



Alternative Programs



# Chris Akkerman School

Traditional Learning Centre (TLC)  
Open House  
January 22, 2026

learning | as unique | as every student



Calgary Board of Education

## Alternative Programs



## Choice | Alternative Programs

- Indigenous Education
- Arts-Centred
- 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 Curriculum and 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

# Timeline for Registration

Registration **opened 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 results out by the 23 of February
- Parents must accept/decline within 10 business days from the date of the acceptance offer letter/email.
- We can see how you interact with the e-mail sent
- Please ensure you check your e-mail, **not responding is a response!**



# Registration is Online

## New and Current CBE Students

[www.cbe.ab.ca](http://www.cbe.ab.ca)



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Schools Programs **Registration** About Us Get Involved

**Registration**

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**Fees & Waivers**

- Central Fee Waiver
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**Calendars**

- Instructional Calendar
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# Current CBE Students

## Expression of Interest - School Engage

### Alternative Programs

Select One Of The Following Options

#### I Want To Register A Child

I have other children in the CBE and I want to register another child for an alternative program

Start Registration ↻

#### Moving From One Program To Another

My child is already registered in one program (regular or alternative) and I would like to move to a different program (regular or alternative)

Move Programs ↻

### Program Selection

Select One

#### Alternative Program

I am seeking to move in to an Alternative Program.

Alternative Program ↻

#### Regular Program

I am seeking to move into the Regular Program

Regular Program ↻

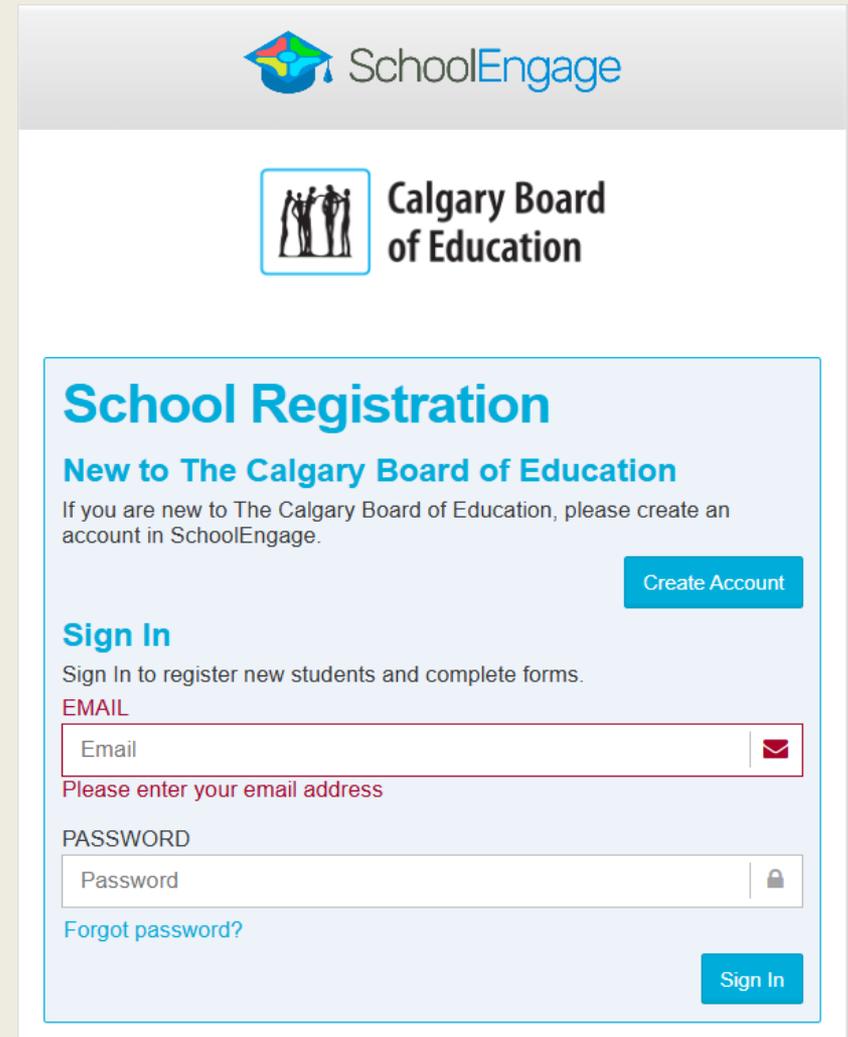
#### International Baccalaureate Programme (IB)

