



Michael A. Kostek School

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Information Package 2022-2023

Principal - Mr. Lakusta

Assistant Principal - Ms. Fletcher

School Philosophy

At Michael A. Kostek School we are committed to developing successful, independent learners and leaders who are prepared to live as compassionate, engaged and ethical citizens. We work collaboratively as a staff and in partnership with parents and the community to provide a safe, caring and inclusive learning environment that fosters resiliency, exemplary character and healthy, active lifestyles. Our instructional practices are based on an inquiry approach and differentiation for all learners. Our goal is to provide exceptional learning experiences for all students.

Academic Focus

Learning and achievement are our focus at MAK. Our instructional practices include:

- An emphasis on literacy and numeracy
- Inquiry-based project learning at all grade levels to foster discovery, creativity, reflection, exploration and critical thinking
- Guided Reading and Leveled Literacy Intervention to provide differentiated literacy instruction
- Daily writing across all grades to develop excellent writers
- Implementing concept-based teaching and learning
- Commitment to daily physical education
- Effective use of technology
- Social Thinking language incorporated into whole class and small group conversations

Artist in Residences

Each year Michael A. Kostek school staff and parents collaborate to bring in an Artist in Residence and special presentations to provide our students with enriching learning experiences in music, art, dance and drama.

Music Program

Students receive weekly music instruction from our music specialists. Music learning activities include the following: singing, learning of musical elements, reading and writing music, memory work, listening, improvisation, movement and playing instruments. Students may have opportunities to perform at our winter concerts, assemblies and spring tea.

French as a Second Language

Students at MAK learn French as a Second Language starting in Grade Four. Students in grades four, five and six receive 150 minutes of French instruction each week.

Assessment & EYE-TA

In the fall, you will receive feedback regarding an assessment that is unique to Kindergarten called “the Early Years Evaluation” or “EYE-TA”. Once this assessment is complete the teacher will host a teacher-parent conference time to discuss individual progress.

Communication ~ SchoolZone

The main source of communication regarding school news, homework, field trip consent forms, progress reports, etc. will be available through a secure website called SchoolZone. At the beginning of the year, you will be given a user I.D. and password for yourself and your child. Keep this login information in a safe place. You will use it every year your child is enrolled in an Edmonton Public School. Also note that fees are able to be paid via SchoolZone, under the “fees” tab.

Please check SchoolZone on a regular basis as learning news, information on school-wide events and report cards are posted here. You will receive email notices when there have been new postings.

Technology for Learning

Each classroom has an interactive display and a document camera. Additionally, our classrooms have sound systems. We are fortunate to have multiple sets of chromebooks for students to use when writing and researching.

Parking and Traffic Safety

The school parking lot is for staff vehicles only. Parents park on the streets around the school. Please consider walking to school or sending your child on the school bus to help the congestion around our school. Make it a priority to only cross the streets at the designated crosswalks. Please DO NOT make left turns into the drive thru or leave the drive thru to help keep the traffic flowing.

Drive-thru

The **drive thru is only open to parents in the morning for morning drop off**. From 8:20-8:35 we have staff members in the drive-thru directing traffic and opening doors to help keep the traffic flowing. Please DO NOT get out of your vehicle as this slows down the flow of traffic, instead allow us to help your child get out of the vehicle in the morning.

After school, the drive thru is for buses only. Our buses have to pick up students at another school and it is essential that we help the buses keep on schedule.

Transportation

Students from Cameron Heights, Wedgewood and Edgemont South areas can access yellow bus service to receive transportation to school. Please contact the school office for a transportation form. All students that ride the bus pay a monthly transportation fee.

School Times

***Please note that all schools in Edmonton Public have to recalculate student's learning minutes each spring and the scheduled times could change slightly.**

If your child arrives after the 2nd bell they will need to go to the office and check in with the office staff and get a late slip.

