



Welcome to West Springs School!

New Family Orientation
May 29, 2025



Calgary Board
of Education



Acknowledging the Land Where We Gather

Oki, Dadánast'áda, Âba Wathtec, Tânisi, Taanishi, Bonjour, Hello

The Calgary Board of Education acknowledges the traditional territories and oral practices of the Treaty 7 Nations, including the Siksikaitsitapi, comprised of the Siksika, the Kainai, the Piikani, and the Amskapi Piikani Nations. We acknowledge the Tsuut'ina Nation, the Îyârhe Nakoda, comprised of the Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Goodstoney Nations, the Métis Nation within Alberta, and all people who make their homes in the Treaty 7 region of southern Alberta.

This land on which we gather is traditionally known as Moh'kinstsis (Blackfoot), Guts'ists'i (Tsuut'ina), Wîchîspa (Nakoda), and otôskwanihk (Northern Michif & Cree).

As a learning organization, we are committed to advancing the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action focused on Education for ReconciliACTION.

Welcome and Introductions



Susan Westgate – Principal



Leah MacMillan – Assistant Principal

Robert Choate – Resource Learning Leader



Natalie Fero – Kindergarten Teacher

Tanya Kinsey- Kindergarten Teacher

Jessica Lynn- Kindergarten Teacher

What to expect this evening



- We will begin with some general information about West Springs School and the CBE
- Our School Council will present about how you can get involved in your child's school experience
- There will be time in the Kindergarten classrooms for Kinder students and a school tour for new families in grades 1 – 4.

General Information



- West Springs School is an inclusive, Kindergarten to Grade 4 school with approximately 625 students total.
- We are a diverse school with many different spoken languages, cultures, religious faiths and ethnicities
- We also bring together and celebrate a wide and rich variety of students with developmental, intellectual and cognitive differences and complexities

Pick Up & Drop Off



- School Bell Times:

- 9:00 – 3:30pm M-Thurs

- 9:00 to 1:00pm Fridays

- Doors open at 8:55am and outside supervision begins at 8:45am

Pick Up & Drop Off



- We encourage students to walk/bike to school with an accompanying adult as there is very limited parking
 - Parking lot
 - No Parking zones- be safe & courteous
 - Hug & Go
- Walk zones and transportation (Yellow school bus) eligibility is based on your home address and can be found on the main CBE website under the "Find a School" tool

West Springs School Parking Map

■ No Parking ■ Parking ok here ■ Hug & Go: no parking allowed – only brief stopping to hug and let kids in or out of the vehicle



Internal Information

School Council



School
Council

- Our wonderful council is very active and provides invaluable support for our students as well as important input to administration during monthly meetings in person at the school as well as online via MS Teams.
- Please welcome Katherine our council Chair and Loriel our Vice Chair.

Transportation | Bussing



- Pre-registration is now open using [MyCBE / PowerSchool](#). **Families must register by June 22, 2025 for students to be added to routes for the start of the school year.** Processing times could be up to six weeks at the beginning of the school year due to volume. Please register busing now.
- Please visit the link for more information and fees for transportation. <https://cbe.ab.ca/news-centre/Pages/2022-23-transportation-service-levels-and-fees.aspx>
- Bus pick up and drop off procedures – attendance is taken and one to one hand off for kindergarten students is mandatory
- If you have any questions, please contact the office.



Transportation | Bussing



- It is very important for families to check to see if you are eligible for busing by going to the Find a School tool on the website. There are NEW walk zones for September
- If you are considering transportation to school and are eligible, please do not wait to register. No fees are posted until October 2025 and you can cancel your registration by September 30 without penalty.
- If you don't register now and decide in the fall to take the bus, it will likely be the end of October before your child is able to ride and your house will NOT be considered in the congregated stop locations in the community.



Transportation | Bussing



•Fees for busing for the 2025-26 school year are \$360 for the year. Fees are payable monthly and waivers are also available. Contact the main office for assistance with our fee waiver process.

•Kindergarten fees are \$180 for bussing. There is also a noon supervision fee for all students who stay at school for lunch of \$260 per year.



