



Science Program

Date: January 8, 2026

learning | as unique | as every student



Calgary Board
of Education

Alternative Programs



Choice | Alternative Programs

- **Science**
- Indigenous Education
- Arts-Centred
- All Girls
- Languages (French, German, Mandarin, Spanish)
- Montessori
- Traditional Learning Centre (TLC)

Alternative Programs



Why Alternative Programs?

- Providing families choices to appeal to the interests and preferences of each student
- Programs focus on a particular language, culture, subject (Arts, Science), or teaching philosophy
- Informed choice is essential – what is THIS particular program about and how does it meet MY child's needs?

Alternative Programs

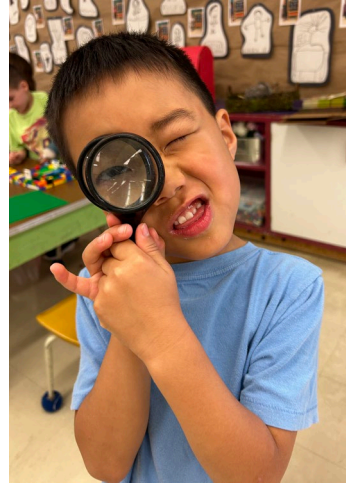


Inform | Key Messages

- Each program has unique features
- Integrity of the program remains the same across sites
- All sites follow Alberta Programs of Study with ATA certificated teachers
- All schools requiring a lottery follow the CBE lottery process
- Aligned with system timeframe for registration
- There is a designated Alternative Program school for each home address

Kindergarten at a Science School

Many Field Studies and Experiences



Volunteer Opportunities
throughout the year



Learning through the Lens of Science

Inquiry-Based Learning

How can we **observe** with **curiosity** to **explore** and understand **connections** in our world?

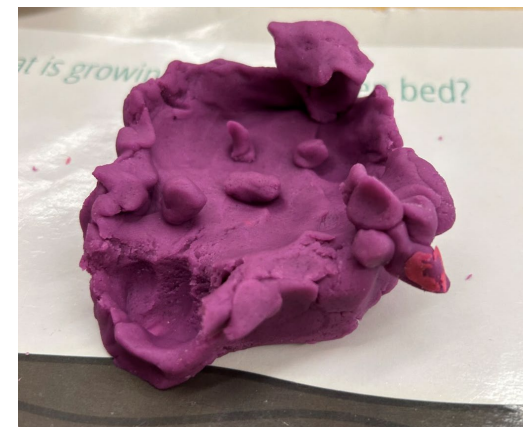
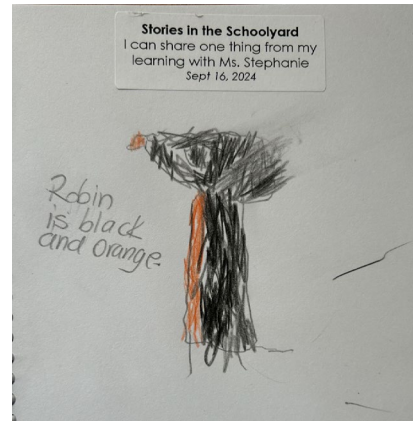


