

# **LAMAR MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**STUDENT and PARENT HANDBOOK  
2025-2026**



**Lamar Middle School  
104 West Park St.  
Lamar, CO 81052  
Phone: 719-336-7436  
Fax: 719-336-5457**

# Lamar Middle School Handbook 2025-2026



All Lamar Middle School students will abide by all Lamar School District School Board Policies and the policies included in this handbook. The following handbook is an extension and clarification of Board Policy. Board Policy will supersede any policies presented in this handbook. The policies and procedures contained in this handbook are the results of a concerted effort on the part of the staff and administration of Lamar Middle School. Select policies from this handbook are provided to each student at the beginning of the school year.

The Lamar School District and Lamar Middle School do not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information, disability or need for special education services in admissions, access to, treatment, or employment in educational programs or activities which it operates.

Questions or clarifications in regards to this handbook should be directed to LMS Principal, Brandon Adamson at [brandon.adamson@lamarschools.org](mailto:brandon.adamson@lamarschools.org) or 719-336-7436.

## **EXPECTATIONS FOR SUCCESS**

At LMS, ALL staff members believe that ALL students can be successful. If students are in the right place, at the right time, DOING THE RIGHT THING, they will be successful.

### GENERAL DAILY EXPECTATIONS

On a daily basis students will/be:

- On time (**Doors open at 7:30 class begins at 7:45**)
- Honest
- Prepared
- Engaged
- Safe
- Respectful
- Give their best effort
- Take direction
- Communicate/Self-advocate
- Use appropriate language
- Own their actions
- Show tolerance/acceptance
- Follow the dress code
- Use technology appropriately
- Be a Team Player
- **DO THE RIGHT THING**

## PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT

- Lamar Middle School believes in supporting all students and guiding them through varied educational experiences designed to develop their potential as productive citizens in the preservation and maintenance of our society.
- We believe in programs and a learning environment, which produces responsible, disciplined students.
- We believe a positive, supportive atmosphere develops self-esteem and fosters the challenges and satisfaction of learning.
- We believe that students can benefit most when parents and school staff work together, to provide *the best possible education for each child*.

Encouraging your child to show respect to others is a powerful addition to a positive school climate. The following efforts will help us to achieve that goal.

- **Talk with your child** about respect. Note the positive effects that occur when your child or someone else considers the feelings of others. Respect yourself, respect the staff, and respect other students.
- **Clearly state expectations.** Expect your child to be courteous to others... regardless of race, creed, social status or any other reason.
- **Encourage good manners.** Explain how not talking when another is talking shows respect for other people.
- **Think before you respond.** Think about the use of a positive tone, positive encouragement and about the outcome of your action.

We invite you to visit the school, volunteer in the classrooms and participate in the Advisory Committee. A handbook has been prepared to help you be informed of the rules and policies. **THIS HANDBOOK SERVES AS A REFERENCE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR FOR IMPORTANT SERVICES, DATES, AND NAMES.** If you have a concern or suggestion, please do not hesitate to talk to your child's teacher. The office secretaries and administrators are also available to assist you. Thank you for helping us make this school year a valuable learning and growing experience for your child.

**FACTS ABOUT LAMAR MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Office Hours (*School Days*): 7:15 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**SCHOOL DAY:**

**Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday**

**Bell Schedule**

Thunder Time	7:45 - 8:15 am
1st Hour	8:18 - 9:17 am
2nd Hour	9:20 - 10:19 am
SEL, IXL, Xello	10:22 - 10:47 am
3rd Hour	10:50 - 11:49 am
4th Hour (7th and 8th)	11:52 - 12:51 pm
Lunch (6th Grade)	11:49 - 12:19 pm
4th Hour (6th Grade)	12:24 - 1:23 pm
Lunch (7th and 8th)	12:51 - 1:21 pm
5th Hour	1:26 - 2:25 pm
6th Hour	2:28 - 3:27 pm
Stampede	3:30 - 4:00 pm

Student Enrollment: Approximately 270 students (Grades 6,7,8)

**FACULTY AND STAFF**

<p><b><u>SIXTH GRADE:</u></b> Ashley Roseberry – Science Carla Dennis – Social Studies Mindy Davis – Math Tara Bailey – Language Arts</p> <p><b><u>INTERVENTIONISTS:</u></b> Elizabeth Biszak – SPED Teacher Kaylee Bruhn – SPED Teacher Angela Chairez – ELD Teacher Shelby Aguilara – ParaPro Judy Salgado – ParaPro Cesar Serrano – ParaPro Rocky Carrillo – ParaPro Bri Givan – ParaPro Cristina Cisneros– ParaPro Leisha Walsh– ParaPro Yazmin Maggert– ParaPro Nallely Mungaray Acuna- ParaPro AldahirAndrade- ParaPro</p>	<p><b><u>SEVENTH GRADE:</u></b> Ruth Johnson – Language Arts Savannah Davis – Social Studies Marah Brase– Science Mindy McCoy – Math</p> <p><b><u>SPECIALS:</u></b> Greg Ludwig – Music John Loflin – P.E. Lauryn Reyes– P.E. Taylor Chavira– Art Shannon Ellenberger – Computers Kristie Morgan– Life skills/Health</p> <p><b><u>MEDIA SPECIALIST:</u></b> Nikki Walker</p> <p><b><u>SCHOOL NURSE</u></b> Katie Specht</p>	<p><b><u>EIGHTH GRADE:</u></b> Chad Sailors – Language Arts Tara Eddy – Social Studies Elissa Gilgen – Science Alicia Ridder – Math</p> <p><b><u>CUSTODIAL:</u></b> Darian Repshire – Custodian Robert Hernandez– Custodian</p> <p><b><u>OFFICE:</u></b> – Secretary Lupe Ortiz – Secretary Delfina Perales – Secretary Katie Smotherman – Counselor Brandon Adamson – Principal – Assistant Principal/Athletic Director Dayne Eaton</p>
--	---	--

# ACADEMICS

Our staff uses teaching strategies which promote trust, respect and success in the classroom. Students have the right to be in school. With that right comes the responsibility to respect the rights of others and to become actively and productively involved in their own academic learning. Our staff is here to help you get an education. However, you are responsible for your own actions which may make getting an education easier or more difficult for you.