I am seeking to move into the IB Programme

IB Program ↻

# Registration is Online with School Engage

- The registration form is approximately 16 tabs
- Ensure you have time 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 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 large blue font. Below this, it says "New to The Calgary Board of Education" in blue. A message follows: "If you are new to The Calgary Board of Education, please create an account in SchoolEngage." To the right of this message is a blue button labeled "Create Account".

Below the message is a "Sign In" section. It starts with "Sign In" in blue, followed by the text "Sign In to register new students and complete forms." Underneath, there are two input fields. The first is labeled "EMAIL" in red and contains the placeholder text "Email" with a red envelope icon on the right. Below this field is the text "Please enter your email address" in red. The second input field is labeled "PASSWORD" in blue and contains the placeholder text "Password" with a lock icon on the right. Below this field is a blue link that says "Forgot password?".

At the bottom right of the form area is a blue button labeled "Sign In".

## 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](#).

# 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 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 in the first round of the lottery.



## 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 in a specific program, **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 Zone Maps

## Schools With A Program In Lottery

Several CBE schools have limited capacity for new students. This means we may need to hold a lottery to ensure that all students wishing to attend the school have an opportunity to do so. Review the list below to see if the school(s) you are applying to are listed and register before Feb. 10, 2026, at noon (12 PM). If your designated regular program is listed below, review the [overflow schools list](#) to see where students who are unsuccessful in the lottery will be overflowed.

**Note | The list below may change between now and Feb. 10, 2026. It's important to register before the cut-off date to secure your spot in a lottery draw; if the school does not need to run one, your place will be guaranteed.**

### Lottery Zones

Lottery zones are one factor used to establish priority in the lottery process. To review whether you are within or outside the lottery zone, please select your school from the drop-down menu and then select the map file.

Select a School to View Lottery Zone Map:

Search

2026 - 2027

Regular Program

Alternative Programs

Website: <https://www.cbe.ab.ca/registration/registration/lottery/Pages/Schools-With-A-Program-In-Lottery.aspx>

# 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.

Your name will be placed at the bottom of the lottery list.

# 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



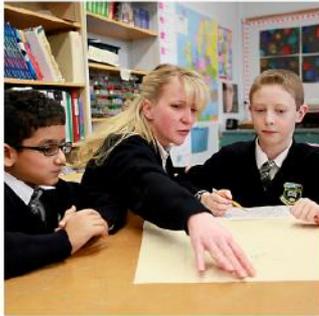
## Callback List

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.

## Traditional Learning Centre



# Inform | Transportation

K-5 yellow bus transportation provided following CBE congregated stop guidelines for alternative programs

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

Your address is used for transportation so it is very important that you register at the correct school and that if you move you attend the correct school if you plan to use yellow school bus service

## Traditional Learning Centre



## Elements of the TLC Program:

- Character education
- Gradual Release of Responsibility Model for instruction
- Personalized Learning
- Mandatory French as a Second Language from grade 1
- Singing of *O Canada* and Acknowledgement of the Land
- Mandatory school uniform
- TLC Program ends in Grade 9
- Homework expectations in grades 1-9

## Traditional Learning Centre



## Differences and similarities with community school programs:

### Differences:

- Gradual release of responsibility model
- Character education program
- French from Grade 1
- Costs associated with purchasing the uniform
- Expectation for parent involvement

### Similarities:

- Alberta Programs of Study and/or Curriculum
- Second language & Complimentary Courses
- Daily PE
- Character
- Citizenship
- Personal Development

