

Dear grade 8 families,

We are excited about welcoming our new grade 9 students to J.L. Ilsley High School in September 2023.

Ms. Chisholm, one of our School Counsellors has been sharing and collecting information with our feeder schools. For many students, very little will change as the grade 9 program does not require course selections. However, students in the French Immersion program and/or the Band program must decide whether they are continuing with either of those programs or not in grade 9.

Staffing for the next school year is determined in the early spring based on the number of students registered in each program (English, French Immersion, Band). For this reason, program selections are considered a one year commitment, therefore changes will not be permitted. Thank you in advance for your understanding.

In preparation for the transition to grade 9, Ms. Chisholm will be visiting all feeder schools along with current grade 9 students and Students' Council members to answer questions and provide information to grade 8 students. They will be sharing a virtual tour with grade 8 students during our visit that will highlight key areas of the building.

Feeder School Visits

Cunard Junior High: Wednesday, May 31st

Elizabeth Sutherland School: Friday, June 2nd

Herring Cover Junior High: Monday, June 5th

Rockingstone Heights School: Wednesday June 7th

In the meantime, we have prepared an FAQ document to give you a better understanding of our school.

Feel free to contact Ms. Nicole Chisholm, school counsellor or J.L. Ilsley High School Administration should you have any questions or concerns about registering your child for grade 9.

Kind regards,

Marilyn MacGibbon
Principal
J.L. Ilsley High School

Frequently Asked Questions

What grades are at J.L. Ilsley High School?

J.L. Ilsley is a grade 9-12 school.

What time does the school day start and finish?

The school day is from 9:20 a.m. to 3:35 p.m. for all students. The front doors are unlocked at 9:00 a.m. Teachers are on duty at 9:00 a.m. when school buses start to arrive and remain on duty until 9:20 a.m. Students may enter the building at 9:00 a.m.

Do the grade 9 students have their own section of the building?

No. Students in all grades have classes on all 3 floors.

Do grade 9s get their own locker?

Yes. All students, including grade 9s, get their own locker. Lockers are assigned on the first day of school and could be located anywhere throughout the school.

Are grade 9 courses semestered like those in grades 10-12?

Yes. All students have two semesters in their school year. Most grade 9 courses are full year courses; however, some are only in one semester.

Does J.L. Ilsley High School have food service?

Yes. We have a full-service cafeteria that is open in the morning for breakfast and at lunch. Students can pay with cash, debit, or credit card. We also have several vending machines full of healthy choices. Our machines also take debit and credit cards. We also offer a breakfast program of grab and go when students arrive and something a little heartier between classes.

Can students in grade 9 participate on all school sports teams, clubs and activities?

Yes. Students in grade 9 are invited to try out for all of our sports teams. They are also encouraged to participate in any school clubs, committees and activities they are interested in. Students' Council will run various activities throughout the school year for all students.

What does communication look like between the school and home?

J.L. Ilsley uses a variety of methods to communicate effectively with students and their families. These methods include use of: School Messenger (PowerSchool mass email), Twitter, school website, email, phone calls, Google Classrooms and meetings.

Switching Classes

Students switch classes every 75 minutes. They have a 10 minutes transition time between classes.

Supports for Students

There are a variety of supports available to students at JL Ilsley High School. Along with providing support, School Counsellors can assist students with the processes and referrals for connecting with additional appropriate resources. Some of the supports students are able to access include: Youth Health Centre, Schools Plus, Youth Pathways, IWK Mental Health Clinician, and School Social Work.