## Basic Academic Expectations

- Be prepared for class.
- Complete all assignments on time.
- Ask questions and seek help when necessary.
- Bring completed homework, proper supplies, and books, and/or equipment to class.
- Collect all make-up work when you have been absent.

### Grading Scale

Most teachers at LMS grade as follows:

A = 90 to 100%

B = 80 to 90%

C = 70 to 79%

D = 60 to 69%

F = 0 to 59%

If your teacher uses a different scale, he or she will tell you.

Each grade level has created late work policies which will be shared with students in their respective classes. Students whose grades fall to D or F will be placed on academic probation. Students on academic probation will be given every chance to raise their grades and may be required to spend extra time to assist in this process. Students who fail quarterly classes will be required to make up that class content during the following quarter. Students in both academic probation and in credit recovery may be required to make up coursework or assignments through detention (before school, lunch, or after school), and Friday school.

## Awards and Honors

Awards and honors are presented at the end of each school year with the following being recognized:

- Perfect Attendance (Students who are tardy even once and miss school for any reason, including doctor appointments, will not earn this award.)
- Norris Nye Award for superior achievement – 4.0
- Thunder Award – 4.0 grade point average, or have at least an 87% in honors courses, be involved in at least two extra-curricular activities, and not have any written office referrals.
- Principal's Award – Character, leadership, and school spirit
- A's and B's for the entire school year

## Athletic awards

Awards are presented at the end of the season of each sport. Remember, no award is given. Awards are earned.

## Report Cards

Report cards are issued following the end of each quarter. Accessing the students report card will be through the PowerSchool grade program. Any parent or guardian wanting a paper copy may call and ask for a copy to be printed to be picked up at the office.

## Special Services

Some students may be eligible for special educational help through the Special Education program including speech and OT. Students may receive ESL (English as a Second Language) services to build English Language skills. Parents will be contacted if special help is needed so students may learn to their fullest potential.

# ATTENDANCE

Studies show that students who have regular classroom attendance develop important habits, perform better, and are generally successful. Frequent absences disrupt the flow of instruction in the classroom for all students and teachers and are detrimental to the student's overall performance in the classroom. Compulsory attendance requires, through Colorado state law, that all students under the age of 17 be in school. It is recognized that students may not be present in school every day, but every effort should be made by the student, parents/guardians, and the school to keep the absences to a minimum. Our goal is to have all students prepared for high school to become a graduate, and no factor is greater in academic failure, poor performance on state and national tests, credit deficiency, and dropping out of school than poor attendance.

For purposes of this policy, the following definitions apply:

1. Documented Excused absence: the student's non-attendance in the classroom that is excused by the parent/guardian and the administration. Make up work for documented excused absences will be accepted and the students will be given the length of time missed to make up the assignment or until the conclusion of the semester, whichever comes first. Approved absences include, but may not be limited to:
  - a. Illness with a note from physician, dentist, or school nurse (including extended absences)
  - b. School activity
  - c. Family emergency—hospitalization, births, funerals, etc.
  - d. Court appearance (with note from judge or legal representative)
  - e. Other pre-arranged absences with the office and with teachers that is excused by the administration
1. Excused absence: the student's non-attendance in the classroom that is excused by a parent/guardian and does not qualify under the definition of a documented absence. The administration will excuse these absences for a **maximum of 5 days or 35 periods per year** in any of the scheduled classes before consequences are earned. Consequences include but are not limited to a parental unexcused absence. Make up work for a parental unexcused absence will be accepted and can have a 50% reduction for the grade and the students will be given the length of time missed to make up the assignment or until the conclusion of the 9 week period, whichever comes first. These absences include but are not limited to:
  - a. Home ill without seeing the doctor
  - b. Returning from an appointment without a note
2. Unexcused absence/Truancy: the student's non-attendance in the classroom that is not excused by a parent/guardian or the administration or the student leaving class without permission. Consequences will be administered immediately and may include a truancy referral to judicial proceedings (after 4 days or 28 periods in one month, or 10 days or 70 periods within a school year). Students can be assigned detention, ISS, or OSS equal to time missed for all unexcused absences or truanies. Make up work for truancy and unexcused absences unverified absences, and parental unexcused absences will be accepted and can have a 50% reduction for the grade and the students will be given the length of time missed to make up the assignment or until the conclusion of the semester, whichever comes first. These absences include but are not limited to:
  - a. Skipping/not attending class.
  - b. Wandering the school without permission or being out of class for an excessive length of time.
  - c. Any absence where the school was not notified by a parent/guardian within 24 hours after the occurrence.

## **ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES**

1. Daily absence reporting
  - a. The parent/guardian should notify the office between 7:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. for each day of the student's absence. The call will excuse the absence provided it meets the guidelines listed previously.
  - b. The school will contact the parents/guardians to notify them of an absence.
  - c. A student will be considered unexcused and truant if the parent/guardian does not notify the school within 24 hours of the absence.
2. Check out procedure during the school day
  - a. Parents or guardians must come to the office to sign their student out. The student needs to come to the office to checkout prior to leaving the school. Students will only be released to parent or guardian unless written/verbal permission has been granted by parent or guardian. Failure to comply will result in an unexcused absence/truancy.
  - b. Students who become ill during the school day must report to the nurse's office. Parents/guardians will be contacted by the school nurse and the student will check out through the main office. A student who leaves school ill during the day will not be allowed to participate in any extra-curricular event or practice that day unless given permission by an administrator.
3. Tardies

Each student is expected to attend classes on time throughout the day. Students who enter class after the tardy bell are considered tardy. Students who are more than 5 minutes will be considered Tardy late and be given 1 hour of detention. On the following Monday or Wednesday. All other tardies will be handled through regular classroom attendance procedures.

