



Alternative Programs



Lake Bonavista School

Montessori Program

2026-2027

learning | **as unique** | as every student

Alternative Programs



Choice | Alternative Programs

- Indigenous Education
- Arts-Centred
- All Boys
- All Girls
- Languages (French, German, Mandarin, Spanish)
- **Montessori**
- Science
- Traditional Learning Centre (TLC)

Alternative Programs



Why Alternative Programs?

- Providing families choices to meet the unique learning needs of each student
- Programs focus on a particular language, culture, subject (Arts, Science), or teaching philosophy
- Informed choice is essential – what is THIS particular program about and how does it meet MY child's needs?

Alternative Programs



Inform | Key Messages

- Each program has unique features
- Integrity of the program remains the same across sites
- All sites follow Alberta Programs of Study with ATA certificated teachers
- All schools requiring a lottery follow the CBE lottery process
- Aligned with system timeframe for registration
- There is a designated Alternative Program school for each home address

Alternative Programs



Timeline | Registration



Timeline for Registration

Registration **opens January 12th** for the 2026-2027 school year.

- Registration is **ONGOING**.
- Registration is paused on **Tuesday February 10**, 2026 at 12:00pm for Lottery Schools.
- Lottery drawn on Wednesday February 11, 2026 by 12:00pm.
- Results of the lottery draw sent within 10 business days of the draw.
 - Teacher's Convention counts as business days, weekends and Family Day does not
 - As with the last two years, the goal is to have it out by the 23 (7 business days)
- Parents must accept/decline within 10 business days from the date of the acceptance offer letter/email.



Registration is Online | New and Current CBE Students

www.cbe.ab.ca



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Registration

- New Student Registration
- Alternative Programs
- New School Under Construction
- Lottery
- Registration Documentation
- Browse All ->**

Fees & Waivers

- Central Fee Waiver
- Flexible Payment Options
- Find My School Fees
- Fee Information Questions and Answers
- Fees, Sales and Services Terms and Conditions
- School Fees Background
- Browse All ->**

Records & Transcripts

- Transfers**
- Forms You Need**
- Back to School**

Calendars

- Instructional Calendar
- Unique Settings
- Dates of Significance
- Bell Times
- Browse All ->**

Current CBE Students

Expression of Interest | School Engage

Alternative Programs

Select One Of The Following Options

<p>I Want To Register A Child</p> <p>I have other children in the CBE and I want to register another child for an alternative program</p> <p>Start Registration</p>	<p>Moving From One Program To Another</p> <p>My child is already registered in one program (regular or alternative) and I would like to move to a different program (regular or alternative)</p> <p>Move Programs</p>
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Program Selection

Select One

<p>Alternative Program</p> <p>I am seeking to move in to an Alternative Program.</p> <p>Alternative Program</p>	<p>Regular Program</p> <p>I am seeking to move into the Regular Program</p> <p>Regular Program</p>	<p>International Baccalaureate Programme (IB)</p> <p>I am seeking to move into the IB Programme</p> <p>IB Program</p>
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Registration Documentation

WHAT YOU WILL NEED

Prior to starting the registration process you will require the following information:

- **Proof of primary address:**

Where the child resides. It must include the parent / legal guardian / independent student name.

Examples include: bank statement, driver's licence, GST rebate, utility bill, home or renters insurance, income tax statement, mortgage statement, property tax assessment or the Canada Revenue Agency letter

- **Child's proof of age, citizenship and legal name:**

Examples include: Alberta Birth Certificate, Canadian Birth Certificate, Canadian passport, Canadian Citizenship Card, Canadian Citizenship Certificate, Confirmation of Permanent Residence or the Canadian Certificate of Indian Status

- A **selfie** with the legal guardian / parent government issued photo identification

Additional documentation may be required:

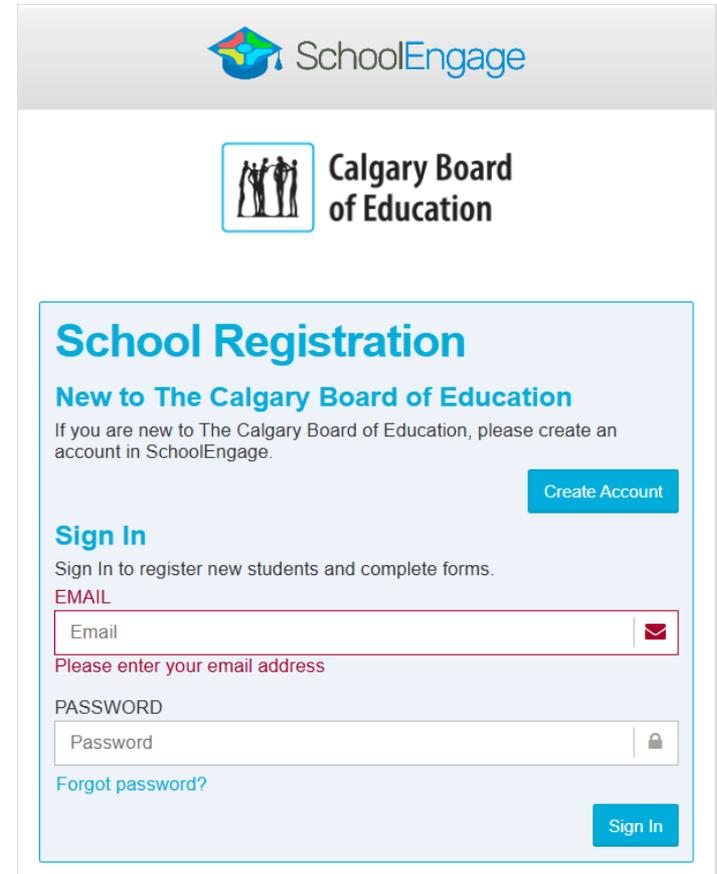
- [Custody / Guardianship](#)

- [Student Health Form](#)
- [Student Assessment](#)

Students who are not Canadian citizens will be contacted after registration by the [CBE Welcome Centre](#).

Registration is Online with School Engage

- The registration form is approximately 16 tabs
- Ensure you have a few minutes to fill these out
- You may **SAVE** and return to the form
- Required documents prior to beginning your forms



The screenshot shows the SchoolEngage website interface. At the top, there is a grey header with the SchoolEngage logo (a colorful graduation cap) and the text "SchoolEngage". Below this is the Calgary Board of Education logo, which features a stylized group of people and the text "Calgary Board of Education". The main content area is titled "School Registration" in blue. Underneath, it says "New to The Calgary Board of Education" and provides instructions: "If you are new to The Calgary Board of Education, please create an account in SchoolEngage." There is a blue "Create Account" button. Below that is a "Sign In" section with the text "Sign In to register new students and complete forms." It includes an "EMAIL" field with a red border and a red error message "Please enter your email address", a "PASSWORD" field with a grey border and a lock icon, and a "Forgot password?" link. A blue "Sign In" button is located at the bottom right of the form area.

Alternative Programs | Schools in Lottery Registration Process

Complete the Registration Process Following These 4 Steps

1

Create a SchoolEngage Account



1. Go to [SchoolEngage](#)
2. Click *Create Account* button
3. Complete the Account Form
4. Check your Email for Confirmation and Click on the Confirmation Link
5. Sign in to SchoolEngage
6. Add a student

Refer to [SchoolEngage Support](#) for detailed steps

[Launch SchoolEngage](#)

2

Complete Registration Form

In SchoolEngage complete the appropriate Registration Form for your child's designated school.

In this step you can select **both** your child's designated regular program and alternative program schools.

Do not register your child for your designated overflow school.

TIP

Remember to hit the green **Submit** at the end of the Registration form to ensure it has been fully completed.

3

Completed Form Sent to School For Processing

Please be patient as the school works through all their completed registrations.

School staff will contact you if there are any questions or concerns.

Please do not call the school.

4

School Confirms Registration

The school confirms student registration and adds your child to the call-back list.

The student's registration information **will automatically be transferred** to the overflow school.

School may require additional forms to be completed.





Lottery Process

What Is Lottery

A lottery is a way to equitably enrol students when a school, program or grade is identified to be at or over capacity.

As Calgary continues to grow and evolve, so does our student population, which means some schools or programs may reach capacity. Meaning some schools must run lotteries.

Lotteries ensure fair and equitable access to schools, programs (regular or alternative), or grades when student populations are at capacity or over capacity. Schools usually conduct lotteries for the grade of entry (for example, kindergarten or Grade 10), but they may also need to hold lotteries for specific grades or programs.

