Welcome to Laurel Nokomis School

Essential Information for New Families - 2025–2026

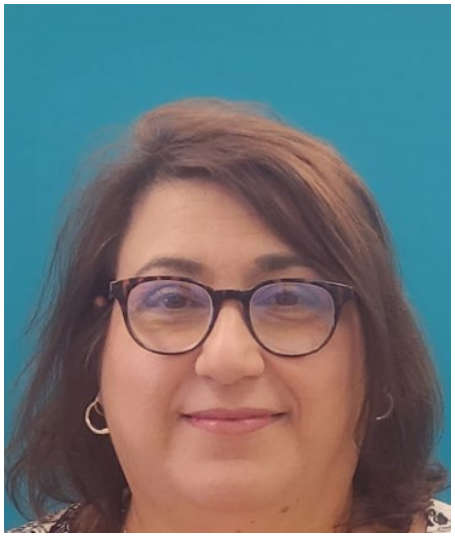


Welcome to Laurel Nokomis School!

Our mission is to cultivate a learning community where strong relationships, a safe environment, and enriching opportunities empower all students and staff to achieve academic and social success.

Our vision is to prepare our students to be college and career ready, life-long learners and independent responsible citizens.






LNS Admin Team

Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)

Laurel Nokomis School

Laurel Nokomis Programs

AIM	SAIL	AWC	Gifted Magnet
K9 for Kids	ASAP	Morning Math	Before & After Care
Bolt Broadcast	Lightning Leaders	Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA)	Good News Church
Bricks for Kids	NJHS	Student Council	Girls Who Code

Instructional Intentionality ⚡

Leigh Michalojko

K–8 Curriculum Overview

- Teachers follow the Florida State Standards
- Grades K–5: Strong foundational skills in reading, writing, math, science, and social studies
  - Departmentalized in grades 3-5
  - Advanced Work Classrooms Grades 1-5
- Grades 6–8: Departmentalized instruction with core four classes and elective courses
- Resiliency Lessons & Required Instruction https://www.fldoe.org/academics/standards/instructional-materials/required-instr.stml
- Instruction is guided by CPALMS resources: www.cpalms.org

Academics

Specials (Elementary)

- Physical Education
- Musical Theatre
- Art
- Technology
- Horticulture
- STEM

Encore (Middle)

- Band
- Exploratory Music
- Orchestra
- CSI
- Physical Education
- Computer Applications
- Exploring Robotics Technology
- Business Ownership
- Spanish (3 levels)

Clarifying Systems ⚡

Paula Cimillo

Middle School Sports

- <u>Competitive Sports</u>
  - Volleyball (Girls Only)
  - Basketball (Boys and Girls)
  - Track (Boys and Girls)
  - Tennis (Boys and Girls)
  - Golf (Boys and Girls)
- <u>Intramural Options</u> available throughout the School year for all 6-8 students
  - Volleyball
  - Basketball
  - Golf
  - Tennis
  - Weight Training
  - Team Sports

Try Outs are open to *6th – 8th Grade Students.*

*<u>*Must have an Athletic Packet Turned In before Try Outs</u>*

*Packets are located on the LNS website: under Families: Laurel Nokomis Athletics

The Lightning Way



PBIS Program



Bolt Bucks & The Bolt Boutique



PBIS Quarterly Celebration

-Staff vs. student sporting events

-Bounce Houses

-Glow Party



Quarterly Rewards & Honor Roll

Dress Code Highlights

- Clothing must be appropriate and not distracting
- No halters, spaghetti straps, or visible midriffs
- Shorts/skirts must be fingertip length
- Closed-toe shoes only
- Student ID on and visible

Electronics



Cell phones play a vital role in communication and safety, especially during emergencies.



The Florida Legislature passed HB 1105 in the July 2025 legislative session, making changes to student use of electronic and wireless communication devices during the school day.



