



Kindergarten Orientation Ranchlands School May 30, 2024



Calgary Board
of Education

Agenda



- School Council
- Learning through *PLAY*
- Enhanced supports in kindergarten
- Getting ready for kindergarten- tips for parents
- Important dates & times
- Transportation
- First day of kindergarten
- Volunteers
- Small group centers

School Council



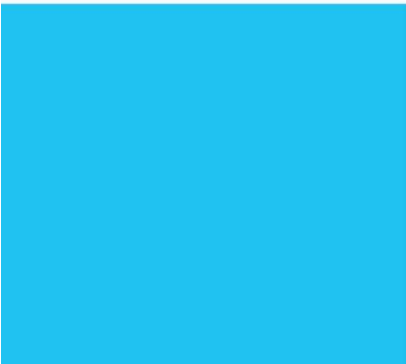
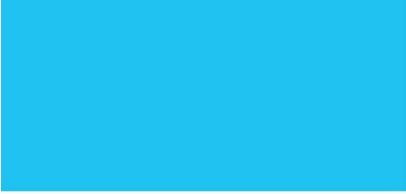
- Anita Raffaele – Chair
- Second Tuesday of each month
- Advisory group
- Fundraising

The Calgary Board of Education



The early years are a time of significant development in a child's life. Personalized attention is extremely beneficial to early learners.

At the Calgary Board of Education, we understand that children bring their own unique talents and gifts to their learning experience. Our dedicated staff know how to help children reach their full potential.



Learning Through **PLAY**

More than just skill building or practicing for the world we will grow into, play is the primary way which children manipulate new information, fit it into existing schema or create new ones and then adjust their understanding accordingly.

formulating **hypothesis**

engaging in experimentation and exploration

discovering patterns

creating **theories**

Learning Through *PLAY*



Learning Through PLAY



“Research shows that children who engage in complex forms of socio-dramatic play have greater language skills than non-players, better social skills, more empathy, more imagination, and more of the subtle capacity to know what others mean. They are less aggressive and show more self-control and higher levels of thinking”

~Miller & Almon

Early Literacy & Numeracy



Enhanced Supports



The classroom teacher is at the centre of your child's learning team and is supported by a school learning team. Based on classroom needs, each kindergarten program will also be supported by a multidisciplinary team that works with large and small groups in the classroom.

This team may consist of:

Education Assistants or Early Childhood Practitioners

Early Learning Strategists

Speech-Language Pathologists (SLPs)

Psychologists

Occupational Therapists (OTs)

Physiotherapists (PTs)

School Family Liaison (SFL)

Getting Ready for Kindergarten



Build your child's independence by encouraging them to:

- dress themselves (zippers, buttons, shoes) in all seasons
- use the bathroom and wash their hands on their own
- put away toys and help out in other small ways at home
- practice opening and closing tupperware containers, packaged snacks, peeling fruit and using a water bottle
- play games, take turns, share and compromise
- develop a consistent bedtime routine and time, ideally aiming for 9-11 hours



Getting Ready for Kindergarten



Read to your child every day:

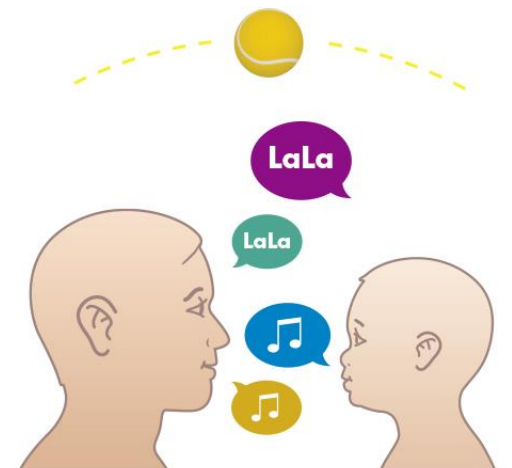
- read stories together in *your first language* to help your child develop vocabulary, listening and speaking skills
- enjoy reading different types of books: picture books, information books, nursery rhymes, poetry, comics
- encourage your child to talk about the pictures and stories as you read together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

Getting Ready for Kindergarten



Take time to talk with your child about everyday activities:

- share special activities together, such as walks to the park
- talk about what you are seeing and doing
- talk, read, sing and play in *your first language* every day
- praise children for their efforts and courage to overcome setbacks
- talk about how it is okay to make mistakes (growth mindset)



Recommended screen time

Pediatricians from all over Canada agree, here's how much screen time is safe for young children:

Age	Screen time recommendation
Birth to Age 2	Infants and very young children should not use screens at all , with the exception of video-calling family and friends.
Age 2-5	Limit of one hour per day total , and with an important adult whenever possible
Age 5+	Limit to a maximum of 2 hours a day in total , with an important adult whenever possible, and eliminate sedentary (non-moving) time whenever possible.