Thimbleberry Learning- Stories in the Schoolyard



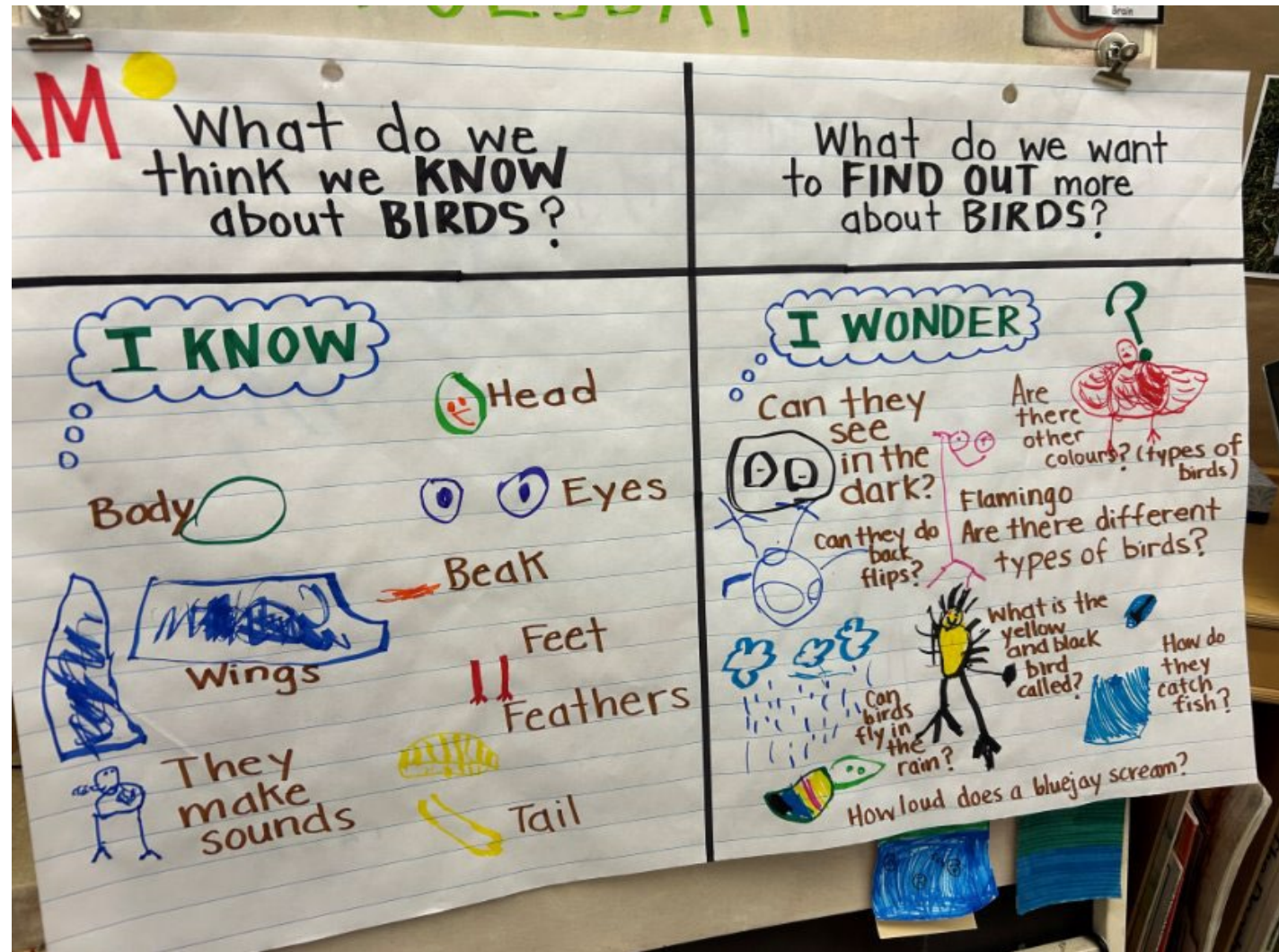
What does Inquiry look like in Kindergarten?

Listening to Student Voice



What does Inquiry look like in Kindergarten?

Students Ask Questions to Guide Learning



What does Inquiry look like in Kindergarten?

