

Edison Middle School

Keeping You Informed

April / May 2021

School District of Janesville

Educational Services Center

527 S. Franklin Street

Janesville, WI 53548

(608) 743-5000



Important Edison Phone Numbers:

Attendance Office 743-5930

Main Office 743-5900

Principal 743-5906

Assistant Principal 743-5907

A Word from Our Principal

Edison Middle School has been a part of some exciting events recently and we want to share our successes with our school and parent community. The old adage is that “students can’t be what they can’t see.” At Edison, we want our students to see more and be more. To that end, we are working hard to provide real life career skills, knowledge, education, and community involvement so that our Edison Eagles can SEE more and BE more.

Recently, our 8th graders participated in a Virtual Industry Day on April 8, 2021. Our 8th graders were able to learn more about a chosen career cluster. Students were able to engage with business members all over the community, county, and the region to learn more about information technology, manufacturing, business administration, education, marketing, performance arts, health science, and other careers.

We are extremely appreciative of the local and regional businesses that participated and their patience working through a digital career day. These school-industry partnerships provide real life education for students and builds connections with a future workforce for the businesses. At Edison, we are very proud to host Career Day and provide a glimpse of the world beyond our classroom to our students.

At Edison, we believe it is essential to provide relevant experiences and information about future career opportunities for students. Career and Industry Days for students, along with our community partnerships, deliver impactful learning experiences for our students as communicators, collaborators, critical thinkers, and creators. Whether our students plan for college, technical school, military service, or employment after high school, when students see more options, they can make better informed decisions for their future.

Jim LeMire
Principal

Stay Connected

Need more information? It’s probably on the Edison website. Visit the website for the school calendar, staff contact information, school newsletters, PTA information, current events, breakfast and lunch menus, the student handbook and much more.

You can also follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram for more Edison news and information.

Attendance

If your child is absent, please call the Attendance Line at 743-5930. This number has a voicemail connected to it so you may leave a message regarding the absence.

FORWARD Testing

Middle School students will begin the Wisconsin FORWARD Test April 12 – 16. Click [here](#) for some tips on how you can help prepare your student for success!

Report Cards

The School District of Janesville is not printing individual student report cards to be sent home with students. Families can access reports cards as follows:

1. Log into your [Parent Portal](#) on Infinite Campus.
2. Select “Documents” from the menu on the left side.
3. In Documents, you can view and/or print progress reports and report cards for the current school year.

Athletics

Boys and Girls Soccer and Co-Ed Track and Field are returning to Edison!
The season runs April 19th – May 28th.

Soccer – **8th Grade Only** at this time (subject to change depending on numbers)
Track and Field – **7th and 8th Grade Only**

Please sign up for all athletics through the [Infinite Campus Parent Portal](#).

Infinite Campus Access

All parents have access to their child/ren’s [Infinite Campus Account](#). You can check your child’s attendance, grades, update phone numbers, etc. All parents have a username and password. If you need help accessing your account, please contact the office at (608)743-5900. Below are instructions on how to manage your account.

- [Managing Family Members](#)
- [Managing Contact Preferences](#)
- [Managing Payment Information](#)
- [Making an Online Payment](#)

Summer School

The SDJ is planning on offering Summer School in the traditional school settings. Of course, due to the uncertainty of COVID-19, things may need to change. Masks and social distancing may be required as determined by local health guidelines.

Course selection opens on April 5, 2021 at 4:30 pm. Follow this [link](#) to the Summer School site.

EDISON CLASS SCHEDULE

1 st Hour	8:00-8:44 AM
2 nd Hour	8:48-9:36 AM
3 rd Hour	9:40-10:28 AM
4 th Hour	10:32-11:20 AM

Lunch Schedule

	<u>6th</u>	<u>7th</u>	<u>8th</u>
Lunch		11:24-11:55	
5 th Hour	11:24-12:12	11:59-12:47	11:24-12:12
Lunch			12:16-12:47
6 th Hour	12:16-1:04	12:51-1:39	12:51-1:39
Lunch	1:08-1:39		

Afternoon Schedule

7 th Hour	1:43-2:31 PM
8 th Hour	2:35-3:23 PM

Planning for the 2021-2022 School Year

September 1st – First Day Conferences and Picture Day

September 2nd – First Day of Classes

September 6th – Labor Day Holiday

Discipline

Students are expected to abide by all established codes of conduct and board policies, as outlined by the student handbook and as stated in rules established by building principals for each school. All students must help to establish and maintain a safe and educationally conducive environment. When it becomes necessary to investigate student misconduct, students have a duty to cooperate and answer questions truthfully and completely. Students who are dishonest, uncooperative, and/or are evasive will be subject to disciplinary action up to and/or including a recommendation for expulsion.