Students will receive consequences for excessive tardiness. At 5 tardies a student will have an administrative conference and 1 hour detention. At 10 tardies, an administrative conference, parents are notified, and 1 day of ISS is issued. For 15 tardies after the second conference will equal 2 days of ISS. If tardies continue students can be considered to be defiant and receive multiple days of suspension which could include ISS or OSS. Tardies will reset each quarter.

## **ADVANCED EXCUSE**

An advanced excuse will be considered for preplanned absences. An advanced excuse will not count against the allowable parental excuses for the school year, but does count against the early release incentive. Students must turn in a signed advanced excuse form (available at the office) at least 2 school days prior to the planned absence for approval from the LMS administration. The advanced excuse must be signed by the student, the parent and the student's teachers before an advanced excuse will be considered. The administrators will consider the reason for the advanced excuse as well as the student's attendance history, number of days to be missed and academic standing when determining whether or not to grant the advanced excuse. The students will be required to request homework from all teachers prior to the absences which will be due upon their return to school and may be considered late if not turned in at this time.

# POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

**Policies for Student Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex (JBA), Student Sexual Harassment (JBB), Suspension/Expulsion of Students (JKD/JKE-R), Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity (AC, AC-R-1, AC-R-2), Grading/Assessment Systems (IKA) and a full listing of all school board policies can be found on the Lamar Re-2 website at [www.lamarschools.org](http://www.lamarschools.org)**

## **FACILITY USE**

Students using the middle school for practice, projects, rehearsals, etc. must be supervised by a teacher, coach, activity sponsor, or administrative designee. Proper clothing and footwear should be worn in the weight room, gym, and shop areas.

## **FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT (source - ed.gov)**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education.

FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's education records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she reaches the age of 18 or attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are "eligible students."

- Parents or eligible students have the right to inspect and review the student's education records maintained by the school. Schools are not required to provide copies of records unless, for reasons such as great distance, it is impossible for parents or eligible students to review the records. Schools may charge a fee for copies.
- Parents or eligible students have the right to request that a school correct records which they believe to be inaccurate or misleading. If the school decides not to amend the record, the parent or eligible student then has the right to a formal hearing. After the hearing, if the school still decides not to amend the record, the parent or eligible student has the right to place a statement with the record setting forth his or her view about the contested information.
- Generally, schools must have written permission from the parent or eligible student in order to release any information from a student's education record. However, FERPA allows schools to disclose those records, without consent, to the following parties or under the following conditions:
  - School officials with legitimate educational interest;
  - Other schools to which a student is transferring;
  - Specified officials for audit or evaluation purposes;
  - Appropriate parties in connection with financial aid to a student;
  - Organizations conducting certain studies for or on behalf of the school;
  - Accrediting organizations;
  - To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena;
  - Appropriate officials in cases of health and safety emergencies; and
  - State and local authorities, within a juvenile justice system, pursuant to specific State law.

Schools may disclose, without consent, "directory" information such as a student's name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, honors and awards, and dates of attendance. However, schools must tell parents and eligible students about directory information and allow parents and eligible students a reasonable amount of time to request that the school not disclose directory information about them. Schools must notify parents and eligible students annually of their rights under FERPA. The actual means of notification (special letter, inclusion in a PTA bulletin, student handbook, or newspaper article) is left to the discretion of each school.

## **SCHOOL SAFETY**

One of the most important factors in student achievement is feeling safe at school. It is the responsibility of all to maintain a safe environment for our students. At Lamar Middle School, precautions have been taken to help secure the building. This includes an entry control system and security cameras. Principals and staff will have metal detectors that can be used in searches where students are thought to be hiding inappropriate or dangerous items. All staff are encouraged to have their key cards on them. All visitors to Lamar Middle School must enter through the front entrance and report to the office. Under no condition is the integrity of the entry system to be compromised by blocking open a door. Other safety procedures while on school grounds include:

1. Driving vehicles with care and parking in appropriate locations.
2. Using required safety equipment in shops and lab areas.
3. Becoming familiar with the fire/tornado/lockdown procedures.

### **Fire Evacuation:**

1. Upon hearing the alarm, leave the room and proceed to the exit posted in the room.
2. Walk rapidly. Do not push or run.
3. Refrain from talking in case more instructions are given over the intercom.
4. The first person to a door should hold it open until all people have exited the building.
5. Move a safe distance away from the building to the designated area.

### **Tornado Procedure:**

1. When the directive is given from the office, students should immediately proceed to the assigned tornado safety area.
2. Supervisors in the safety areas will designate the required protective actions. Students will remain in the assigned safety areas until released by that supervisor or via intercom.

### **Lockdown Procedure:**

There are a number of situations, which may require the school to implement lockdown procedures. These include, but are not limited to the presence of a suspicious person on campus, the presence of a drug dog for inspections, or an unsafe condition near the school. In the event that happens, an announcement will be made over the intercom indicating a lockdown situation and any further directions will be given if needed. The teacher will specify any instructions for the students regarding the situation. The school will remain in lockdown until the all clear is given from the administration.

### **Civility Policy:**

The board of education requires mutual respect, civility and orderly conduct among district employees, parents and the public. The intent of this approach is to maintain a safe harassment-free workplace for teachers, students, administrators, staff, parents and other members of the community.

The board expects school and district personnel to treat parents and other members of the public with courtesy and respect. Parents and visitors will treat teachers, administrators and other district employees with courtesy and respect. Bullying of students and/or staff by parents is prohibited, and the board has granted the administration authority to take steps to limit parent access to school facilities and activities if such bullying persists.

# STUDENT CONDUCT

**Policies for student conduct and a full listing of all school board policies can be found on the Lamar Re-2 website at [www.lamarschools.org](http://www.lamarschools.org).** (Policy JIC, JICA, JICC, JICDA, JICDD, JICDE, ADC, JICF, JICH, JICI, JICJ, JIH, JK, JK-R, JK-2, JKBA, JKD/JKE, JIHB) Development of good discipline is one of the most important goals of education. Discipline is the development of self-control, character, and proper consideration for other people. Understanding the purposes of discipline in school facilitates the formation of positive attitudes and pride in oneself as well as in the school. To obtain a learning environment that is conducive for all students, Lamar Middle School sets forth the following expectations:

- Students have responsibility for their actions. Self-control is important.
- Students must observe the safety rules of the school for their own security and that of others. These rules will be reviewed in each classroom.
- Students shall respect the person and property of others around them.
- Students must show respect for the truth.
- Students shall follow classroom and playground rules established by the staff.