Please Create a myCBE Account



- What is a Mycbe account?
 - Pay Fees online throughout the year (ie. field trips, school fees, etc.)
 - Transportation Fee – only for bus eligible students
 - Book Parent-Teacher Conferences
 - Access Report Cards
- **If you have an account for a student already attending a CBE school, please just add your kindergarten child to your existing account**
- Please create an account
 - Have your child's cbe student ID number handy
 - Go to CBE homepage www.cbe.ab.ca
- HOW TO Videos:
 - <https://tinyurl.com/5dtzuzjm> (Creating a Parent Account)
 - <https://tinyurl.com/5hs8z83x> (Adding additional children)



Volunteering

1. Register through your School Engage account to become a volunteer.
2. Your application will come to the WSS office for approval
3. Once approved by the office, this application will be sent to CPS and you will receive an email from Calgary Police Solutions (check junkmail if not received within a couple weeks of application)
4. Fill out this application with included voucher
5. Cost is free with voucher
6. Once you have received your clearance letter from CPS, upload to School Engage portal where we will complete clearance process in the office. Results must be shared within 6 months or process must be started again
7. This process takes at least 8 weeks before you are cleared to volunteer at the school. Each clearance is good for 5 years. You may wish to start this process now to be ready for the fall.

Getting Ready for Learning



Read to your child every day:



- read stories together in [your home language](#) to help your child develop vocabulary, listening and speaking skills
- enjoy reading different types of books: picture books, information books, nursery rhymes, poetry, graphic novels
- encourage your child to talk about the pictures and stories as you read together
- visit your community library (when possible)

Getting Ready for Learning

Build your child's independence by encouraging them to:



- dress themselves (zippers, buttons and shoe fastening of indoor and outdoor clothing)
- use the bathroom and wash their hands on their own (**practice in a public washroom with automatic and manual flush toilets**)
- we have only automatic flush toilets at the school
- put away toys and help in other ways at home

Getting Ready for Learning

Build your child's independence by encouraging them to:



- practice opening and closing snack containers and using a water bottle
- practice putting items such as a lunch box in their backpack, zipping up their backpack and carrying their backpack
- practice using a lunch bag for their lunch items; containers/bento boxes, water bottles and snacks are hard to carry and manage for students in the hallways and items are often forgotten!
- No need to buy any supplies – you pay central fees (this year was \$40) to cover all supplies for school

First Days of School – Grades 1 - 4



- September 2, 2025 at 9:00am!
- Your new teacher will send you an email August 29 introducing themselves, sharing what to bring and where to meet on the first day.
- The school will send any updated information about school entry by Monday, August 25 to all families

First Days of School - Kindergarten



- There will be a staggered entry for Kindergarten :
 - Students will be put into small groups for a shorter part of their kindergarten day to help the transition to school
 - Class lists will be determined during staggered entry
 - Students will attend twice during the week of September 2-5 for 90 minutes each time
 - School Council hosts a “Tea and Cheers” for all Kindergarten parents and guardians during staggered entry

First days of school are September 2 or September 3 for Kindergarten students. More information to follow from the school before the end of June.

Additional Resources



The Calgary Public Library- Top Tips for Kindergarten Readiness*:
<https://calgarylibrary.ca/library-news/kitchen-table-classroom-kindergarten-readiness/>



The Calgary Public Library- Kindergarten Booklist:
https://calgary.bibliocommons.com/list/share/393767397_calgarylibrary_kids/1859193931_books_to_get_ready_for_kindergarten?_ga=2.167944481.1601611572.1619640025-939542020.1599601380



I'm Ready for Screens- Parent Resource:
https://banff.ca/DocumentCenter/View/11018/ImReadyForScreens_English

*Developed in collaboration with the CPL, Calgary Board of Education and the Calgary Catholic School Division



Thank you for coming, enjoy your visit!



Kindergarten Families follow Mrs. Westgate, Ms. Lynn, Ms. Kinsey and Ms. Fero



Grade 1 – 4 Families follow Mr. Choate and Ms. MacMillan