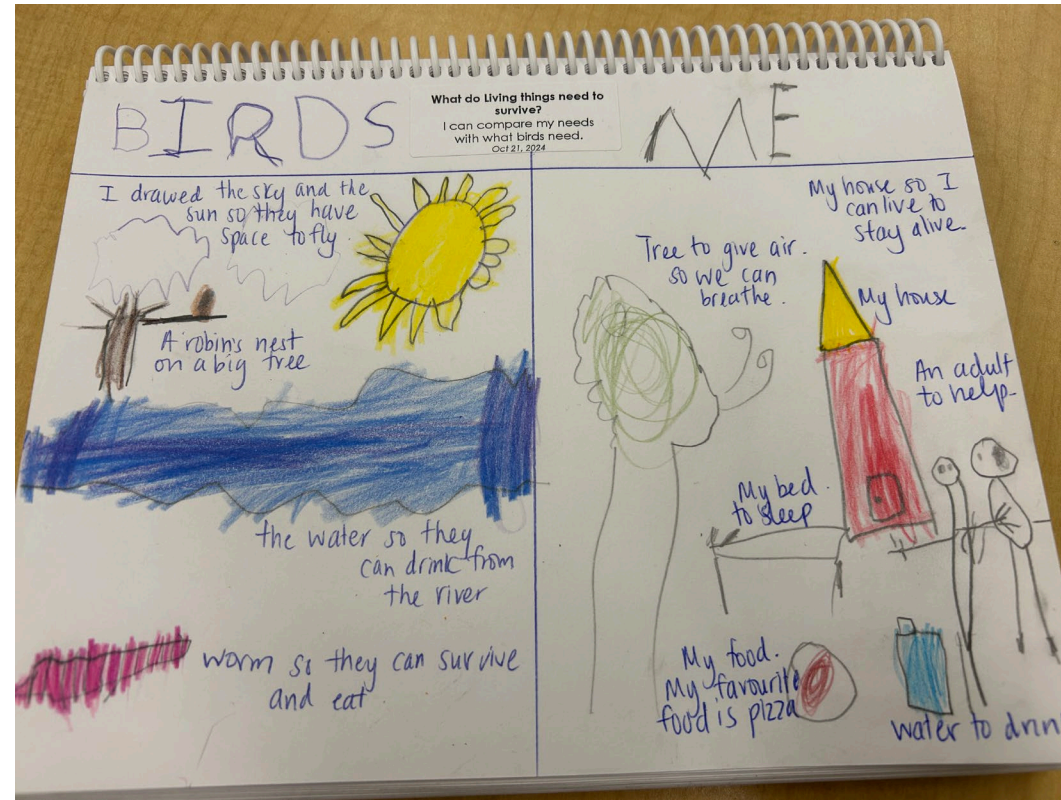


Green Calgary -
Introduction to Birds



Science

Integrating our Inquiry with other Subject Areas



Language Arts



Social Studies



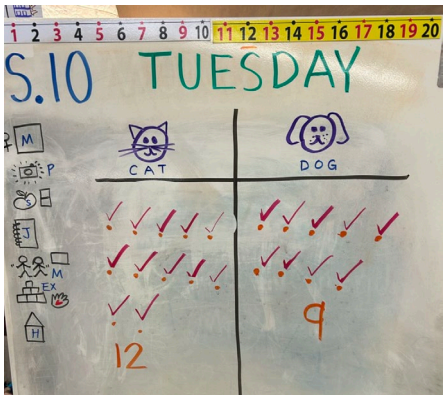
Math

Typical Day in Kindergarten

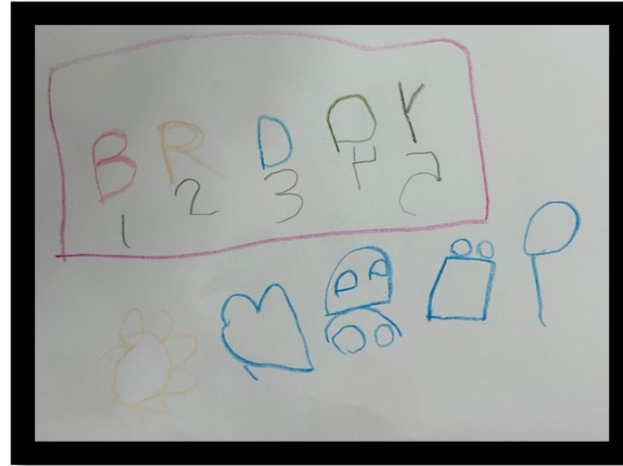
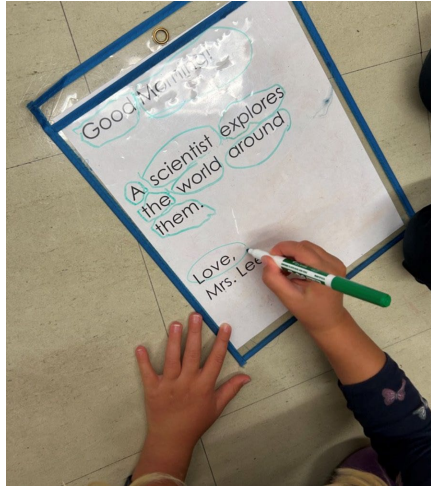


