



Leola School District



Vision Statement

Working Toward a Stronger Community One Student at a Time

Mission Statement

All students will have equal access to an excellent educational program and be educated to their greatest potential. They will meet high academic standards through school interventions, and family involvement.

School Phone Numbers

Leola School District Office – (605) 439-3142 or (605) 439-3477

Like us on Facebook and find more information at: <https://www.leola.k12.sd.us/>

Back-to-School Newsletter

GREETINGS, Leola School Families!

Welcome back to school! We look forward to partnering in your child's education and are excited for the 23-24 school year!

The first day of school is Tuesday, August 22 for Preschool-12th grades. Our school day begins at 8:15AM and dismisses at 3:30PM. Please refer to Leola School District Calendar for further school year details.

Back-to-School Dates to Remember:

OPEN HOUSE: Monday, August 21st from 3:30-7:00PM. Stop in to pick up the Back-to-School Folder, visit with teachers, and drop off supplies! NOTE: We will NOT be mailing out letters. All info will be available in the Weekly Folder and online.

Fall Sports: Students in grades 6-12 may participate in falls sports: Football, Volleyball, or Cross Country. Other sports (winter & spring) include: Basketball, Track, and Golf. We also offer extra-curricular activities in our Music Program as well as STEAM Club, STUCO, Yearbook, FBLA, FFA and other after school opportunities.

- Start JV/V (9-12) FB Thursday, August 3rd
- Start JH/JV/V VB & CC Thursday, August 10th
- Start JH FB Monday, August 14th

Concussion Testing: Athletes in grades 6, 8, 10, and 12 must complete mandatory baseline testing prior to participating in practice. Mrs. Geffre is available to administer the baseline ImPact Concussion assessment. Please contact Mrs. Geffre to arrange a time to test in her office: val.geffre@k12.sd.us or call 605-439-3142. The cost is \$2.00.

Physicals: The Leola School requires annual physicals. All grades 6-12 athletes need to turn in a completed physical form to the office, Mr. Flemmer, or your coach prior to participating in practice. Physical forms can be found on our webpage: <http://www.leola.k12.sd.us/>. Physicals are free at Horizon Health in Aberdeen.

Absences: *A written excuse or a telephone call by a parent or guardian to the office is required for ALL absences.* For the safety of your child, if your child is not in school by 8:30 AM and the office has not been contacted, a phone call will be made to your home or cell phone.

Announcements: Announcements will be made once a day and emailed to all Leola Staff and parents if requested. *Anyone requesting information to be placed in the Weekly Folder needs to have information to the office by 1:00PM on the Thursday preceding the day the folder goes live.*

Bus: For rural students, your child's bus driver should contact you before school to let you know the times for pick-up and delivery. If you have not been contacted, please call the office and we will get you scheduled.

Elementary Dismissal: If your child is to be picked up or sent somewhere other than home, please send a **note** with your child to give to their classroom teacher.

Yearbooks: Yearbooks are available for \$30 each, please contact Mr. Mueller (jeff.mueller@k12.sd.us) to get yours.

Visiting the School: As parents, you are welcome to arrange a visit with teachers and administration. When you arrive, please stop at the office to sign in and an office staff member will assist you. If you would like to eat lunch with your child, please notify the office in advance so we can inform the kitchen staff.

School Lunch: All families are eligible to apply for the Free and Reduced Meals Program. Applications can be requested from the Business Manager and one will also be in the Open House packet. Second servings & extra milk are **not** covered under the Free/Reduced Meal Program. The **Angle Fund program** is also available to help those in need; let the office know if your children can be supported through our Angel Fund program.

- **Parents must pay ahead of time and must maintain a positive balance in their child's lunch account. All payments are to be received at the Business Manager's office. Please make all checks payable to: Leola School District 44-2.**
 - a. **No charges are allowed for seconds and/or extra milk on any negative accounts or accounts with a zero balance.**
 - b. **All delinquent accounts at the end of May of the current school year will be subject to collections for payment.**
- The Leola School District has a closed lunch hour. Students are expected to eat lunch at the school. Children may bring sack lunches from home. They may not leave the school. **No pop or energy drinks** are allowed in the cafeteria.
- If your child has a food allergy or medical issue that may affect a student's lunch, please notify the office with a doctor's note. A form is also available from the office.

Breakfast:	K-12: \$2.10	Reduced: \$	Adult: \$2.67	
Lunch:	K-8: \$2.80	9-12: \$3.10	Reduced: \$	Adult: \$4.85
Charges for second helpings are: Milk/Juice seconds are \$0.35 Hot Bar Seconds are \$1.10				

Activity Fees: Students in K-12 must pay to attend Titan JV/V sporting events (unless they are a participant or working):

K-12 Students & Senior Citizens (65+) -	\$3.00
Adults -	\$5.00

Activity tickets are available for the 2023-2024 seasons. These tickets are good for all sporting events in the Leola and Frederick schools except for playoff games and tournaments.

