



Arbour Lake School

27 Arbour Crest Drive NW Calgary, AB T3G 4H3 t | 403-777-7310 f | 403-777-7311

Principal's Report to School Council

May 19, 2026

School Operations

Planning for the 2026–2027 school year is well underway. Based on current projections, Arbour Lake School's staffing allocation will decrease from 36.6 FTE to 32.0 FTE, with the addition of 1.0 FTE designated as a Complexity Teacher position. We have also received an increase of 1.7142 FTE in Educational Assistant support for next year.

At this time, our projected enrolment for next year is approximately 654 students, compared to our current enrolment of approximately 730 students. As a result of both enrolment changes and budget adjustments, there will be impacts on programming and flexibility within some of our Complementary and CTF offerings next year. Additional funding has recently been announced by the CBE, and we are currently awaiting further details regarding how this funding may impact ALS staffing and programming moving forward.

Current projected homeroom structures for next year are as follows:

- Grade 6: 5 homerooms
- Grade 7: 5 homerooms
- Grade 8: 6 homerooms
- Grade 9: 6 homerooms

CTF and complementary program course request information will be shared with families next week. Students will be asked to complete their requests alongside parents/guardians to help ensure thoughtful course selections are made.

Peer request forms were emailed out last week to parents. As in previous years, students may request up to four peers, and we guarantee placement with one of the four requested peers. We continue to emphasize that this process is a courtesy extended to families and not a right or guarantee of specific placements. Significant time and care is invested into creating balanced class compositions that support both the academic and social success of all students.

School Events, Athletics & Extracurricular

School Events

A huge thank you to School Council for supporting our staff during Teacher Appreciation Week with the barista cart and treats. Staff greatly appreciated the gesture and kindness shown by our parent community.

We would also like to thank School Council for supporting our mainstage production through the 50/50 raffle initiative. Our production of *Frozen Junior* was an incredible success. With over 80 students involved in the cast and crew, three evening performances, and two matinee shows, the production showcased tremendous student

talent, dedication, and teamwork. A huge thank you goes to all staff involved in supporting the production and helping create such an exceptional experience for students.

Last week, our Grade 9 students participated in their cabin trip in Kananaskis, while our sailing trip and upcoming Grade 8 Outdoor Education experiences continue to provide students with meaningful opportunities for growth outside the classroom. These experiences are incredibly important in helping students develop independence, resilience, teamwork, leadership, and connections with peers and staff. They also require tremendous commitment from staff, many of whom volunteer countless hours away from their own families and personal time to make these opportunities possible for students.

Our annual Wellness Day is also approaching quickly. This day requires extensive planning, coordination, logistics, and community partnerships to organize the wide range of sessions and guest speakers being offered to students. The purpose of Wellness Day is to provide students with opportunities for voice and choice while encouraging them to explore new experiences, step outside their comfort zones, and engage in learning connected to wellness, identity, community, and personal growth.

Just a few of the upcoming events and field experiences – see our weekly update for the full list:

- Grade 7 trip to Calaway Park
- Grade 9 visit to Ralph Klein Park
- Spring Band Concert for Grades 6–9 next week
- Grade 6 trip to Drumheller
- Grade 7 trip to Heritage Park
- Grade 9 Storybook Theatre
- Several smaller walking field trips and community learning experiences

These experiences are incredibly valuable in helping students connect classroom learning to real world experiences while building relationships, engagement, and school connectedness. Again, a sincere thank you to staff for the extensive planning, supervision, and time commitment required to make these opportunities available to students.

Information regarding the Grade 9 Farewell on June 4 will be communicated to families shortly, including details regarding the parent component of the evening.

Athletics

- Our badminton season recently concluded with tremendous success across all grade levels. ALS students earned multiple first and second place finishes in singles, doubles, and mixed team categories throughout the season. Congratulations to all athletes and coaches on an excellent year.
- Track and field is currently underway, with many students participating and preparing for upcoming competitions. Planning is also underway for our football tournament later in June, which will help wrap up another outstanding year of athletics at ALS.



- As always, we are extremely grateful to the many staff members who dedicate significant time before school, after school, evenings, and weekends to support athletics and extracurricular programming for our students.

Finally, I would like to extend a tremendous thank you to our School Council Executive, and especially to our co-chairs, Jenny Crawford and Krista Sutherland, both of whom will be leaving ALS this year as their children transition to high school.

Jenny and Krista have dedicated an incredible amount of time, energy, care, and leadership to our school community over the years. Their commitment to supporting students, staff, and families has had a significant and lasting impact on the culture and opportunities available at ALS. From organizing events, supporting initiatives, advocating for students, volunteering countless hours, and consistently stepping forward whenever support was needed, their contributions have been truly invaluable.

School councils play an incredibly important role in helping strengthen the connection between home and school, and strong parent partnership is a critical component of building positive and thriving school communities. The work that happens behind the scenes often goes unseen, but it makes a tremendous difference in the experiences we are able to provide students and staff each and every day.

On behalf of the entire ALS community, thank you both sincerely for your years of support, leadership, and dedication to Arbour Lake School. Your impact here will absolutely be felt long after your time at ALS comes to a close. We wish both of you and your families nothing but the very best as you move on to this next chapter.

I would also like to sincerely thank all members of our School Council Executive, as well as the families who regularly attend and support our meetings throughout the year. Your partnership, feedback, and ongoing involvement play an important role in helping strengthen our school community and support the success of our students. We truly appreciate the time and commitment you continue to give to ALS.