- Group Learning
- Early Literacy and Numeracy
- Snack
- Daily Physical Education
- Guided learning activities
- Music/Singing/Poetry
- iLab
- Exploration

Early Numeracy Skills in Kindergarten



Early Literacy Skills in Kindergarten



When Can My Child Begin Kindergarten?

2020	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Students will be 6 in 2026
2021	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Students will be 5 in 2026
2022	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Students will be 4 in 2026

Blue Months- Child must be registered in Grade One.

Green Months- Child should be registered in Kindergarten (*please see below)

Yellow Months- Child is eligible to start Kindergarten in 2026-27 OR 2027-28

Red Months- Cannot register as this child is too young (born after December 31, 2021 cutoff).

Children must be at least five years old as of December 31 to start kindergarten in the fall of that calendar year. This means that a four-year old child may start kindergarten if they will turn five on or before December 31 of that calendar year.



**Calgary Board
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iLab at Maple Ridge School



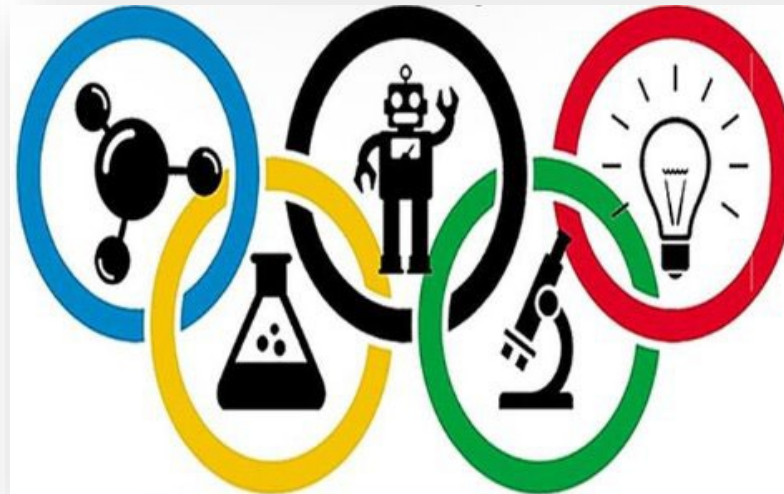
- Available both as a whole-class learning space and as resource for in-class learning.
- Stocked with the assistance of students, community and parent council.
- Foundation for design thinking/scientific process.



Field Studies at Maple Ridge School



Sample of Events at Maple Ridge School



- Orange Shirt Day
- Winter Solstice Celebration
- Kindness Week
- Pi Day Celebration
- Science Olympics

Timeline for Registration


Registration **opens January 12th** for the 2026-2027 school year.

- Registration is **ONGOING**.
- Registration is paused on **Tuesday February 10, 2026** at 12:00pm for Lottery Schools.
- Lottery drawn on Wednesday February 11, 2026 by 12:00pm.
- Results of the lottery draw sent within 10 business days of the draw.
 - Teacher's Convention counts as business days, weekends and Family Day does not
 - As with the last two years, the goal is to have it out by the 23 (7 business days)
- Parents must accept/decline within 10 business days from the date of the acceptance offer letter/email.





