



Calgary Board of Education

BACK TO SCHOOL MEDIA KIT 2008-2009

Back to School information packages for media are available as follows:

- For a faxed copy, please contact Ted Flitton, Media Relations Specialist, at 403-294-8304.
 - PDF copies are attached for e-mail.
 - PDF copies will be posted on the Media section of the CBE website on September 1 and can be downloaded from <http://www.cbe.ab.ca/media/default.asp>

 - Hard copies are available at the Education Centre, 515 Macleod Trail S.E. Please contact Ted Flitton to arrange for copies at the reception desk if you wish to pick them up.
- The CBE's Back to School Media Kit includes:
- Current information from the Communications Department
 - Fact sheets related to key dates, statistics and school fees
 - Also refer to our website for additional information: www.cbe.ab.ca



Calgary Board of Education

MEDIA ADVISORY

2008/09

ATTENTION: CALGARY MEDIA, ASSIGNMENT EDITORS

On Tuesday, September 2, 2008, almost 100,000 public school students will begin their new 2008/09 school year. The Calgary Board of Education is pleased to provide you with the attached Back to School Media Kit. This package contains the following:

- Message to Media
- Fact Sheet – Facts and Statistics
- Fact Sheet – School Fees

Please contact the CBE's Media Relations Specialist Ted Flitton at 403-294-8304 for further information or assistance in arranging interviews.



Calgary Board of Education

A MESSAGE TO MEDIA

August 2008

The CBE looks forward to continuing the good working relationship we have with Calgary news media. The Communications Department will continue to assist news media with your requests by arranging interviews and providing information.

The CBE has numerous designated public events throughout the year where our schools are pleased to invite media to join them. News media also frequently request access to our schools, classrooms and students. To comply with Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation, which has been in effect since 1998, each principal has a responsibility to limit media coverage to students with prior parental consent for media interviews during these requested privileged engagements. For security or privacy reasons, some parents may not want to have their child identified in the media.

Additionally, in cases where reporters want to interview or profile an individual child on a specific achievement or topic at the school, the principal is legally required to obtain parental consent, in advance, **specific to each media request. This process takes one business day to give the child the opportunity to take home the permission form and have it signed by their legal parent or guardian. For this reason, same day requests for classroom access to students cannot be granted.** Schools are private property and principals need to provide consent for any media presence. The Communications Department is always willing to assist reporters in this area. While we understand and respect the time constraints and urgency of daily news, we ask reporters to understand that it may take several hours to arrange interviews. Often our side of the arranging means trying to reach a principal or teacher busy teaching in a classroom (especially at the elementary schools) – it may take time, as their first priority is always education. If the principal prefers not to be interviewed, or if the media inquiry concerns a system-wide issue rather than a school-specific topic, Communications will assist in identifying a CBE spokesperson.

**Barb Kuester, Executive Director
CBE Communications Department
403-294-8256**



Calgary Board of Education

FACT SHEET

FACTS AND STATISTICS

Trustees 2008-2011

Trustees' Office: 403-294-8487

Wards Office

Gordon Dirks	1 & 2	403-294-8121
Lynn Ferguson	3 & 4	403-294-8263
Pamela King	5 & 10	403-294-8261
George Lane	6 & 7	403-294-8265
Pat Cochrane (Chair)	8 & 9	403-294-8123
Carol Bazinet (Vice-Chair)	12 & 14	403-294-8241
Karen Kryczka	11 & 13	403-294-8120

** This Board of Trustees took office in October 2007.*

The Following information is from the CBE's 2008/09 Operating Budget

Operating budget	\$942.8 million
Expenses	\$942.8 million
Revenue	\$942.8 million

Number of CBE schools

Elementary	126
Elementary/junior	22
Junior High	29
Junior/senior	5
Senior	16
Unique Schools/Programs	16
Total	214

Enrolment 2008-2009 (projected)

Kindergarten	6 940
Elementary	41 425
Junior high	22 320
Senior high	25 245
Outreach Programs	810
Unique Schools/Programs	710
Chinook Learning	2480
CBe-learn	650

Total enrolment projection * 100 580

**mild/moderate special education students are included in regular K-12*

Transportation

Kindergarten through Grade 9 students are eligible for charter bus service if they attend their designated school and live beyond the transportation service area. Walk limits are 1.2 km for Kindergarten to Grade 6, and 2.4 km for Grade 7 to 9. Grade 10 to 12 and some junior high students are eligible for Calgary Transit bus pass rebates (\$18.50 off the \$50.50 monthly cost) if they live beyond the 2.4 km walk limit.