The lottery happens in February.



Lottery Timeline

- To have your Registration / Expression of Interest considered for the Lottery, it must be **completed and submitted by Noon on Tuesday, Feb. 10, 2026.**
- Schools will hold lotteries at Noon on Wednesday, Feb. 11, 2026.
- Results of the lottery will be communicated to families **within 10 business days.**
- Families **will then have 10 business days** to respond to any offers of placement.



Communication from the school(s)

- We encourage you to wait until you hear if you were successful in the lottery from every school to which you expressed interest.
- Once you accept a placement, **you may not receive any further offers.**
- All offers of placement or confirmation that you were not successful will **come through SchoolEngage.** Existing CBE students may hear directly from the school.

LOTTERY PROCESS

New to CBE (e.g.: Kindergarten)

1. A school, program or grade is identified to be at or over capacity and is moved into lottery status

New To CBE

2. Parents/Legal Guardians or Independent Students complete a registration or expression of interest before the lottery deadline.
3. **School processes registrations and expressions of interest** as they are received. Every submission is assigned a unique number.
4. **Lottery Draws are Completed**
Lottery draws are supervised by more than one person, including the school principal or an administration delegate, a school council member, and an administrative assistant

Schools create a **callback**
(<http://www.cbe.ab.ca/registration/registration/lottery/Pages/Lottery-Process.aspx#callback>) list.
5. **Parents or Independent Students are Notified**
Schools inform parents / independent students if they have or have not been accepted into the program.
What if I was not accepted?
(<http://www.cbe.ab.ca/registration/registration/lottery/Pages/Lottery-Process.aspx#not-accepted>)
6. **Parent or Independent Student Response**
If you applied to multiple schools/programs, wait to be notified by **all** of them.

If You Accept:
You are automatically placed into that school / program. Any other programs you applied for will be notified, and you will be removed from their lists.

If You Decline:
If an acceptance or placed on a callback list is refused, the student is removed from the list.
If the refusal is based on the inability to take all members of a family, the student may remain on the call-back list and be contacted if there is space for all.

LOTTERY PROCESS

Currently Enrolled in CBE (e.g.: grade 1 or higher grades)

1. A school, program or grade is identified to be at or over capacity and is moved into lottery status.

Currently Enrolled With CBE

2. **Students are automatically designated** to their next year's program by their designated school and are included in the lottery.
3. **Lottery Draws are Completed**
Lottery draws are supervised by more than one person, including the school principal or an administration delegate, a school council member, and an administrative assistant.
Schools create a [callback](#)
(<http://www.cbe.ab.ca/registration/registration/lottery/Pages/Lottery-Process.aspx#callback>) **list.**
4. **Parents or Independent Students are Notified**
Schools inform parents / independent students whether they have or have not been accepted into the program.
[What if I was not accepted?](#)
(<http://www.cbe.ab.ca/registration/registration/lottery/Pages/Lottery-Process.aspx#not-accepted>)
5. **Parent or Independent Student Response**
If you applied to multiple schools / programs, wait to be notified by **all** of them.
If You Accept:
You are automatically placed into that school/program. Any other programs you applied for will be notified, and you will be removed from their lists.
If You Decline:
If an acceptance or placement on a call-back list is refused, the student is removed from the list. If the refusal is based on the inability to take all members of a family, the student may remain on the call-back list and be contacted if there is space for all.



How We Prioritize Students For Lottery

Priority levels influence your chance of being offered a place at a lottery school. If unsuccessful in the lottery, students are placed on a callback list in order of priority level.

Priority 1

- Students living within the lottery zone who have a sibling (brother/sister [half or step, not cousins]) that will be attending the same program in the same school; concurrently (occurring or existing simultaneously).

Priority 2

- Students living outside the lottery zone but in the designated area for the school, who will have a sibling in the same program at the same school concurrently; or
- Students living within the lottery zone who do not have a sibling in the school.

Priority 3

- All other students living in the designated attendance area.



Name NOT Drawn in the Lottery

If the student's name was not drawn in the lottery process for an alternative program, they will **attend their designated regular program school.**

If you select more than one alternative program, **each school will notify you** whether you have been accepted.