Adult ticket –	\$70.00
Students K-12 –	\$30.00
Seniors (65+) –	\$30.00
Family Pass –	\$175.00

Laptops: Will be issued to 6-12 students at Open House or the first day of school.

Lockers: Lockers will be furnished to students in Grades 6-12. No locker may be locked with any other lock other than one owned by the school. The school reserves the right to inspect lockers at any time. Any item on the outside of a locker must be approved by the administration. Students are required to keep their lockers clean.

Lost and Found: There is a lost and found in the office. The lost and found will be displayed during parent/teacher conferences. Any items not claimed will be given to the Piggy Bank after each parent teacher conference.

PE Changing: PE is an opportunity for our students to practice good hygiene habits. We are requesting that parents make sure their 6-12 student is bringing clothes for PE and personal hygiene supplies. Please note **dress code**:

1. Shorts, capris, tank tops, sleeveless shirts are allowed before October 15th and again starting April 15th - to be notified by administration depending on the weather pattern at that time.
2. Shorts/Skirts should be mid-thigh.
3. Tanks/Shirts must cover torso on all sides and a strap on each shoulder.

Shoes: We ask that all students have an extra pair of gym shoes that can be left at school for gym classes. They will have “outside” shoes to wear to and from home and at recess. Their “inside” shoes will always be worn when they are in the school building. If new shoes need to be purchased, please purchase the kind that would avoid leaving black/blue marks on the gym floor. If your family needs assistance in buying extra shoes, please contact the school.

Telephone Usage: Should parents need to contact their child during school hours, we will be glad to take the message and deliver it. In case of an emergency, we will contact the student immediately. The office phone number is 439-3142. Students may ask a staff member to use a school phone at appropriate times. Elementary and junior high students must turn off their cell phone and store it in a backpack or locker; for high school students, during the instructional day, cell phones must remain out of sight and in silent mode.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

LAB (Leola After the Bell): This program will be held after school for students in grades 1-5 who are teacher-referred according to academic, organization, and/or social/emotional support needs. LAB runs Wednesday & Thursday from 3:30-4:30PM. Parents will be individually notified if their child would benefit from this program around mid-September along with more information about the program.

Early Release Fridays: On 12:30PM dismissal on Fridays, parents may pre-arrange for their students in grades K-5 to stay after school for the Early Release Friday Club. Supervision will be provided until 3:00PM on these Fridays (as noted on the district calendar) – this will begin on Friday, August 25th.

Preschool: Children who are three (3) or four (4) years of age before September 1st may enroll in the Leola Preschool. There is no charge, and the Leola School is partnering with Head Start. **The first day is Tuesday, August 22nd at 8:15AM.** Preschool will run Monday through Thursday with 7:45-8:10AM breakfast, 8:15AM start time, 9:45 recess, 10:50AM lunch, and 12:30PM dismissal. Preschooler students may eat school lunch or bring their own from home. On late-start days, there will be no preschool for three (3) and four (4) year-old students.

Junior Kindergarten: Students who are four (4) or five (5) years of age as of Sept. 1st may enroll in our Junior Kindergarten program. This program will follow the same calendar and start/end times as our K-12 students. The Leola JK program provides a positive learning environment for your child to gain academic and social-emotional skills to assist in kindergarten readiness.

Handbooks: To save on paper and mailing costs, the Leola School District will only be issuing printed handbooks to families who stop by the school and request them or call and ask one to be mailed. All handbooks will be available on our school webpage: <http://www.leola.k12.sd.us/> under Student/Parent Resources. Parents and students are expected to be aware of the contents of the handbook. The attached forms (stating that you have read and understand the contents of the handbooks) must be turned in during Open House or the by the first day of school.

Have a Great Year!
Brett Flemmer
Leola School K-12 Principal

Leola School Board Members:

2024 **ReEtta Sieh** - Board Chairman/Negotiations Committee

2024 **Richard Westphal** - Vice Chairman/Transportation Committee/Buildings & Grounds Committee/NCSEC Representative

2026 **Trevor Zantow** - Sports Coop Committee/School/Community Relations Committee

2025 **Kristi Spitzer** - School-Community Relations Committee/Negotiations Committee/Sports Coop Committee/Wellness Committee

2025 **Arnie Wollman** - Buildings & Grounds Committee/Transportation Committee