



September 4, 2026

Dear Arbour Lake School Families,

It has been a very positive first week at Arbour Lake School, and we are pleased with how smoothly students have settled in. Monday and Tuesday gave students time to reconnect with homerooms, routines, and expectations, while Complementary classes and Physical Education began Wednesday.

Students may be reporting that classes feel smaller this year, and they are correct! Our average class size across Grades 6 to 9 is currently about 25 students, with most classes ranging from 23 to 28. With additional teaching positions provided through the Government of Alberta's class size funding and a smaller student population this year, we are optimistic about the opportunities this will provide to better support students within our inclusive classrooms.

This week, I also met with each grade to review the rights and responsibilities of being a student at ALS. Our message was simple: respect yourself, respect others, and respect our school and community. We talked about protecting everyone's right to learn, making positive choices, managing peer relationships and social media responsibly, and knowing when to remove ourselves from situations or conflicts that do not need our involvement. We appreciate families reinforcing these expectations at home.

Finally, work is underway on the portable wing as part of required structural engineering mitigation and is expected to continue through the end of September. Construction fencing is now in place, and students are reminded to stay well clear of the fenced area at all times. At this time, we do not anticipate the work will interrupt teaching and learning, and we will continue to work with the construction team to minimize any impact on students and staff.

Overall, it has been a smooth and encouraging start, and we are looking forward to a great year ahead!

A few important dates and reminders:

September 7: Labour Day, school closed
September 11: Welcome Back BBQ
September 15: School Council Meeting – 6:30PM
September 24: Orientation Night – 6:30PM to 8:00PM

Please review the additional information and reminders below, and feel free to reach out anytime if there is anything I can do to support you at nmlisi@cbe.ab.ca.

Have a wonderful and safe Labour Day long weekend!

Best regards,

Dr. Nancy Lisi
Principal

Announcements & Reminders:

Off Campus Lunch Expectations

For students in Grades 7 to 9, off-campus lunch is a privilege, not an entitlement, and with that privilege comes responsibility. Students are expected to represent themselves, their families, and our school community appropriately while off campus. This includes disposing of garbage properly, respecting businesses and private property, behaving appropriately in the community, and returning to school on time. Delays at restaurants, stores, or on public transit are not acceptable reasons for being late to class.

We have already received some concerns from community members regarding student behaviour during lunch. While we will follow up on concerns brought to our attention, behaviour that occurs off school property is not solely a school issue. It is a shared community and parenting responsibility, and we need families to take concerns regarding their child's off-campus behaviour seriously and reinforce expectations at home.

Community members and local businesses are also encouraged to address concerns directly and, where appropriate, contact Calgary Police Service when incidents occur off school property.

Students who are unable to manage the responsibilities associated with off-campus lunch may have this privilege revoked. Continued concerns may also require us to reconsider our broader off-campus lunch practices. Parent support plays an important role in helping us maintain this opportunity for our students.

Homeroom Placements: Change Requests

As we settle into the new school year, we want to remind families that we are not making homeroom changes based on teacher or peer preferences.

In the spring, students in Grades 7 to 9 identified four peers with whom they work well, with our commitment being that each student would be placed with at least one of those peers. The few adjustments made since classes were released have been to correct errors and ensure we have honoured that commitment.

We recognize that adolescent friendships and peer relationships can change, sometimes quite quickly. While these changes can be disappointing for students, we cannot make educational programming decisions based on continually changing peer dynamics. Considerable care goes into creating balanced classes based on learning needs, programming requirements, class size, and overall classroom composition.

Similarly, we are unable to accommodate requests for specific teachers. We are confident in the ability of all our teachers to support the students assigned to them.

Grade 6 homerooms are developed with input from our feeder schools, and students new to ALS may not have participated in the spring peer request process. Our focus now is on supporting all students as they settle into their classes, build new connections, and become comfortable within their learning communities.

We appreciate families supporting us in encouraging students to give their new classrooms, teachers, and peers time to develop.



E-Scooters, E-Bikes & Other Motorized Transportation Devices

A reminder to students and families that **e-scooters, e-bikes, and other motorized transportation devices are not permitted to be ridden or operated on school grounds during school activities or functions**. Students must dismount before entering school property and walk their device to and from the bike racks.

Unfortunately, we had an incident this week involving a collision on the pathway near the school. Thankfully, no one was seriously injured; however, it serves as an important reminder that these devices can travel at significant speeds and must be operated responsibly and with care.