Registration is Online | New and Current CBE Students

www.cbe.ab.ca

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Registration
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Alternative Programs
New School Under Construction
Lottery
Registration Documentation
Browse All ->

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Flexible Payment Options
Find My School Fees
Fee Information Questions and Answers
Fees, Sales and Services Terms and Conditions
School Fees Background
Browse All ->

Records & Transcripts
Transfers
Forms You Need
Back to School

Calendars
Instructional Calendar
Unique Settings
Dates of Significance
Bell Times
Browse All ->

Current CBE Students

Expression of Interest | School Engage

Alternative Programs

Select One Of The Following Options

I Want To Register A Child

I have other children in the CBE and I want to register another child for an alternative program

Start Registration ➞

Moving From One Program To Another

My child is already registered in one program (regular or alternative) and I would like to move to a different program (regular or alternative)

Move Programs ➞

Program Selection

Select One

Alternative Program

I am seeking to move in to an Alternative Program.

Alternative Program ➞

Regular Program

I am seeking to move into the Regular Program

Regular Program ➞

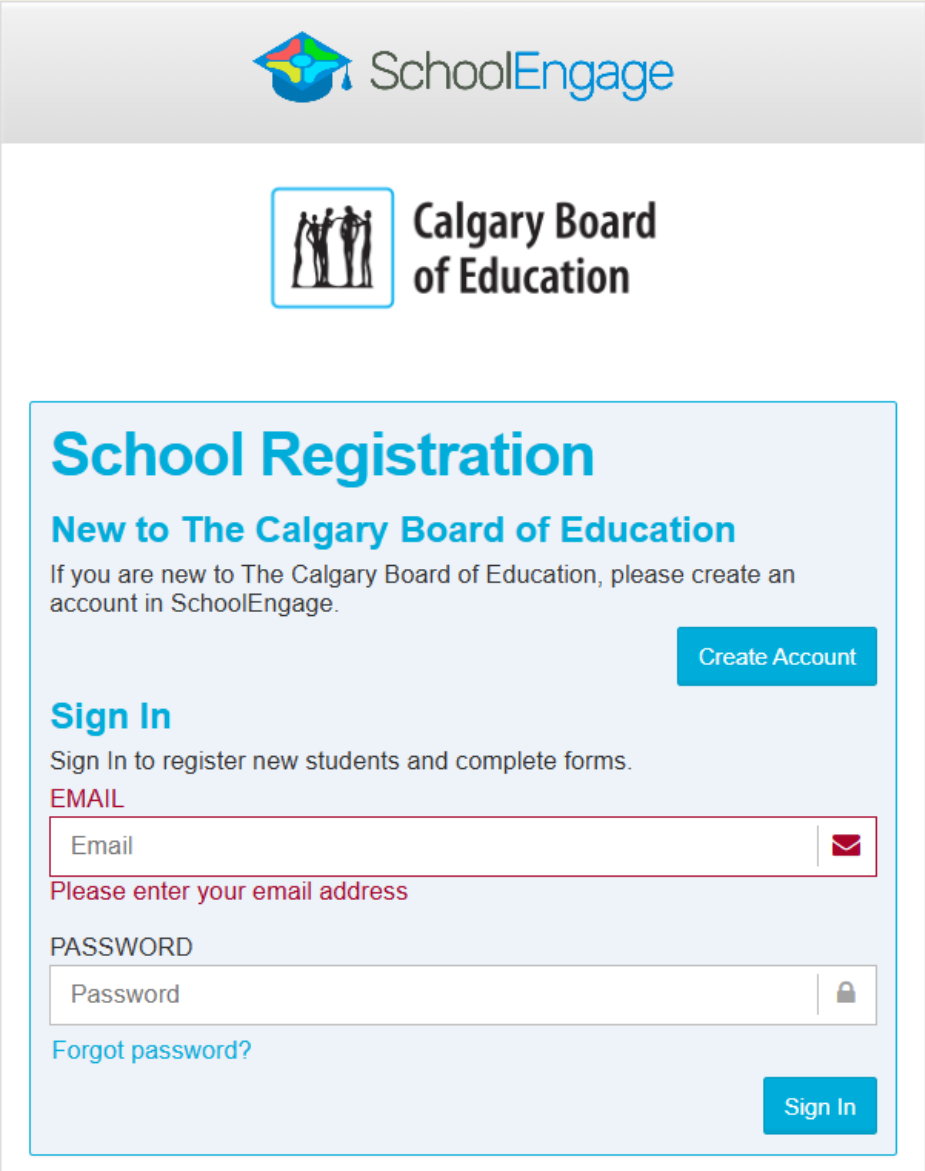
International Baccalaureate Programme (IB)

