruction and ongoing formative assessment practices to address individual learning needs and strengthen overall student achievement.

Culture of Belonging and Community Building: Hedges fosters an inclusive and welcoming environment where every student feels respected, supported, and valued. Through strong partnerships with students, families, and the broader community, the school celebrates diversity, honors individual strengths, and integrates Indigenous perspectives throughout learning experiences, promoting collaboration, belonging, and personal growth.

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 all learners so that they feel they can succeed, 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 to 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.