Board Policies Regarding Bullying

BULLYING PREVENTION

The School District of Janesville Board of Education strives to provide an educational environment where every student feels safe, respected and welcomed. The Board also strives to provide an educational environment where every staff member can serve students in an atmosphere that is free from significant disruptions and obstacles that impede learning and performance. Bullying can have harmful social, physical, psychological and/or academic effects for those who engage in these behaviors, victims of such behaviors, and bystanders who observe acts of bullying. The District prohibits any form of bullying behavior by students towards other students, school employees, volunteers, or any other person(s).

Bullying includes aggressive or hostile behavior that is intentional and involves an imbalance of power between the bully and the bullied. Bullying is a form of victimization and is not necessarily a result of or part of an on-going conflict. Bullying is defined as any conscious, willful, or deliberate acts, or attempted acts, through the use of words, images, gestures or other physical actions, including electronically transmitted acts, that are intended to cause physical injury, emotional distress or property damage. Bullying includes, but is not limited to, behaviors motivated by an actual or perceived distinguishing characteristic or factor including sex, race, national origin, ancestry, religion, color, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability. Bullying

may also be motivated by any other distinguishing factor such as gender identity, physical appearance, or social, economic or family status.

Examples of acts of bullying include physical intimidation, force or assault, humiliation, sexual or racist remarks, extortion, verbal or written threats, taunting, put downs, name calling, threatening or menacing looks or gestures, spreading cruel rumors, and social exclusion. This includes acts of cyber-bullying that involve sending or posting inappropriate, insulting or threatening messages or images through electronic communication systems such as the Internet, e-mail, cell phones or other personal devices.

Bullying is prohibited on District grounds, at District-related activities, or on transportation to and from school or District-sponsored activities. Harassing bullying behavior is prohibited in all educational environments, regardless of whether the facility or location is owned, leased, or otherwise used or provided by the District.

Acts of bullying that originate off school premises and outside of the school's control may be subject to the provisions of this policy and related procedures if the conduct is determined to be substantially disruptive to the educational process and the day-to-day operations of a school. This includes, but is not limited to, threats made outside of school hours that communicate intent to be carried out during any school-related or school-sponsored program or activity, or on any vehicles used for transportation to and from school and school-sponsored activities.

All complaints about bullying shall be promptly investigated. The District shall respect the privacy of the complainant, the individual(s) against whom the complaint is filed, and the witnesses as much as practicable and in a manner consistent with the Board's legal obligations to investigate, take appropriate action, and conform to discovery or disclosure requirements. Disclosure of information related to the complaint shall be made only to those with a legitimate need to know. All records generated as a result of the complaint and appeal processes shall be maintained as confidential to the extent permitted by law.

If the investigations find bullying has occurred, school officials shall take prompt and necessary action up to and including behavioral interventions and support, disciplinary action, and/or referral to law enforcement officials or social services. Consequences shall be unique to the nature of the behavior, the developmental level of the student, and the history of problem behaviors. Remedial measures shall be designed to correct the problem behavior, prevent other occurrences, and protect the victim.

The District shall also take appropriate action against any student or District employee who retaliates against any person who makes a good-faith report of alleged bullying or against any person who testifies, assists, or participates in an investigation or hearing related to such behavior.

Employees found to have facilitated or participated in bullying behavior against students or to have been aware that bullying was taking place and failed to report the behavior are considered to be in violation of the prohibition expressed by this policy and may be subject to disciplinary action.

This policy shall be distributed annually to all students enrolled in the School District, parents/guardians, and all District employees. It shall also be distributed to organizations in the community having cooperative agreements with the schools. The District shall provide a copy of the policy to any person upon request.