I am seeking to move into the IB Programme


IB Program ➞


Registration is Online with School Engage

- The registration form is approximately 16 tabs
- Ensure you have a few minutes to fill these out
- You may SAVE and return to the form
- Required documents prior to beginning your forms



The screenshot shows the 'School Registration' page for the Calgary Board of Education. At the top, there is a header with the 'SchoolEngage' logo and the 'Calgary Board of Education' logo. Below the header, the page title is 'School Registration' in blue. Underneath, it says 'New to The Calgary Board of Education' and provides instructions: 'If you are new to The Calgary Board of Education, please create an account in SchoolEngage.' There is a blue 'Create Account' button. Below this, there is a 'Sign In' section with the text 'Sign In to register new students and complete forms.' It includes an 'EMAIL' field with a red border and a red envelope icon, and a 'PASSWORD' field with a red border and a red lock icon. A red error message 'Please enter your email address' is visible below the email field. There is a blue 'Forgot password?' link below the password field. At the bottom right, there is a blue 'Sign In' button.

 SchoolEngage

 Calgary Board of Education

School Registration

New to The Calgary Board of Education


If you are new to The Calgary Board of Education, please create an account in SchoolEngage.

[Create Account](#)

Sign In


Sign In to register new students and complete forms.

EMAIL

Email 

Please enter your email address

PASSWORD

Password 

[Forgot password?](#)

[Sign In](#)

Registration Documentation

WHAT YOU WILL NEED

Prior to starting the registration process you will require the following information:

- **Proof of primary address:**

Where the child resides. It must include the parent / legal guardian / independent student name.

Examples include: bank statement, driver's licence, GST rebate, utility bill, home or renters insurance, income tax statement, mortgage statement, property tax assessment or the Canada Revenue Agency letter

- **Child's proof of age, citizenship and legal name:**

Examples include: Alberta Birth Certificate, Canadian Birth Certificate, Canadian passport, Canadian Citizenship Card, Canadian Citizenship Certificate, Confirmation of Permanent Residence or the Canadian Certificate of Indian Status

- A **selfie** with the legal guardian / parent government issued photo identification

Additional documentation may be required:

- [Custody / Guardianship](#)

- [Student Health Form](#)

- [Student Assessment](#)

Students who are not Canadian citizens will be contacted after registration by the [CBE Welcome Centre](#).

Alternative Programs | Schools in Lottery Registration Process

Complete the Registration Process Following These 4 Steps


1

Create a SchoolEngage Account



1. Go to [SchoolEngage](#)
2. Click *Create Account* button
3. Complete the Account Form
4. Check your Email for Confirmation and Click on the Confirmation Link
5. Sign in to SchoolEngage
6. Add a student

Refer to [SchoolEngage Support](#) for detailed steps

[Launch SchoolEngage](#) 

2

Complete Registration Form

In SchoolEngage complete the appropriate Registration Form for your child's designated school.

In this step you can select **both** your child's designated regular program and alternative program schools.

Do not register your child for your designated overflow school.

TIP

Remember to hit the green **Submit** at the end of the Registration form to ensure it has been fully completed.

3

Completed Form Sent to School For Processing

Please be patient as the school works through all their completed registrations.

School staff will contact you if there are any questions or concerns.