School Bell Times for 2022-23

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday		Thursday	
Morning		Morning	
Morning Bell	8:30 am	Morning Bell	8:30 am
Instruction Starts	8:35 am	Instruction Starts	8:35 am
Lunch	11:30 am-12:19 pm	Lunch	11:30 am-12:19 pm
Afternoon		Afternoon	
Afternoon Bell	12:14 pm	Afternoon Bell	12:14 pm
Instruction Starts	12:19 pm	Instruction Starts	12:19 pm
Dismissal	3:28 pm	Dismissal	2:10 pm

Staggered Entry for Kindergarten

In order to get to know our kindergarten students and to help introduce them to their new school, we will have a small group orientation for the first 2 days of school on Sept. 1 & 2. We will divide each day into 3-4 sections and students will attend for about 1.5 hours. This will enable the students to tour the school and become familiar with routines in a smaller group. All students will attend on Sept. 6, 2022.

At the end of May, we will communicate by email who your child's teacher is, morning or afternoon and which day and time your child comes for staggered entry.

Drop-off and Pick Up for Kindergarten

There is a supervisor outside fifteen minutes before the morning bell. Kindergarten children will line up **outside the main front doors of the school** until their teacher greets them and

walks them to class. At pick up time, parents wait in front of the school. The kindergarten teachers will not allow the children to leave unless they see you, a caregiver, or a daycare provider. If students ride the bus then school staff will walk students to their bus.

Fees

School Supplies: In Kindergarten, parents have the option of having the teachers do the shopping. Parents can pay \$25 for all the supplies for the year and the teachers will purchase what is needed. Or if parents prefer they can get a list of supplies, purchase the supplies and send them in. Supply lists for Grades 1-6 are created in the spring. Parents can order through a stationary company set up by the school or families can purchase the necessary supplies and send them in.

Homework Pouches: Kindergarten to Grade 3 students all use a homework pouch to bring books and papers back and forth from school. Home reading, artwork, news, library books, and finished assignments will be sent home in the pouches. All students new to Michael A. Kostek will be asked to purchase a Kanga Pouch. Pouches can be purchased from the school office or families have the option to bring in their own homework pouch. Fee will be determined in the fall.

Field Trip Fees: Hopefully we will be able to resume field trips for the 2022-23 school year. Families are responsible for paying for their child's field trip fees. Specific information outlining all costs will be sent home at the end of September once things are booked. Fees can be paid on SchoolZone. Fees are due mid October.

Lunch Program: Families have the option of having their children, Grades 1-6, stay at school for lunch. Families pay a fee for supervision if they choose this option. Lunch fees are paid on SchoolZone.

Lunch Program for Grades 1-6

MAK provides a lunch program as a service for students who are unable to go home for lunch. Lunch fees cover the cost of paid supervisors during the lunch break. Fees are determined each year and information will be sent home in September.

Allergy Awareness

Many children at MAK have severe and life-threatening allergies. To accommodate the medical needs of children with severe allergies at MAK School, we promote allergy awareness and are NUT AWARE. The safety of all children is our first priority. All snacks and lunches are strongly encouraged to be nut-free.

Cold Weather & Recess

Students have a morning and an afternoon recess break of 15 minutes outside. When the temperature reaches -23° C or below (with windchill), a green dot will be placed on the school doors and students will be allowed to wait inside until the start of school. Recess will also be

held inside if the temperature is -23° C or below. It is important to dress your child for cold weather, even on these “green dot” days, as they will be sent outside for recess if the temperature rises.

Parent Volunteers

Volunteers are very important to us at MAK. Hopefully during the 2022-23 school year we will be able to have volunteers support in the classroom and in the school.

School Council

Michael A. Kostek is fortunate to have a strong School Council. The parents work collaboratively with the school administration and staff as well as the MAK Fundraising Society. The parent's goal is to make Michael A. Kostek the best school for our children. We would love for you to come out this school year where you can either just attend a meeting to stay informed, join a committee and/or join our board. Meetings are held monthly and all parents are invited to attend. If you have any questions, please contact us at makcouncil@gmail.com

Michael A. Kostek Fundraising Society

Michael A. Kostek Fundraising Society is a parent run society that offers financial support for the school. MAK Fundraising Society holds monthly meetings on the same evening as our School Council as the two groups work very closely. All parents are welcome to attend meetings. As a board, they organize fundraisers and use the proceeds to enhance the educational experience in our school. If you have any questions, please contact us at makfundraising@gmail.com