Records shall be maintained on the number and types of reports made, and sanctions imposed for violations of this policy in accordance with established procedures.

Administrative Regulation 5030.1

STUDENTS

BULLYING COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

It is the responsibility of all students, school staff members, parents/guardians and other concerned individuals who observe or become aware of acts of bullying to report such acts to an administrator or other school staff member.

Complaints that involve bullying related to one or more of the characteristics or factors protected by state and federal nondiscrimination laws shall be processed in accordance with established "Student Discrimination Complaint Procedures." All other complaints of bullying shall be processed in accordance with the following procedures:

Step One

Any claims of bullying shall be presented to the principal or designee. Students may also report their concerns to teachers or counselors who will be responsible for notifying the appropriate administrator. Complaints against the principal shall be filed with the District Administrator. Complaints against the District Administrator shall be filed with the

Board president. Information may be initially presented anonymously. All such information shall be reported in writing and shall include the specific nature of the offense and corresponding dates using the applicable district incident report form.

Step Two

The school official receiving the complaint shall conduct a prompt investigation to verify the facts to determine the validity and seriousness of the incident. Parents/guardians shall be notified of the nature of any complaint involving their student. The school official shall arrange necessary interviews with all concerned parties. The school official conducting the investigation shall notify the complainant and parents/guardians, as appropriate, in writing when the investigation is concluded.

All findings related to the complaint shall be reported in writing to the Director of Student Services. When it is determined that a student participated in bullying behavior, the report to the Director of Student Services shall include notification of the consequences and/or interventions to be imposed including, but not limited to warnings, exclusion from certain areas of the school, detentions, behavioral interventions, suspension, expulsion, and referral to law enforcement officials and/or social services.

Step Three

If the complainant is dissatisfied with the decision of the principal, or other school official conducting the initial investigation, he/she may appeal the decision by giving written notice to the District Administrator or next highest level of authority within five (5) days after the receipt of the written decision. The District Administrator or other school official shall schedule and hold a meeting with the involved parties within fifteen (15) days. The District Administrator or other school official shall, within five (5) days after the meeting, deliver a written response to the complainant and to the accused. The decision at this step shall be final.

Consequences for Retaliation Violations

Any student or District employee who retaliates against any person who makes a good-faith report of alleged bullying, or against any person who testifies, assists, or participates in an investigation or hearing related to such behavior, shall be subject to disciplinary actions and/or referral to law enforcement for criminal prosecution.

Interventions for Students Involved in Bullying

The District will make available evidence-based resources and comprehensive research-based programs to address bullying. Program support may include coaching, training, reporting templates, surveys and evaluation tools, staff training, student skill training, restorative justice, and program-implementation support.

Students Who Have Been Bullied Will Be Supported by:

Being offered an opportunity to discuss the experience with a guidance counselor/student services specialist/social worker or other staff member of their choice.

Offered ongoing support with the goal of restoring self-esteem and self-confidence.

Students Who Have Bullied Will Be Helped by:

Being offered an opportunity to discuss the experience with a guidance counselor/student services specialist/social worker or other staff member of their choice.

Identifying the bullying behavior and the need to change the behavior.
Developing a plan to make amends for the incident.
Informing parents/guardians to help change the attitude and behavior of the student.

Maintenance of Complaint Records

The maintenance of complaint records is recommended for the purpose of documenting compliance. Records shall be kept for each complaint filed and, at a minimum, include the following:

Name and address of the complainant and his/her title or status,
Date the complaint was filed,
Specific allegation made and any corrective action requested by the complainant,
Name and address of the respondents,
Levels of processing followed, and the resolution, date and decision-making authority at each level,
Summary of facts and evidence presented by each party involved, and

Determination of the facts, statement of the final resolution, and the nature and date(s) of any corrective or remedial action taken.

Definitions:

General Definition Bullying: Bullying is defined as any conscious, willful, or deliberate acts, or attempted acts, through the use of words, images, gestures or other physical actions, including electronically transmitted acts, that are intended to cause physical injury, emotional distress, property damage, or impact the learning environment. Bullying is sometimes distinguished from harassment when the behavior involves repeated incidents and involves an imbalance of power.