Please do not call the school.

4

School Confirms Registration

The school confirms student registration and adds your child to the call-back list.

The student's registration information **will automatically be transferred** to the overflow school.

School may require additional forms to be completed.





Lottery Process and Timeline

- To have your Registration / Expression of Interest considered for the Lottery, it must be **completed and submitted by Noon on Tuesday, Feb. 10, 2026.**
- Schools will hold lotteries at Noon on Wednesday, Feb. 11, 2026.
- Results of the lottery will be communicated to families **within 10 business days.**
- Families **will then have 10 business days** to respond to any offers of placement.



Communication from the school(s)

- We encourage you to wait until you hear if you were successful in the lottery from every school to which you expressed interest.
- Once you accept a placement, **you may not receive any further offers.**
- All offers of placement or confirmation that you were not successful will **come through SchoolEngage**. Existing CBE students may hear directly from the school.

Lottery Zone Maps

Schools With A Program In Lottery

Several CBE schools have limited capacity for new students. This means we may need to hold a lottery to ensure that all students wishing to attend the school have an opportunity to do so. Review the list below to see if the school(s) you are applying to are listed and register before Feb. 10, 2026, at noon (12 PM). If your designated regular program is listed below, review the [overflow schools list](#) to see where students who are unsuccessful in the lottery will be overflowed.

Note | The list below may change between now and Feb. 10, 2026. It's important to register before the cut-off date to secure your spot in a lottery draw; if the school does not need to run one, your place will be guaranteed.

Lottery Zones

Lottery zones are one factor used to establish priority in the lottery process. To review whether you are within or outside the lottery zone, please select your school from the drop-down menu and then select the map file.

Select a School to View Lottery Zone Map:

Search

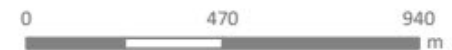
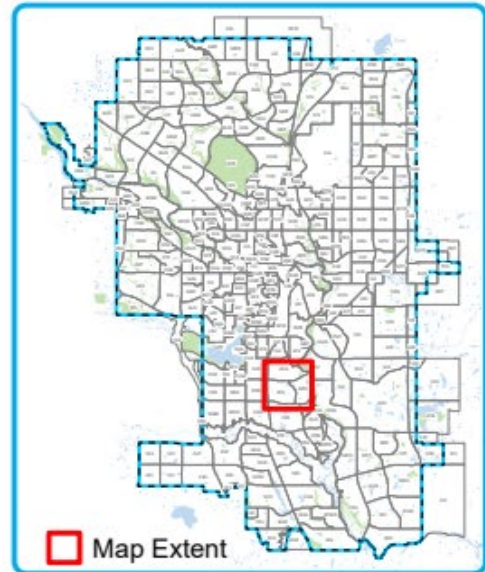
2026 - 2027

Regular Program

Alternative Programs

Science Program

-  School
-  Lottery Zones
-  CBE Boundary
-  Greenspace
-  Waterbody



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Map Series: Lottery Zones

How We Prioritize Students For Lottery

Priority levels influence your chance of being offered a place at a lottery school. If unsuccessful in the lottery, students are placed on a callback list in order of priority level.

Priority 1

- Students living within the lottery zone who have a sibling (brother/sister [half or step, not cousins]) that will be attending the same program in the same school; concurrently (occurring or existing simultaneously).

Priority 2

- Students living outside the lottery zone but in the designated area for the school, who will have a sibling in the same program at the same school concurrently; or
- Students living within the lottery zone who do not have a sibling in the school.

Priority 3

- All other students living in the designated attendance area.



Name NOT Drawn in the Lottery

- If the student's name was not drawn in the lottery process for an alternative program, they will **attend their designated regular program** school.
- If you select more than one alternative program, **each school will notify you** whether you have been accepted.
- If you were not accepted into any of the lottery schools, you will attend your designated regular program school.
- A **waitlist** will be created for students not accepted into an alternative program and will be dissolved at the of September.