<u>BEHAVIOR</u>	<u>POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES</u> <i>ISS = In-School Suspension / OSS = Out of School Suspension</i>
<b>Weapons</b> - possession or use of real or simulated weapons, firearms, or explosives	10 days OSS, Possible expulsion, law enforcement notified
<b>Alcohol</b> - possession, use, and/or distribution <b>Drugs</b> - the use, possession, distribution or sale of drug/chemical substances or paraphernalia OR imitating drug use with other substances	5 days OSS at a minimum, law enforcement notified
<b>Threats of Life</b> - verbal, written (posted), physical threats to anyone	5 days OSS, law enforcement may be notified
<b>Physical Attack</b> - physical attack of one person or group or persons upon another person, who does not wish to engage in the conflict and who has not provoked the attack	5 days OSS, law enforcement may be notified
<b>Tobacco, Cigarettes, E-cigarettes &amp; Vapor Products</b> possession or use of tobacco products	3-5 days OSS, law enforcement may be notified
<b>Fighting</b> - fighting or abuse of students or staff; two or more parties involved.	1-3 days OSS
<b>Stealing</b> - taking or concealing property belonging to others	3 days OSS
<b>Destruction of School Property</b> - vandalism, graffiti, false alarms or other intentional damage to school property	1 day OSS
<b>Harassment, Intimidation or Hazing</b> - comments, gestures and/or slurs intended to intimidate	1 day OSS
<b>Gang Activity</b> - wearing or displaying gang paraphernalia including hand signs or graffiti	1 day ISS, law enforcement notified
<b>Dangerous &amp; Nuisance Objects</b> - possession of a dangerous/disruptive object	1 day OSS

<b>Loss of Control</b> - acting out to the point of removal from situation	1 day ISS

<b>Profanity/Obscenity</b> - lewd, indecent, or obscene conduct, expression or distribution of materials	Parent notification referral - Note: any combination of 3 referrals within a semester may result in 1 day of ISS
<b>Disruptive or Disrespectful Behavior</b> - behavior or expression that causes a disruption to the learning environment	Parent notification referral - Note: any combination of 3 referrals within a semester may result in 1 day of ISS
<b>Dishonest Behavior</b> - including but not limited to cheating or lying	Parent notification referral - Note: any combination of 3 referrals within a semester may result in 1 day of ISS
<b>Defiance/Uncooperative Behavior</b> - choosing not to follow staff instructions or directions	Parent notification referral - Note: any combination of 3 referrals within a semester may result in 1 day of ISS

## Harassment

Lamar Middle School wants each student to have a positive, safe school where you won't be harassed or intimidated.

This district has an obligation to discipline those who engage in sexually harassing behavior. **Sexual harassment** is defined as unwelcome verbal or physical conduct of sexual nature. ANY conduct of a sexual nature directed toward a student by a school employee shall be presumed unwelcome.

If you believe you have been a victim of sexual harassment, you are urged to report it to a teacher or the principal. Efforts will be made to maintain confidentiality during the reporting and investigation of a complaint. Retaliation or harassment against anyone involved in filing or processing a complaint will not be tolerated.

**“Bullying”** is another name for harassment. Bullying can be physical... one or more students hurting another. More often, bullying is verbal and includes persistent threatening, teasing, ridicule or negative comments about another. Cyberbullying involves the same types of behaviors with the exception of the actions taking place behind a computer screen, phone screen, and/or through social media.

If you are being bullied, you are not helpless. Here are some tips:

- Talk with a friend; it's tougher to harass a person who has friendly support.
- Walk away.
- Do not respond. Bullies seem to target those who respond to taunts, cry or attack in return. Avoid showing emotion.
- Try not to be alone in places where the bully picks on you. Ask a teacher to change your placement, the bus driver to change your seat, and **REPORT CONTINUED HARASSMENT TO STAFF MEMBERS.**
- Don't fight back; this can make the situation worse or it may appear that you started the fight. **Report continued harassment to staff members.**
- Write incidents down. Keep track of what happens such as what is said. Include dates, times, places.
- Reporting bullying tactics is not being a “Tattletale or Snitch”. It is your best defense. Usually bullies do not harass others when adults are around and adults may not be aware of these incidents.
- If the bullying is taking place via social media, computers, or cell phones, disconnect from or block those who are attacking you and report the incident to an adult.

Believe this: Bullying/harassment does not have to be a fact of life. Adults do not want harassment to occur in the school setting. If you believe you are a victim or you know someone else who has been targeted, report incidents to staff members. Every effort will be made to make school a safe climate in which to learn.

### **Weapons**

Carrying, bringing, using, or possessing any dangerous or deadly weapon in any school building, on school grounds, in any school vehicle, or at any school-sponsored activity without the authorization of the school or the school district is prohibited. Such weapons include but are not limited to any pistol, revolver, rifle, shotgun, facsimile that can be mistaken as a weapon, air gun, or spring gun, slingshot, bludgeon, brass knuckles, or artificial knuckles of any kind, or knife violating state law. Violation of this policy shall require that the principal initiate proceedings for the expulsion of the student involved immediately.

In accordance with federal law, expulsion shall be for no less than one full calendar year for a student who is determined to have brought a firearm to school. The superintendent and or school board may modify the length of this federal requirement for expulsion on a case-by-case basis.

### **Gangs and Gang Related Activity**

A gang is defined as any group of two or more persons who advocate or regularly engage in drug use, violence, illegal acts, disruptive behavior, intimidation, or other similar acts and behaviors. All gang activity/displaying of colors is forbidden at LMS.

### **Drug Testing Policy**

Reasonable belief that a student is under the influence of alcohol or drugs may result in a search – which can include a drug test. Student refusal to participate in a drug test may conclude that the student is under the influence and will result in appropriate disciplinary measures. Board policy JIH.