Discriminatory Bullying: This occurs when acts of bullying are related to, or motivated by an actual or perceived distinguishing characteristic or factor that includes sex, race, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, color, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, gender identity or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability or handicap. Such incidents shall be handled in accordance with the district's student nondiscrimination policies and procedures.

Types of Bullying:

Physical: Physical bullying involves harmful actions against a person's body. Examples include, but are not limited to: shoving, striking, kicking, tripping, choking, pinching, poking, spiting, biting, hair-pulling, hazing, excessive tickling, and inappropriate touching. This also involves interfering with another person's property and stealing.

Verbal: Verbal bullying involves speaking to a person or about a person in a way that is derogatory, unkind or hurtful. Examples include but are not limited to: teasing, name-calling, insulting or inappropriate remarks, threatening, spreading rumors, and making discriminatory remarks or false accusation.

Non-verbal/Emotional: Non-verbal bullying refers to behaviors that upset, exclude, or embarrass others. Examples include, but are not limited to: intentionally leaving a person out of a game or activity, extortion, manipulating friends, ostracizing, pressuring peers, making rude gestures such as poking out tongue or staring, writing hate notes about a person that will be upsetting to that person.

Cyberbullying: Cyberbullying is the use of any electronic communication device to convey a message in any form (text, image, audio, video, e-mail, cell phones, pager service or website postings) that defames, intimidates, harasses or is otherwise intended to harm, insult or humiliate another in a deliberate, repeated or hostile and unwanted manner under a person's true or false identify. In addition, any communication of this form that disrupts or prevents a safe and positive educational or working environment may also be considered cyberbullying.

Bullying by Proxy: Bullying by proxy occurs when someone engages in such behavior through another person or on behalf of another person.

Hazing: Hazing includes bullying behavior directed against another student or students for the purpose of being initiated into, affiliating with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in any organization, class, club or team sponsored or supported by a school or the school district regardless of students' willingness to participate. Prohibited acts may include, but are not limited to, any brutality of a physical nature, such as whipping, beating, branding, forced consumption of any food, liquor, drug or other substance, forced confinement or any other forced activity which endangers the physical health or safety of the student.

**Administrative Regulation 5030.2
Students**

A bullying incident report is available at any time in the main office at Edison Middle School.

Schoolwide Title I Program Notice

As a school with a low-income rate of 60.6%, Edison Middle School receives federal Title I funds to support the learning of all students through a Schoolwide Title I Program. Schoolwide programs serve all children in a school. All staff, resources, and classes are part of the overall schoolwide program. The purpose is to ensure all students, including those most in need, are positioned to meet the state's challenging academic standards. Schoolwide Title I schools annually complete a needs assessment to identify the school's strengths and areas for improvement in student achievement, develop strategies and actions steps to address how the goals identified will be achieved, and evaluates and updates the plan as needed.

Schoolwide Title I schools are required to engage parents and families in the Title I planning and evaluation process as well as provide opportunities for parents and families to engage in supporting their child's education. Copies of the Schoolwide Title I Plan and the Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy are available upon request. Please contact the school secretary at (608)743-5900 or lara.newborn@janessville.k12.wi.us to request a copy.

Title 1 ~ Edison Middle School is a schoolwide Title 1 school. What does that mean for your child? It means access to highly qualified teachers, including Title 1 teachers, to support students in reading and math. Title 1

services can include, but are not limited to, extra support in the math and reading classrooms, small group instruction, and targeted interventions. Here at Edison, our Title 1 teachers are shared with Franklin Middle School. They are Mrs. Laura Steele (lsteele@janeyville.k12.wi.us) and Mrs. Dawn Skrzypchak (dskrzypchak@janeyville.k12.wi.us). Being a Title 1 school also increases funding for teacher professional development, technology upgrades, family nights, and other resources for students, staff, and parents.

WEATHER - INCLEMENT WEATHER/SCHOOL CLOSING INFORMATION

The SDJ school calendar has two days built in to accommodate some weather delays/closures. With the onset of the COVID-19 public health emergency in March 2020, the SDJ became a one-to-one district, meaning each student has a device (either an iPad or a Chromebook) that allows them to connect to the internet. With this capacity and capability, the SDJ will allow the first two inclement weather days of the winter season to be just that – ‘snow days’ on which no school work will be required of students.