Inform | Transportation

Alternative Programs



- K-5 yellow bus transportation provided following CBE congregated stop guidelines for alternative programs
- parents pay an annual fee for CBE yellow bus service
 - 2025-2026 Fees
 - Kindergarten (\$180 – 1way)
 - Grade 1-4 (\$360)
- Congregated stops are reviewed annually and informed by pre-registration for transportation, online through **MyCBE/PowerSchool**
- Congregated stops may not be within walking distance and alternate arrangements may be required to access the congregated stop

Science Program



Other considerations:

- Extra field study fee per student for whole class day trips
 - Kindergarten (Roughly \$100)
 - Grade 1-4 (Roughly \$200)
- Parent commitment to volunteer for field studies (3 times per year per child)
- Lunchroom supervision fee:
 - Grade 1-4 (2025-2026): \$350
- Student supply fee
 - Kindergarten (2025-2026): \$20
 - Grade 1-4 (2025-2026): \$40

Science Program



School-specific information

- Music Specialist
- Educational assistants provide support for students who require additional support. The number of education assistants varies each year.
- Administrative team believes in working closely with students and families to support the social, emotional and academic growth of each child.

Science Program



Elements of the Science Program

- An emphasis on the development of scientific literacy
- A focus on critical thinking through science and technology perspectives across subject areas using Alberta Education curriculum
- Extensive field studies to enhance classroom inquiry (approximately 10 – 20 per year) across all seasons

Science Program



Differences and similarities with community school programs:

Differences:

- Students learn through the “lens of science”
- Focus on scientific inquiry
- Mandatory field studies
- Blended CTF program
- Focus on journaling

Similarities:

- *Alberta Curriculum*
- Daily Physical Education
- Character
- Citizenship
- Personal Development

Science Program



The Science Program classroom:

- Engages students through the practice of scientific inquiry and experiential learning
- Engages with experts in the field of science and technology
- Explores opportunities to participate in science across all areas of the curriculum
- Instills a collaborative approach to seeking solutions to complex problems

Science Program



A Science Program student...

- Has a love of science and curiosity about how the world works
- Has a willingness to take risks in learning and is comfortable with ambiguity
- Exemplifies a resiliency for learning in outdoor environments in all weather conditions
- Is willing to conform to uniform regulations when/where expected

Science Program



Science Program

Is the Science Program the Right Choice for My Child?



A successful student demonstrates:

- a love of science and curiosity about how the world works
- willingness to take risks in learning and is comfortable with ambiguity
- a resiliency for learning in outdoor environments in all weather conditions
- a willingness to conform to uniform regulations when/where expected

Characteristics of a Science Program



- Fosters critical thinking through science and technology perspectives
- Emphasizes the development of scientific literacy
- Engages students through the practice of scientific inquiry
- Investigating problems, formulating hypotheses, testing, and reporting their observations and findings
- Instills a collaborative approach to seeking solutions to complex problems
- Engages with experts in the field of science and technology
- Explores opportunities to participate in science across all areas of curriculum
- Instructional focus on inquiry, experiential learning and integrated project work using the Alberta Education curriculum
- Monthly or bi-weekly field studies per year for each student, parents are required to volunteer for a minimum of 3 field studies per registered student
- Fees will be assessed for each student per year to cover the cost of field studies





MAPLE RIDGE SCHOOL COUNCIL & PARENT ASSOCIATION

We are parent/guardian volunteers who work with Maple Ridge School to fundraise for the activities and resources our kids love!

- Residency programs like inline skating, lacrosse, art and photography classes
- Events like Science Olympics, Winter Solstice, Kindergarten orientation
- Buying resources like the 3D printer, coding kits, and a variety of music and library resources



All are welcome!



mapleridgecouncil@gmail.com



Self-Guided Open House

January 29th

(4:30pm – 6:00pm)



learning | **as unique** | as every student



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Questions





Thank You

Please contact the school
(mapleridge@cbe.ab.ca) if you
have any further questions or
concerns