### **Student Dress Code board policy**

A safe and disciplined learning environment is essential to a quality educational program. District-wide standards on student attire are intended to help students concentrate on schoolwork, reduce discipline problems, and improve school order and safety. The Board recognizes that students have a right to express themselves through dress and personal appearance; however, students shall not wear apparel that is deemed disruptive or potentially disruptive to the classroom environment or to the maintenance of a safe and orderly school.

Any student deemed in violation of the dress code shall be required to change into appropriate clothing or make arrangements to have appropriate clothing brought to school immediately. In this case, there shall be no further penalty.

If the student cannot promptly obtain appropriate clothing, on the first offense, the student shall be given a written warning and an administrator shall notify the student's parents/guardians. On the second offense, the student shall remain in the administrative office for the day and do schoolwork and a conference with parents/guardians shall be held. On the third offense, the student may be subject to suspension or other disciplinary action in accordance with board policy concerning student suspensions, expulsions and other disciplinary interventions.

## Unacceptable Items

The following items are deemed disruptive to the classroom environment or to the maintenance of a safe and orderly school and are not acceptable in school buildings, on school grounds, or at school activities:

1. Shorts, dresses, skirts or other similar clothing shorter than mid-thigh length
2. Sunglasses and/or hats worn inside the building
3. Inappropriately sheer, tight or low-cut clothing (e.g., midriffs, halter tops, backless clothing, tube tops, garments made of fishnet, mesh or similar material, muscle tops, etc.) that bare or expose traditionally private parts of the body including, but not limited to, the stomach, buttocks, back and breasts
4. Tank tops or other similar clothing with straps narrower than 1.5 inches in width
5. Any clothing, paraphernalia, grooming, jewelry, hair coloring, accessories, or body adornments that are or contain any advertisement, symbols, words, slogans, patches, or pictures that:
  - Refer to drugs, tobacco, alcohol, or weapons
  - Are of a sexual nature
  - By virtue of color, arrangement, trademark, or other attribute denote membership in gangs which advocate drug use, violence, or disruptive behavior
  - Are obscene, profane, vulgar, lewd, or legally libelous
  - Threaten the safety or welfare of any person
  - Promote any activity prohibited by the student code of conduct
  - Otherwise disrupt the teaching-learning process
6. Pajamas and slippers

## Exceptions

Appropriate athletic clothing may be worn in physical education classes. Clothing normally worn when participating in school-sponsored extracurricular or sports activities (such as cheerleading uniforms and the like) may be worn to school when approved by the sponsor or coach.

Building principals, in conjunction with the school accountability committee, may develop and adopt school-specific dress codes that are consistent with this policy.

Adopted: March 20, 2006

Revised: October 14, 2013

July 8, 2024

LEGAL REF.: C.R.S. [22-32-109.1](#) (2)(a)(I)(J) (boards duty to adopt student dress code)

CROSS REFS.: IMDB, Flag Displays  
JBB\*, Sexual Harassment  
JIC, Student Conduct  
JICDA, Code of Conduct  
JICF, Secret Societies/Gang Activity  
JICH, Drug and Alcohol Use by Students  
JICI, Weapons in School  
JK, Student Discipline  
JKD/JKE, Suspension/Expulsion of Students

### **Additional LMS Dress code policy**

Students must wear shirts of a length that will cover the top of their pants, shorts, or skirts. There should be no skin showing between the shirt and the pants, shorts or skirts at any time. Pants must be pulled up with no underwear showing, no “sagging”. No underwear, cleavage or bare midriffs should be showing. Additionally, jeans may not have rips above mid thigh length unless those rips are patched with solid material. This includes rips in the front or back of jeans. Pants that have holes in them must have a solid patch or other fabric sewn, or must have tights worn underneath, to avoid showing bare skin. Bracelets and throat collars will not have sharp pointed or edged adornments.

Sponsors of extracurricular activities, in cases where students of LMS represent the school and community, or work in close contact with the public, may set reasonable standards of dress and personal appearance for the students under their direction.

No hats or caps are to be worn in the building during the school day. Please leave them in your locker.

No bandanas are to be worn or displayed in any manner or fashion.

Any other items that are deemed unnecessary or a distraction to the learning environment will not be allowed.

The office will be notified of the violation. **The final decision on appropriateness of student clothing rests with administration.**

### **Board policy: Student Use of Cell Phones and Other Personal Technology Devices**

The Board of Education recognizes the importance of communication and collaboration, and provides devices for students to be productive in the classroom. To keep the focus on academics, to reduce unnecessary distractions, and to protect students from other’s misuse of cell phones and other personal technology devices (PTD), the district enforces the following:

- Cell phones and other PTDs shall be TURNED OFF on school campus during school hours. Students are not allowed to wear smartwatches nor earbuds during school hours.
- Cell phones and other PTDs will be confiscated if seen or heard.
- The district will not be responsible for any lost or stolen devices.
- If a student needs to make a phone call during the day, he or she is required to do so from a school phone.
- For the purposes of this policy, “personal technology device” (PTD) or “device” includes any privately-owned portable technology device, including but not limited to cell phones, tablets, laptops, cameras, audio/or video recorders or players, headphones and speakers, and all other hand-held electronic communication and data storage devices.
- The superintendent and/or principal may grant temporary access to cell phones or PTDs at their discretion.
- If the building principal or designee believes a student’s possession or use of a PTD may involve a violation of the law, the building principal or designee may also refer the matter to law enforcement.

Consequences:

1. Offense: **The PTD will be confiscated for the remainder of the school day and the student will have a conference with school administration. Notice made to parent or guardian.**
2. Offense: The **PTD phone** will be confiscated for the remainder of the school day and the student will be given a Disciplinary Referral. The student will serve a one hour detention.
3. Offense: The **PTD phone** will be confiscated for the remainder of the school day and the student will be given a Disciplinary Referral and placed in In-School Suspension for 3 days.
4. Offense: The **PTD phone** will be confiscated and the student will be given a Disciplinary Referral and the student will be suspended Out-of-School (OSS) for three days.
5. Offense: The **PTD phone** will be confiscated and the student will receive a Disciplinary Referral. The student will be suspended Out-of-School (OSS) for three days and a behavior plan will be instituted explaining that the next offense may be grounds for expulsion.
6. Offense: The student will be immediately suspended Out-of-School (OSS) for 5 days. The superintendent will be notified and an expulsion hearing will be conducted.