If at all possible, the Superintendent will make the determination regarding school closing or delay information the night before, or no later than 6:00 a.m. the day of the closing or delay. District staff will then send out communication to families via the Campus Messenger System (Infinite Campus) by phone call, email, and text message, and post the information to the SDJ web site, SDJ social media channels, and local media outlets.

With a third, and any potential additional inclement weather day this winter season, the SDJ will pivot to online instruction from home. These will be scheduled as such instead of adding additional in-school make-up days at the end of the school year to meet state law required hours of instruction.

The Superintendent will make the determination regarding school closing and implementing online instruction the day before in order to allow students and staff to prepare, and to ensure students take their devices (and charging cables) home for use the following day.

Again, district staff will send out communication to families via the Campus Messenger System (Infinite Campus) by phone call, email, and text notifying them of this pivot to online instruction due to inclement weather, and post the information to the SDJ web site, SDJ social media channels, and local media outlets.

It is very important that parents/guardians verify that their contact information is correct in the Infinite Campus system, and that settings are marked appropriately for how they wish to receive school closing information. This is especially important if families have moved or have changed telephone numbers since initially setting up their Infinite Campus account.

Since Infinite Campus may take some time in completing notifications to the more than 10,000 contacts, we encourage families to be checking for details on the SDJ web site homepage (<http://www.janeyville.k12.wi.us>) as well as the SDJ Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/SDJK12/>). In many instances, the information will become ‘live’ on those sites before the Infinite Campus messaging system is able to complete its notifications. Closing and pivot to online instruction information will be provided to local news outlets including the Janesville Gazette, WCLO and the Madison local TV stations, who will post school closings or delay information on their respective websites.

State law (<http://dpi.wi.gov/cal/days-hours>) governs the required number of hours of instruction for all school districts in Wisconsin. SDJ calendar information is available at <https://www.janeyville.k12.wi.us/calendar>.

Parents/guardians always have the option of keeping their child home due to inclement weather. Please be sure to call your child’s school to report the decision to keep them home. Your child will receive a principal excused absence. **NOTE:** the SDJ does not close school early due to an approaching winter storm. This is to avoid sending students to potentially unattended/unsupervised home situations. If parents are concerned about an approaching storm, they are welcome to come to school and pull their student(s) out early if they feel it would be appropriate.

This information is also available at <https://www.janeyville.k12.wi.us/about-us/school-closings>

The School District of Janesville has a great team that will be clearing sidewalks and parking lots/playgrounds, and keeping the heat on in the buildings as we maintain our promise to prioritize the safety, health, and wellness of our school community.

Are You Moving???

If you will be moving from your current home address, please contact Edison Middle School's Student Service's Secretary at 743-5926, as soon as possible, to determine what paperwork you will need to fill out for your child to continue attending his/her current school.

Please note: If you are moving to an address outside the School District of Janesville, in most cases, your child is eligible to continue attending the School District of Janesville as long as you complete the appropriate paperwork within the required timeline.

If you have any questions about school placement for a particular address, please contact Open Enrollment Specialist Deen Hartley at 743-5152. The Administrative Services Office is open year-round.

Tornado Warning

When the National Weather Service issues a tornado warning, it means that an actual tornado has been sighted by a trained spotter or a radar reading shows conditions are right for a tornado to develop in the immediate area. When a tornado warning is issued for the immediate Janesville area, the emergency sirens will be activated.

Twice each school year, Edison Middle School practices the response the school would use if an emergency siren is activated for a tornado warning during the school day. Edison Middle School has designated safe areas for all students and staff to go to when a tornado warning is issued.

Because all doors to Edison Middle School are secure during the school day, they will remain locked during a tornado warning. Staff are encouraged to not respond to door buzzers, knocks on doors, or phone calls, but rather to remain in their designated safe zone until the tornado warning is canceled. We also encourage parents and family members of students to seek safe shelter during a tornado warning. **Parents or family members should not come to Edison Middle School during a tornado warning to pick up their child.**

Once the tornado warning is canceled, Edison Middle School will return to usual operations. At that time, staff will be able to respond to door buzzers and phone calls. Thank you in advance for working with Edison Middle School to keep your child safe during a tornado warning. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this information, please call the Director of Safety and Student Services at 743-5078.