Kindergarten

Kindergarten registration is ongoing for children who are four years old by the first of March 2008.

Alternative Programs

The CBE offers a wide range of alternative programs and program choices specially tailored to meet the diverse learning styles, interests and abilities of all students. These programs include ones based on language, culture, educational philosophy/learning styles, academic enrichment, art, athletics, location and specific interests (such as Juno Beach, Science School and on-line learning) A complete list of our Alternative Programs can be viewed on the CBE Web site at www.cbe.ab.ca.



Calgary Board of Education

LOOKING FOR MORE INFO ON THE CBE?

VISIT www.cbe.ab.ca

FACT SHEET SCHOOL FEES

2008/09 School Year Board Mandated Fees

School fees provide schools with essential learning resources that ensure students are presented with the best possible learning enrichment opportunities.

Mandatory Fees and deposits are those identified by and permitted by the *School Act*, and which are payable, unless waived, by all registered students.

Elective Fees are those that result from a choice made by parents, students or staff, in favor of a certain program or service provided by schools or other Calgary Board of Education service locations. The Board of Trustees approved Board mandated fees for the 2008/09 school year as follows:

Instructional Supplies and Materials Fee (ISM)

<u>Instructional Supplies and Materials Fees</u>	<u>2008/09</u>	<u>2007/08</u>
Kindergarten (half day)	\$15.00	\$15.00
Kindergarten (full day program when offered)	\$30.00	\$30.00
Elementary (grades 1 to 6)	\$30.00	\$30.00
Junior High (grades 7 to 9)	\$105.00	\$105.00
Senior High (grades 10 to 12)	\$132.00	\$132.00
Family maximum ⁽¹⁾	\$264.00	\$264.00

<u>Refundable Security Deposit</u>	<u>2008/09</u>	<u>2007/08</u>
Junior High (grades 7 to 9)	\$50.00	\$50.00
Senior High (grades 10 to 12)	\$50.00	\$50.00

(1) Established at two times the approved rate for Senior High School students.

Musical Instrument Registration Fees

	<u>2008/09</u>	<u>2007/08</u>
<u>Elementary Program</u>		
Annual	\$65.00	\$65.00
Summer	\$30.00	\$30.00
<u>Junior High Program</u>		

	2008/09	2007/08
Annual	\$65.00	\$65.00
Summer	\$30.00	\$30.00
<u>Senior High Program</u>		
Annual	\$85.00	\$85.00
Summer	\$30.00	\$30.00

Incidental Activity Fees for Students at Lunchtime

	<u>2008/09</u>	<u>2007/08</u>
Elementary (grades 1 to 6)	\$10.00	\$10.00
Junior High (grades 7 to 9)	\$30.00	\$30.00

Elementary Noon Supervision Fee

	<u>2008/09</u>	<u>2007/08</u>
<u>Conditional Riders*</u>		
Kindergarten (full-day program, 5 days per week) ²	\$215.00	\$240.00
Elementary (Grades 1 to 6, 5 days per week)	\$215.00	\$240.00

* *Conditional riders are those students who live within the school's designated walk limit for elementary schools (1.2 kilometres) or attend a school other than their designated school. The reductions to the maximum fee reflect a move by administration to reduce this fee over a three year phased in period, beginning in 2008/09, to be in line with the Charter Bus fee charged to kindergarten and elementary students at the end of three years.*

² The fee must be prorated based on the number of days the service is provided. If a 4 day program is provided, the annual fee should be a maximum \$180.

Student Parking Fee

A parking fee may be charged to students by schools for those students wishing access to on-site parking at schools.

	<u>2008/09</u>	<u>2007/08</u>
Maximum annual fee	\$25.00	\$25.00

OTHER CHARGES

Schools may recover direct costs for fieldtrips, gym strips, yearbooks, graduation, materials upgrades (silk instead of cotton, oak instead of spruce) where requested. These recoveries, which are school/ grade specific are elective and are payable if accessing the service or items. Certain courses at the Junior High and Senior High level have charges associated with them for direct costs charged by external service providers. These vary from school to school.

FEE WAIVERS

The Calgary Board of Education provides waivers for parents/guardians if they meet established financial guidelines. Fee waivers may be granted for Instructional Resource Fee, Transportation Fee, and Music Instrument Registration Fee.