Adopted: March 20, 2006

Revised: November 9, 2009

July 24, 2023

**July 8, 2024**

LEGAL REF.: C.R.S. 18-7-109 (posting, possession or exchange of private image by a juvenile)

CROSS REFS.: JIC and subcodes, Student Conduct  
JIH, Student Interviews, Interrogations, Searches and Arrests  
JK and subcodes, Student Discipline  
JS, Student use of the Internet and Electronic Communications

# STUDENT SERVICES

## Guidance

The Counselor is an integral part of the total school program. In addition to working with the individual student, the counselor may meet with groups of students, conduct classroom and other small group activities, and works with individual teachers. Services provided by the counselor include school concerns (dealing with teachers and class planning), home issues, social matters with friends, and career information. It is a basic right for all children to feel safe at school and to be spared repeated and intentional humiliation from being bullied. Please report any bullying incidents to the counselor. Communications between the counselor and students are kept confidential unless there is a threat of suicide, homicide, physical or sexual abuse. Some issues where the counselor could provide support and assistance include solving problems, conflict resolution, coping skills, grief and crisis intervention, anger management, goal setting, communication skills, increasing self-esteem, and self-awareness.

## Lockers

Locker space is provided as a privilege for students to use for storage of clothing, equipment and supplies for school. This may include physical education and band in addition to individual lockers. Students are not permitted to share lockers. Lockers are a permanent part of the school building and students are expected to keep them in good condition. You will be held responsible for any undue damage to your locker. Students should not share their combination with friends, preset the locks or jam the locking mechanism. It is a good idea to spin the combination dial after each use to prevent others from learning your last number. Should your lock malfunction, or if a loss occurs, report the problem to the office immediately. LMS personnel may examine lockers without notice and take away the privilege of locker use if abuse is evident. **Lamar Middle School will not be responsible for items stolen or lost.** Book bags, backpacks, and trappers must be a size which will fit in the school lockers. Book bags and backpacks will not be allowed to be taken to lunch. Students will not be allowed to carry large book bags from class to class.

## Internet

No student is allowed to use the internet without teacher permission and signed permission from parents. Students must agree to adhere to the district internet policy. A filter has been added and flags students for dangerous, inappropriate, or harmful searches/communication. These notifications are sent to the administration and will be discussed with the student and parent or guardian. If any policy is not followed the student may lose internet privileges for the remainder of the year.

## Library/Media Center

The Media Center includes the library, the copy center and the maker space. We encourage all students to check out books and read. Books can be checked out two at a time for up to two weeks. We use a computer barcode system to check out books. Late notices are e-mailed each week and paper copies are handed out several times a year, but it is the responsibility of the student to keep track of when the book is due and return it on time. Students are given a personalized barcode that they need to bring to the media center each time they come that will be used to check out all materials. (The librarian and teacher will be there to help teach this process.) Students who check out a book are accepting responsibility for the care of that book. If the book is lost or damaged, they are expected to pay for it. When returning a book, it needs to be scanned and placed in the return area.

The media center is located between the office and the lunchroom. Because many students use this space, we ask that loud voices are not used when entering the media center. It is open before and after school. The hours are 7:30 am until 4:15 pm.

## Bus Services

Bus service is a privilege. Inappropriate and/or dangerous behavior on the bus may result in losing that privilege. Students are expected to follow the directions of the bus driver without question. Questions concerning bus service should be directed to the transportation office at 719-336-5316.

1. Be at scheduled stop on time
2. Find seat quickly and remain in seat
3. Keep hands, feet, and objects to self
4. Obey directions and requests of driver
5. Use proper language
6. A note from parents is required to ride a different bus or get off at a different stop. The note must be signed by the principal or secretary.
7. Send a note or call the driver if not riding.
8. Follow School Rules in the bus line.

### Consequences

1. Warning
2. Note to parents
3. Temporary loss of bus privileges
4. Permanent loss of bus privileges

## School Nurse

We have a school nurse located in Room 100 at the Middle School. She will be available to administer medication to students, upon a parent's written approval, or doctor approval. She will also take care of our ill and/or injured students. Medication taken at school must be administered by trained school personnel and must be kept in the nurse's office. The school must have written permission from your doctor and your parent or guardian before giving medication while you are in school. Bring the medication to the office in the original pharmacy labeled bottle with the following information: Name of medication, Amount to be given, Time of day to be given and the physician's name and signature. We have forms in the office available to take to your doctor. The school nurse may give your child, with your written consent, Tylenol, Ibuprofen, antibiotic ointment, Hydrocortisone Cream, Cough drops and antacid tablets. **Only the nurse or office personnel may send a student home and document it as an excused absence.**

The school nurse and her staff will conduct hearing and vision screenings throughout the year.

Please keep immunizations up to date. Bring new immunization information to the office.

Accident insurance is available by contacting [www.studentinsurance-kk.com](http://www.studentinsurance-kk.com). Information about Medicaid and other medical insurance options is available through the Prowers County Nursing Office at 336-8721.

## Minor Injury

In the case of minor injury\* school district personnel shall administer first aid and send the child back to class.

## Serious Injury (but not threatening to life, limb or digit)

In the event my child is in pain or requires medical treatment beyond first aid for a serious, but not life/limb or digit threatening injury\*, the school district personnel will provide first aid and attempt to contact the parent (or emergency contact) so that further medical treatment can be obtained.

## Severe Injury (threatening to life, limb or digit)

In the event my child suffers a severe injury or illness requiring immediate medical attention\*, school district personnel will call 911 to notify emergency health services. School personnel will then attempt to contact the parent (or emergency contact) so that the parent may proceed to the hospital.