We ask families to please review safe riding practices with their children and remind them to slow down, remain aware of pedestrians and other pathway users, and exercise particular caution in the busy areas surrounding the school. Keeping everyone safe requires care and consideration from all members of our community.

Student Absence or Early Pick-Up/Late Drop-Off

To report a student absence or arrange for an early pick-up, parents/guardians can email the school directly. Please use the email address on file to notify us if your child will be away or if you plan to pick them up early. Be sure to include the following information in your email:

- Your child's first and last name
- Grade
- Reason for the absence or early pick-up (e.g., Dental Appointment)
- Expected time of pick-up

Please email your child's homeroom teacher and the office at arbourslake@cbe.ab.ca.

If you are picking up your child early and have sent an email, please call the office at (403) 777-7310 when you arrive, and we will send your child out to meet you. This process helps enhance the safety of our students and staff. Please arrive a few minutes early, as students may need to be located and brought to the office.

If you are dropping your child off late, parents are not required to sign them in.

Annual Volunteer Registration Required for all School Volunteers

To ensure the safety and security of CBE students and staff, all volunteers must be registered with the school each school year before participating in volunteer activities. The Annual Volunteer Registration Form is valid for the current school year only. All volunteers, including returning volunteers, must complete a new registration form each school year before participating in volunteer activities.

Process: Parents and guardians can register as volunteers through the SchoolEngage tab in their MyCBE account. As part of the registration process, all volunteers must review the POPA requirements and sign to indicate their agreement with the conditions outlined in the form.

Celebrating Our Coyotes

At ALS we want to recognize the accomplishments of our students not only at school but also for the impressive things they do outside of school. Many students are engaged in athletics, the arts, community activities, and leadership beyond the classroom. We see Coyotes volunteering, performing in music and dance, acting on stage, coding, and robotics, competing in debate and science fairs, mentoring younger students, fundraising for causes, and contributing to cultural and faith communities. These achievements deserve to be highlighted,



and we would love to feature them on our school social media. If your child has something to celebrate, please send a brief description with the student's name and grade, any relevant details or links, and a photo if you are comfortable with it being shared. We will use first names only in our posts. Send submissions directly to nmlisi@cbe.ab.ca.

Upcoming Events & Important Dates

Sept 7	Labour Day – School Closed
Sept 11	Welcome Back BBQ - Rescheduled
Sept 15	School Council Meeting – 6:30PM In Person
Sept 18	Terry Fox Run
Sept 21	Beginner Band Clinic – After school
Sept 24	Orientation Night – 6:30-8:00PM
Sept 25	Non-Instructional Day – No Classes
Sept 28	Photo Day Grade 6 Quest Theatre – In School
Sept 29	Orange Shirt Day
Sept 30	National Day for Truth & Reconciliation – School Closed

Clubs & Activities September Schedule – Coming Soon

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
- TBA	- TBA	- TBA	- TBA
After School	After School	After School	After School

Athletic Events

Sept 8	Girls Basketball Tryouts Soccer Tryouts
Sept 9	Boys Basketball Tryouts Soccer Tryouts
Sept 10	Girls Basketball Tryouts
Sept 14	Boys Basketball Tryouts

Healthy Hunger: Fun Lunch Program

Stay tuned...

The Coyotes' Canteen NOW OPEN

The Canteen provides students with an opportunity to buy basic pantry items during the first half of our lunch period in the event they have forgotten to bring a lunch or simply wish to augment what they have packed for the day.

Item	Price
Mac & Cheese - Original - 3 Cheese	\$2.00
Ben's Original - Fried Style Rice	\$2.00



Bear's Paws Cookies	\$1.00
Banana Bread	\$1.00
SmartFood – Popcorn	\$1.50
Lay's Oven Baked Chips	\$1.00
Sun Chips - Harvest Cheddar	\$1.00
Pretzels – Rold Gold	\$1.00
Chocolate Cookie	\$1.00
SM Noodle Bowl - Beef, Chicken, Spicy, & Veggie	\$2.00
LG Noodle Bowl - Beef & Chicken	\$2.50
Apple Juice	\$2.00
Orange Juice	\$2.00
Grapefruit Juice	\$2.00

*All items are subject to availability & prices may change without prior notice.

**CASH SALES ONLY

Arbour Lake School Social Media

Instagram: arburlake_cbe