Elementary school students will have devices silences, put away, and not used at any time during the school day. They will not be asked to use their personal devices for instructional purposes. ***This is unchanged from previous years.**



Middle School students will have devices silenced, put away, and not used at any time during the school day. They will not be asked to use their personal devices for instructional purposes. ***This is a change from previous years.**

Attendance & Tardies

Regular attendance is essential for success.

School starts at 8:30 AM

Students arriving after 8:30 are considered tardy

Absences must be documented via FOCUS portal

Breakfast & Lunch

- Breakfast served 7:45–8:20 AM
- Parents can join their child for lunch (after first 2 weeks)
  - Areas are designated in the courtyard for parents to eat with their student.
- Menus
  - https://sarasotacountyschools.nutrislice.com/menus-eula
- Apply for Free/Reduced Lunch online
  - https://www.myschoolbucks.com/ver2/getmain?requestAction=home

Time	Grade Level(s)
10:20-10:50	1 & 4
10:55-11:25	K & 3
11:00-11:30	2
11:30 – 12:00	5
11:38-12:08 (A Lunch)	6
12:41-1:11 (B Lunch)	7 & 8

Transportation & Safety

- Transporation sign-up was during registration
  - Any concerns with Transporation such as routing/schedules complete the forms link https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/28a343695d6c4228a1dd2bec53205d6e

- Follow all safety rules on buses and at crossings
- Use WheresTheBus app to track in real time



Campus Safety & OpenGate

- All students and visitors must pass through OpenGate security screening
- Common triggers: umbrellas, laptops, binders, glasses cases
- Students should arrive with only essential items
- Visitors must present a government-issued ID and pass a security check
- Safety drills (fire, lockdown, severe weather) are held throughout the year



Communicate & Collaborate ⚡

Jade Ellis

Arrival & Dismissal

Two Points of Entry – Bus Loop & Parent Drop Off

Arrival

- Gates open at 7:45 AM
- K-4 report to Gym
- 5-8 & Breakfast eaters report to Cafeteria
- All students walk through OpenGate

Staggered Dismissal

- K–1: 3:10
- 2–3: 3:13
- 4–8: 3:15
- All families must have the white car tag
- Elementary – Walker Form
- No early dismissals after 2:30 PM.
  - Process


Laurel Rd
Old Albee Farm Rd
Walker
Parent
Pick-Up
Laurel Nokomis School
Walker
Basketball court
Walker
Athletic track

Communication & Parent Portal

Stay updated via Thrillshare, email, texts, our school website and Facebook

Principal Lightning Letter

Update contact info in the Parent Portal

Check grades, attendance, and more in the FOCUS Portal

Keep open communication with teachers

Volunteers & Visitors

- All visitors must check in with ID
  - Planned School events will also have RSVP options
- All visitors must walk through OpenGate to access campus
- Volunteers must be cleared by the district
  - https://www.sarasotacountyschools.net/o/scs/page/volunteer
- Level 2 clearance required for chaperoning field trips

Who Can You Contact?

- Administration
  - Jessica Fuesy, Principal
  - Rachel "Jade" Ellis, ESE Assistant Principal & Grades K-3
  - Leigh Michalojko, Assistant Principal & Grades 4-6
  - Paula Cimillo, Assistant Principal & Grades 7-8
- Counselors
  - Gabrielle O'Berry, Grades PK-3
  - Natalie Falcone, Grades 4-6
  - Michael Reichman, Grades 7-8
- Exceptional Student Education Instructional Facilitators (EIF)
  - Kathleen McIndoe, Grades PK-5
  - Marissa Belardi, Grades 6-8
- Exceptional Student Education Behavior Coach
  - Peri-Anne Chobot, AIM and SAIL Program
- Front Office Staff
  - Megan Wold, Receptionist
  - Julie Graszl, Receptionist & Attendance Clerk
  - Luanne Pare, Registrar (Registration)
  - Lucki Cook, Registrar (Records and Scheduling)
  - Sue Parrish, Administrative Assistant

LAUREL NOKOMIS LIGHTNING

Questions?