NEWS FROM THE DISTRICT OFFICE:

Release of Pupil Directory Data Information ~

Wisconsin Statutes provide that schools or school districts may legally release a pupil's name, address, telephone listing, date and place of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of member of athletic teams, dates of attendance, photographs (The School District of Janesville will consider videotapes the same as photographs), degrees and awards received, name of the school most recently previously attended by the pupil.

Such information **may be withheld** if the district is advised by the parent, legal guardian, or eligible student (18 years of age or older) to do so. If it is your wish to not allow such information to be released, and if you are the parent, legal guardian, or eligible student, you need to sign a "Request to Withhold Directory Data" form at the school office.

Child Find Notice

"The school district must locate, identify and evaluate all resident children with disabilities, including children with disabilities attending private schools, regardless of the severity of their disabilities." The school district has a special education program to locate and screen all children with suspected disabilities who are residents of the district and who have not graduated from high school. Upon request the school district will screen any resident child who has not graduated high school to determine whether a special education referral is appropriate. A request may be made by contacting Kimberli Peerenboom, Director of Pupil Services for the School District of Janesville at 743-5061, or by writing her at 527 S. Franklin St., Janesville WI 53548.

Annually the district conducts developmental screening of preschool children. Each child's motor,

communication and social skills are observed at various play areas. Each child is weighed and measured, and the child's hearing and vision is checked. The information is used to provide the parent with a profile of their child's current development and to provide suggestions for follow up activities. Parents learn about community services available to them and speak with representatives of agencies serving families. The information from screening is also used to determine whether a child should be evaluated for a suspected disability. When school staff reasonably believe a child is a child with a disability, they refer the child for evaluation by a school district Individualized Education Program (IEP) team. Developmental screening will be a part of the kindergarten screening this Spring. Watch for dates at your local school.

A physician, nurse, psychologist, social worker or administrator of a social agency who reasonably believes a child brought to him or her for services is a child with a disability has a legal duty to report the child to the school district in which the child re-sides. Before referring the child, the person making the referral must inform the child's parents that the referral will be made.

The referral must be in writing and include the reason why the person believes the child is a child with a disability. Others who reasonably believe a child is a child with a disability may also refer the child to the school district in which the child resides. A referral of a child residing in the School District of Janesville may be sent to Kimberli Peerenboom at the school district address above."

Request for School Transfer/Placement (Intra District Transfers) within the School District of Janesville Attendance Areas

Due to Move:

If you move within the School District of Janesville during the school year and wish to remain at your current school, please ask the school office for a Request to Remain in Current School Following Move to New Attendance Area Form (blue). Complete the form and return it to the school office.

Due to Parent Choice:

If you wish to apply to have your student transferred/placed in another school within the district next school year (2021-2022), please ask the school office for a School Transfer/Placement Within the School District Form (yellow). Completed forms will be accepted from **December 1 through December 15, 2019** only. Submit your Request for School Transfer/Placement Within the School District Form (yellow) to your home school attendance area office. Parents applying for a Request for School Transfer/ Placement Within the School District will be notified of approval or disapproval by January 15, 2020. Parents applying for a Request for School Transfer/Placement Within the School District for incoming Kindergarten students will be notified of approval or non-approval after they have enrolled their child during the Kindergarten Enrollment period with the New Student Enrollment Office. If you have questions, please contact the school office of your home school attendance area.

Open Enrollment or Public School Choice

If during the school year, you move outside the School District of Janesville and you wish to remain at your current school please contact the Open Enrollment Specialist at 743-5152 and request a tuition waiver form within two weeks of your move. This will allow you to be eligible to attend your current school for the remainder of the current year tuition free. To continue attending the School District of Janesville after the 2019-2020 school year, you will also need to complete an open enrollment application. Application instructions are provided to the School District of Janesville by the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) and should be available by late January 2020. This year applications will be accepted **February 3 – April 30, 2019**. If you have questions regarding Open Enrollment or Public School Choice, please contact the Open Enrollment Specialist at 743-5152.