(\* as determined by appropriate school district personnel)

# STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Lamar Middle School offers an activity program designed to meet the needs of most students. This program is essential to the total program of the school and offers opportunities and values to you that the academic program alone does not offer. A school "comes to life" in its activity program; therefore, you are encouraged to participate in at least one activity.

## Music and Choir

LMS has a choir. All middle school students will have an opportunity to participate in choir, which will perform a variety of vocal music including four part selections. There are also two concert bands which include beginning and intermediate. Students are placed in these bands based on their ability level. All music students are encouraged to participate in small ensembles (duets, trios, etc.) and prepare solos.

## Yearbook

This activity involves both photography and layout/design. The photography aspect entails taking the pictures. The layout and design includes choosing a theme, creating a cover, typing the copy and designing the book.

## Science Fair

Optional opportunities exist for all students to plan, to develop and to implement their own scientific investigation. They display their investigation at the Southeast Regional Science Fair in Lamar in early March. Winners may have the opportunity to compete at the State level.

## Dances/Activity Nights

All school dances are open to students of **LMS only**. Students from other schools are not allowed to attend. Students who have been placed on a remedial discipline plan are not allowed to attend Lamar Middle School dances. Students who have received a discipline or office referral anytime in the six weeks preceding the next dance may not attend.

Students not in attendance in all classes on the day of a dance, or any other school activity, may not be allowed to attend that activity.

If you leave the dance, or other activities, for any reason, you may not reenter. School rules and policies will be in effect during all school activities.

## Student Government

### 1. Student Council

Students interested in joining the Student Council (STUCO) are encouraged to apply by completing an application. STUCO serves as the voice of the student body, with the primary objectives of developing leadership skills and promoting school spirit and pride. The council sponsors special events, addresses issues, and contributes to decision-making processes that impact students. Through participation in STUCO, students gain practical experience in governance. Please note that students who receive two (2) disciplinary slips within a year will be ineligible to participate in STUCO.

The primary roles and responsibilities of the Student Leadership Team include:

- a. **Organizing Events and Activities:** Planning and executing school events, such as spirit weeks, dances, fundraisers, and community service projects.
- b. **Promoting School Spirit:** Encouraging school pride and unity through various initiatives and activities that foster a positive school culture.

## 2. Student Leadership Team

At Lamar Middle School, the Student Leadership Team is a group of motivated and responsible students dedicated to making a positive impact within the school community. This team is composed of students who demonstrate leadership qualities, and a commitment to service. This team will work in conjunction with the Student Council. This focus will be on improving student achievement and school improvement.

The primary roles and responsibilities of the Student Leadership Team include:

- 1) **Representing Student Voice:** Acting as a liaison between the student body and the administration, ensuring that students' ideas, concerns, and suggestions are heard and addressed.
- 2) **Supporting Peer Mentorship:** Assisting and mentoring fellow students, providing guidance and support to foster academic and personal growth.
- 3) **Developing Leadership Skills:** Participating in workshops, training sessions, and leadership development programs to enhance their skills and effectiveness as student leaders.
- 4) **Community Involvement:** Engaging in community service projects that extend beyond the school, fostering a sense of civic responsibility and community engagement.

The Student Leadership Team at Lamar Middle School is a vital part of the school's efforts to create a dynamic, inclusive, and supportive environment where every student can thrive. Through their leadership, these students help to shape a positive and collaborative school culture.

## Clubs

At Lamar Middle School, we offer a variety of clubs to enrich students' academic and extracurricular experiences. Here are some of the clubs currently available:

**Tinker Club:** A hands-on club for students interested in building, creating, and experimenting with various materials and technologies. It fosters creativity and problem-solving skills through projects and collaborative activities.

**Science Fair Club:** This club prepares students for participation in science fairs by guiding them through the process of developing research projects, conducting experiments, and presenting their findings. It aims to inspire a love for science and critical thinking.

**Honor Choir:** A prestigious choir for students who excel in vocal performance. Members of the Honor Choir participate in advanced musical training, perform at school and community events, and may compete in regional and state competitions.

**Honor Band:** A selective ensemble for talented instrumentalists. The Honor Band provides students with the opportunity to enhance their musical skills, perform challenging repertoire, and participate in concerts and competitions.

**Knowledge Bowl:** An academic competition club where students work in teams to answer questions on various subjects, including history, science, literature, and current events. It promotes teamwork, quick thinking, and a broad knowledge base.

We are continuously expanding our club offerings to meet the diverse interests of our students. Stay tuned for more exciting clubs to come

# Athletics

## Programs offered to all 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students

Girls Cross Country, Boys Cross Country, Girls Volleyball, Football, Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball, Girls Wrestling, Boys Wrestling, Boys Track, Girls Track, Baseball and Cheerleading.

## Athletic Paperwork

Paperwork will be completed on the LMS webpage.

Lamar Middle School - <https://students.arbitersports.com/organizations/20093>

The registration process contains a place to purchase sports coverage. This is in no way associated with our school, and is nothing that we recommend purchasing. It is built into the platform and cannot be removed.

The following link will provide a step by step guide to help with the registration process:

<https://arbitersportshelp.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/19923853845517-How-do-I-create-an-account-and-register-for-the-first-time-For-Parents>

## Sports Eligibility

1. You must be considered a good citizen of the school.
2. The student to be in attendance in all periods of the day of the scheduled activity.
3. Students will become ineligible if he/she earns an F in two or more classes. An ineligible student will not be able to participate in extracurricular contests for one week, until grades are checked again. Students will still be required to be at practice while they are ineligible. An ineligible student continues to be ineligible the next Monday morning. Grades are checked each Monday morning at 10:00am.