If you were not accepted into any of the lottery schools, you will attend your designated regular program school.



Registrations received after Lottery

Students registering for **an alternative program** after the lottery draw must register for their designated regular program school, as no additional spaces will be available for the next school year.



Wait List

Waitlist for Alternative & Language programs that exist will be dissolved at the end of September, beginning of October.

Call Back List listed below apply to ONLY overflow schools for designated community school, NOT Alternative or Language Programs



CallBack List

A callback list is used for regular program schools that are overcapacity and cannot accommodate all students who live within the school's designated boundary.

The callback list is prioritized according to the draw order established by a lottery. If a school reaches capacity mid-year and must cap enrolment, the callback list is based on priority designation, registration date and time.

If space becomes available throughout the school year, that space will be offered to students on the callback list who are **currently** attending their overflow or regular program school.

Alternative Programs



Inform | Transportation

- K-5 yellow bus transportation provided following CBE congregated stop guidelines for alternative programs
- transportation for grades 6-9 may be offered through congregated yellow bus stops or Calgary Transit (no rebates are provided)
- parents pay an annual fee for CBE yellow bus service or purchase monthly Calgary Transit passes
- Congregated stops are reviewed annually and informed by pre-registration for transportation, online through **MyCBE/PowerSchool**
- Congregated stops may not be within walking distance and alternate arrangements may be required to access the congregated stop

Montessori Program



Elements of the Montessori Program

- The Alberta Programs of Study are shared through the Montessori philosophy, methodology and materials
- Academic success through engagement in hands-on learning with focus on the use of independent skills and curiosity in practical life
- Students work on a multitude of activities which ignite passions and curiosity
- Use of materials that are purposeful and promote deep learning of concepts

Montessori Program



Differences and similarities with community school programs

Differences

- Multi-aged grouping of students, where possible
- Peer tutoring
- Student cohorts remain together, building long lasting relationships
- Peace education using a Montessori approach
- Montessori teachers hold an Alberta teaching certificate and Montessori teacher training

Similarities

- Alberta Curriculum
- Second language opportunities
- Daily PE
- Character
- Citizenship
- Personal Development

Montessori Program



The Montessori classroom:

- Illustrates a delicate balance between choice and responsibility
- Provides intentional learning environments that are designed to facilitate self-directed learning
- Supports leadership development through active service in the community and studies related to the environment
- Emphasizes intrinsic motivation, independence, and student choice
- Provides extended for interdisciplinary work periods

Montessori Program



A Montessori student demonstrates...

- The ability to work on tasks in large blocks of time where both self-directed learning and collaboration with peers is expected
- Positive engagement in hands-on learning with Montessori materials to extend learning
- The ability to work with children of differing ages, in multi-age classrooms were provided

Montessori Program



Is the Montessori Program right for my child?

A successful student demonstrates:

- a willingness and capacity to work independently
- an ability to be self-directed
- academic success through engagement in Alberta Curriculum using the Montessori philosophy and methodology
- an appreciation for use of hands-on learning with a diminished focus on homework



Characteristics of the Montessori program:

- Emphasis on intrinsic motivation and student choice
- Intentional learning environments designed to facilitate self-directed learning
- Where possible, multi-aged classrooms are provided, so that students develop trusting relationships within a peer cohort
- Working with students of differing ages encouraging leadership skills and collaboration
- Montessori teachers work towards Montessori teacher training
- Montessori materials extend learning
- Lessons on peace, grace and courtesy are integral to educating social and global responsibility



Students with previous Montessori experience may start the Montessori program at other grade levels. In the case of alternate entry points, the student, parents and principal of the designated school will meet to determine a personalized plan for successful entry. Typically, students start Montessori in Kindergarten, grade 1 or grade 2.

Montessori Program



Other considerations:

- The program is sequenced so that learning builds from year to year and has specific entry points
- In a successful Montessori Program parental involvement is encouraged
- Family environment where assessment of success is established individually while de-emphasizing age-based comparative standards



Thursday, January 29, 2026

6:30 – 7:30 pm

Open House
Lake Bonavista School

Visit K-6 classrooms, music room, see examples of
Montessori tenets and materials, LBS School
Council, MAPSS, and before/after school care
options



Thank
You

Please contact the school if you
have any further questions or
concerns