Canadian Paediatric Society (2017, November 27). *Screen time and young children: Promoting health and development in a digital world*. Retrieved November 18, 2019, from <https://www.cps.ca/en/documents/position/screen-time-and-young-children>.

Important Times & Dates



- Office opens August 26, 2024 at 9:00 am
- Modified Schedule August 29 & August 30
 - Please see modified schedule sent to you in June for your child's times. If you have not heard about when your child is coming for staggered entry please contact the office at 403-777-6350.
 - **Bussing is not available on August 29 or 30**
 - August 29, 2024 - 45 minutes of class time. Your child will meet their teacher, explore the classroom, learn where their coat hooks are and more.
 - August 30, 2024 - 60 minutes of class time. Your child will tour the school, enjoy centre time, have snack and participate in circle time activities.
 - Sept. 3, 2024- your child will come at their regular time (AM or PM) and will experience a regular day of learning activities.
- Regular school hours start **Sept.3, 2024**. This will be your child's first half day of kindergarten. Please provide snack and indoor shoes. **Bussing will be provided as per usual.**

Transportation | Bussing



Bussing is provided ONE WAY for kindergarten students.

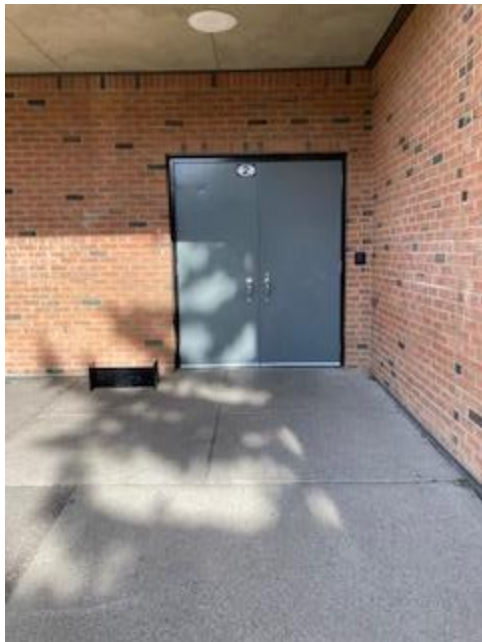
- AM class may take the bus TO school and will need to be picked up at 12:15 at door #2. Students who ride the bus will be met in the morning by our bus monitor and will be walked to door #2.
- PM class will need to be dropped off at door #2 at 12:40 and may take the bus HOME. Students who ride the bus at the end of the day will be walked to the bus by an adult.

Transportation pre-registration for the 2024-2025 school year is now open! We encourage any family who is eligible for yellow bus transportation and who thinks they may use the service to pre-register through their [MyCBE/PowerSchool Parent account](#) by Sunday, **June 16, 2024**. Should you wish to cancel your transportation registration it is very easy to do so at ANY time; however, should you apply after the **June 16th** deadline it will take anywhere from 4 to 6 weeks to have your child added to a bus route.



Important Locations

- Door #2-This is where your child will enter and exit the building. It is located at the front of the school near the crosswalk. If you are picking up your child, please wait at these doors.



First Days of Kindergarten



Your child needs:

- Backpack large enough to hold a water bottle, snack, extra clothes and more
- Indoor shoes to leave at school-please ensure they can be used in gym and they can put them on and off independently (Velcro or slip on)
- Water bottle
- Extra clothes
- Daily snack-please ensure it is healthy

Transportation- sign up by Sunday, June 16th

Monday to Thursday program only. There is no school on Fridays

Modified schedule:

August 29 & August 30, 2024

First regular day

Sept. 3, 2024

AM class 9:05-12:15

PM class 12:40-3:50

Communication with the School



Please subscribe to School emails

- We send out a weekly email 'Week at a Glance' to provide information of upcoming events.
- Commercial vs general emails

Volunteers



Please consider volunteering at school. There are many ways you can help support your child and school.

- Classroom
- School Council
- Field Trips
- Fun Lunch
- Fundraising
- Special events

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

Questions





Small Group Centers



Black- Gym

Blue – Classroom - Room 1



Green – Learning Commons A

Purple – Learning Commons B