## Sports Travel Policy

Members of the Lamar Middle School athletic teams that attend events that are hosted anywhere other than in Lamar will be required to ride to the school sponsored event with their team in the transportation vehicle provided by the Lamar School District unless other arrangements have been pre-approved by the Lamar Middle School Administrators. The athletes are also required to ride home from the events with the team in order to build a strong athletic team culture and a sense of camaraderie among athletes. Parents will have the ability to sign out their student when necessary, but the number of occurrences must not exceed one less than half of the number of away contests scheduled for that sport (Example: a team has 8 road games; the athlete may only be signed out a total of 3 times). Students who elect to exceed the number of allowable opportunities to return home using transportation not provided by the school district will be subject to disciplinary action which may include game or season suspension. Coaches will need to track an athlete's number of occurrences and have a management plan in place to deal with violations. Ignoring this travel expectation will subject coaches to reprimand. A student athlete's parent/legal guardian that wishes to sign the athlete out, must do so with the coach and take the athlete with him/her from the event. The athlete's parent/legal guardian will need to be present at the event and will need to provide the coach with written verification that he/she will take his/her child from the event.

Athletes that need to ride home with someone other than their parent/legal guardian will need to have approval from the administrators at Lamar Middle School prior to the trip. The middle school administrators will notify the coaching staff of the approval for the student to ride home with someone other than their parent/legal guardian. The parent/legal guardian will need to come to LMS and fill out the Parent/Guardian Authorization to Travel Form at least 24 hours in advance in order for their son or daughter to be released to the other person. Such authorizations will count in the number of times a student is allowed to travel on transportation not provided by the school district. The person who will be taking responsibility for the athlete at the event will need to provide a note to the coach at the conclusion of the event. Athletes will not be released to anyone under the age of 21.

## MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

### Textbook Care

Textbooks are expensive!!! Textbooks are checked out to you and it is your responsibility to turn in the same textbooks at the end of the year in the same condition as when they were given to you (allowing for normal wear and tear.) Write your name in the space provided on the inside book cover. You will be assessed a fee for damage to books that are checked out to you. Please report missing textbooks to your teachers immediately. We will try to help you find missing textbooks, however, you are responsible for what happens to your textbooks. Missing books will be billed to you at our replacement cost.

### Meal Services

Breakfast and lunch are available to all students. Students may choose to bring their own lunch. **Students are expected to be in the cafeteria or outside from the basketball court to the P.E. field. Students will not be allowed on the east or north side of the building.** No student may leave the campus during lunch unless their parent or guardian signs them out. **Students who disrupt or cause distractions in the lunchroom will be asked to eat outside the lunchroom or in the kitchen. If disobedience continues, students may be required to eat with their parents or off school property.** Students are not to share their food with others. We encourage all students to fill out an application for Free/reduced lunches.

**Lunch can not be brought in from outside vendors unless the parent makes arrangements the day before with an administrator to bring it in and eat lunch with their student. Parents or guardians are welcome to come in and interact with their student(s).**

### Visitors

No school-age visitors are permitted. Parents are always encouraged to visit the school. **Remember** to report to the office first thing upon entering the school. All visitors will be asked to wear a visitor's ID Badge.

### Bicycles

Students may ride bicycles to school. However, bikes are **not to be ridden on the school grounds**. Riders must obey all traffic rules and park bikes in the bike racks provided on the South side of the building. Please lock your bike to one of the bike stands. Students shall walk bicycles on and off the school grounds. Skateboards, roller skates or blades, & scooters (all wheeled devices) are not allowed to be ridden on school grounds.

## **Telephone**

School phones are for official use only. However, if you are ill, please see the school nurse. If you have an emergency situation, please report to the front office. **It is a violation of the cell phone policy if your student calls or sends a text message without permission from the office.**

## **Emergency Information**

In case of serious injury or illness, parents will be notified immediately. If the office is unable to reach a parent/guardian and it is deemed an emergency, the child will be taken to Prowers Medical Center by ambulance if so determined. IT IS VERY IMPORTANT that the office has in student files a *telephone number that is current and a correct address*. Please list the numbers of three additional persons to contact.

## **Lost and Found**

**Please** mark all student property for identification purposes. Lost/found items will be available in the office. If not claimed by the end of the school term, lost items will be donated.

## **Parking**

Parking is located in front (south) and behind (north) the school. We reserve three parking spots in front for visitors.

Student safety is a priority. Students are to use the crosswalks when crossing the street. They are never to walk between parked vehicles or to be picked up in the middle of the street.

## **Enrollment**

New students may be enrolled when they arrive in the district by contacting the Middle School office. There is a regular enrollment date for the registration of all returning students during August. These dates will be published in the local newspaper and broadcast over local radio stations. Be sure to bring the following information with you if you are new to the district:

- \*An original birth certificate
- \*Child's immunization record
- \*Emergency telephone numbers
- \*Social Security numbers
- \*An exact address

## **Pictures**

Individual pictures will be taken on **September 22<sup>nd</sup>**. Retakes will be on **November 3<sup>rd</sup>**

## **Records and Transfers**

Your child's records are available for review at any time by appointment. When transferring to another school, contact Lamar Middle School as soon as possible. Records will be sent to the new school as soon as a request for records is received from the new school. Please sign your child out of Lamar Middle School at the office and check to see that all books are returned and bills paid.

## **School Closings**

Weather conditions or other emergencies may cause school closings. School closings are determined by the Central Office. The local radio stations will offer instructions. We will also call every parent with the emergency telephone calling system.

### **School Field Trips**

Students are **required** to get prior parental permission for school trips. Forms to be signed and returned will be sent home by classroom teachers prior to the trip.

### **Student Dismissal During the School Day**

No student will be allowed to leave the building with anyone except their parents or legal guardian. Exceptions will be made **ONLY** if that person is listed on the child's enrollment card as a contact. **ANYONE** picking up a child at school must sign in on the computer at the office before leaving the building.

## **OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARENT INVOLVEMENT**

- **FIELD TRIPS/SPECIAL EVENTS** - This is a one time commitment to support a scheduled activity or event.
- **PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES** - You and/or your child's teacher may request a conference to discuss your child's progress at any time. Formal Parent/Teacher conferences have been scheduled for September 17th, 18th- and February 25th, 26th from 4 pm to 8 pm
- **LAMAR MIDDLE SCHOOL ADVISORY COMMITTEE** helps to continually assess the educational program. The Advisory Committee collaborates to review the Unified Improvement Plan, Title I plans, and other agreements and activities.



*We are on Facebook @ Lamar Middle School, Lamar CO*