## Traditional Learning Centre

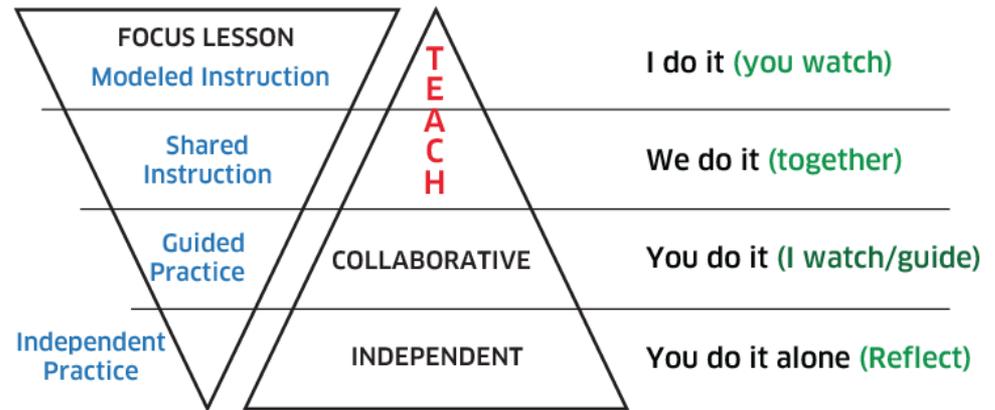


# The TLC classroom

- utilizes the gradual release of responsibility model

## The Gradual Release Model

### TEACHER RESPONSIBILITY



### STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

Figure 1: The Gradual Release Model

[responsibility.html](#)

## Traditional Learning Centre



## The TLC classroom:

- Utilizes the gradual release of responsibility model
- Provides whole group instruction as primary approach
- Personalized Academic Enrichment
- Intentionally teaches and reinforces elements of a character education program
- Homework expectations in grades 1-9

## Traditional Learning Centre



## A TLC student demonstrates...

- Participation in positive social interactions and takes an active role when engaging in problem solving, acts of citizenship and service
- Acceptance of a rigorous academic environment
- Willingness to pursue excellence across all disciplines of the Alberta Curriculum
- A willingness to work independently
- A commitment to homework expectations as guided by Administrative Regulation 3060

## Traditional Learning Centre



## Family Supports | Commitments

- Daily uniform compliance
- French homework
- Actively support with homework
- Regular communication with the school through email, phone calls and conferences
- Support a welcoming, safe, respectful learning environment
- Regular attendance in accordance with the Education Act
- Volunteering

## Traditional Learning Centre Program



### Is the Traditional Learning Centre (TLC) the Right Choice for My Child?

A successful student demonstrates:

- respect for self, others, and the environment
- an active leadership role when engaging in problem solving, acts of citizenship, and service
- willingness to explore and participate across all curricular areas
- willingness to work both independently and collaboratively in groups
- an ability to engage in the gradual release of responsibility framework
- willingness to adhere to uniform regulations

### Characteristics of the TLC Program

- Gradual release of responsibility is the primary method of instruction (I do it, We do it, You do it together, You do it alone)
- Flexible groupings to personalize and differentiate instruction
- A respect for self, others and the environment in and through character education
- French as a Second Language is mandatory from Grades 1 to 9
- Music is mandatory kindergarten through Grade 6
- Band will be offered as a complimentary course in Grade 7 to 9
- Student learning is shared in ways determined by the school, which may include assemblies, celebrations of learning, parent information nights, etc.
- Kindergarten to Grade 4 students are in cohorts by grade
- Grade 5 to 9 students are in cohorts by grade
- Homework expectations are in place for kindergarten to Grade 9 and are determined by the school and [CBE Administrative Regulation 3066](#).
- Mandatory school uniform
- The TLC program ends in Grade 9

## Traditional Learning Centre



# Uniform Guidelines:

School uniform colour:

Middle School – navy (TLC cardigan & vest)

Elementary School – green (TLC cardigan & vest)

All students wear the TLC tartan plaid. Either the plaid tie, tartan dress (Elementary) or kilt (Middle School) must be worn on formal days.

Formal uniform is required on Mondays as well as on special assembly, field trips or occasion days as established by the school but can be worn every day. Informal uniform may be worn on all other days.

All uniform pieces must be clean, tidy, in good repair and fit appropriately. All uniform pieces should be clearly and permanently labelled so that in the event that a piece is found it may be returned to the correct student.

Further information about purchasing is available when acceptance into TLC is confirmed and child is registered. Do NOT purchase a uniform until this time.

TLC Uniform pieces are available at McCarthy Uniforms  
5911 3 St SE 403-252-9342

[www.mccarthyuniforms.ca](http://www.mccarthyuniforms.ca)

**Please DO NOT buy uniforms until accepted!**

Traditional  
Learning  
Centre



# Uniform Guidelines:

## **2025-2026 Uniform Purchasing Windows**

July 2- October 31, 2025

December 17, 2025 - January 31, 2026

April 15, 2025- May 31, 2026

# Traditional Learning Centre



## Uniform Guidelines:

### Formal:

TLC Crested Cardigan  
Middle school – navy  
Elementary - green

Plain White Long or Short Sleeve  
Collared Dress Shirt (not golf shirt)  
(tucked into kilt or pants)

TLC Plaid Dress, Kilt or Navy Twill  
Pants/Leggings

Navy Tights, Knee Socks or Socks

Non Scuffing Black Shoes/Dress  
Shoes

Bicycle Shorts when wearing the  
Dress or Kilt

TLC Plaid Tie when wearing the  
Navy Twill Pants (no leggings)

TLC Plaid Headband (optional)

### Informal:

TLC Crested Cardigan or TLC  
Crested  
Vest (Middle School – navy)

Plain White Long or Short Sleeve  
Collared Dress Shirt  
OR

**TLC Crested** Golf/Polo Long or Short  
Sleeve Shirt

TLC Plaid Kilt or Navy Twill Pants or  
Navy Walking Short/Skort/ Skirt

Navy Tights, Knee Socks or Socks

Non Scuffing Black Shoes/Dress  
Shoes

Bicycle Shorts when wearing the Kilt

TLC Plaid Tie (optional)

TLC Plaid Headband (optional)

## Traditional Learning Centre



## Bell times

School start and end bell times have not yet been determined for 2026-2027.

Our Current Bell Times:

7:50 - 2:35 Monday - Thursday

7:50 - 11:35 Friday

## Traditional Learning Centre



## Chris Akkerman School

- Diverse student population with over 30 different languages and cultures
- Our unique culture, community, celebrations and languages are celebrated
- Indigenous learning is incorporated into well-being and curricular learning
- Main form of communication is School Messenger
- Strong and active School Council

# Chris Akkerman School

## Some extra-curricular activities:

Traditional  
Learning  
Centre



- Celebration of Learning
- Family Picnic
- Fun Lunches
- Spirit Days
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Athletic and cultural residencies
  - Curling
  - Dance – Bollywood and Bhangra
  - Mural Art
- Amazing fieldtrips
  - Science Centre
  - Zoo
  - Landfill
  - Theatre
- Music Monday in May
- French Carnival

## Traditional Learning Centre



## Kindergarten to Grade 5

- Approximately 650 students
- 4 Kindergarten classes :
  - 2 Mon/Wed with alternating Fridays
  - 2 Tues/Thurs with alternating Fridays
- 4 classes each in grade 1-5

## Traditional Learning Centre



- **Abbeydale**
- **Albert Park**
- **/ Radisson Heights**
- **Applewood Park**
- **Belvedere (includes Twin Hills)**
- **Castleridge**
- **Chateau**
- **Mobile Home Park (16 Ave & 84 Street NE)**
- **Cityscape**
- **Cornerstone**
- **Dover**
- **Erin Woods**
- **Falconridge**
- **Forest Heights**
- **Forest Lawn**
- **Homestead**
- **Marlborough**
- **Marlborough Park**
- **Martindale**
- **Monterey Park**
- **Mountview Mobile Home (Red Carpet / Mountview)**
- **Penbrooke Meadows**
- **Pineridge**
- **Redstone**
- **Red Carpet / Mountview**
- **Rundle**
- **Saddleridge (includes Savanna)**
- **Skyview Ranch**
- **Southview**
- **Temple**



# Thank You

- Questions
- If you have any questions that were not answered in this presentation, please email Chris Akkerman School at [chrisakkerman@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:chrisakkerman@cbe.ab.ca)
  - Be sure to visit the [Chris Akkerman](#) web site