

June 26, 2024

Dear Parents and Guardians of Riverside School students,

Please review this newsletter as it contains important information for the beginning of the 2024-25 school year. Our staff has prepared this document in the hopes that it will answer some of your questions leading up to the new school year.

It has been a great year of learning and community at Riverside. As a community, we're in the midst of wrap-up activities and enjoying our time together before taking a break. It's the people in our community that make Riverside such an amazing place of learning. If you are leaving Riverside School at the end of this year, we wish you the very best wherever your journey takes you next.

Thank you, as always, for your support and partnership.

Wishing you all a pleasant summer full of happy memories,

Steve Radder

Principal, Riverside School

Office hours updates

Our Main Office will be open for the usual hours until June 27. Will close for the summer at noon on June 28.

The Main Office will reopen at 9:00AM on August 26. During the summer months, any questions or requests sent in will not be responded to. We will get back to you as soon as possible upon our return.

Uniform guidelines and expectations

A reminder that all students enrolled at Riverside School will be expected to wear uniform tops, as provided by McCarthy Uniforms, during the 2024-25 school year. Most Fridays will be 'Free Fridays', where students are not required to wear a uniform top, except for Fridays when students are on off-campus field study.

McCarthy Uniforms is the provider of our uniform tops. They have provided us some with promotional materials, which are located on the Riverside School website:

- [McCarthy Uniforms Parent Welcome Letter](#)
- [Promotional Flyer Including Ordering Windows and e-Store Link](#)

Thank you to the Riverside School Council and Parent Society for their support in helping us provide financial support to families who need it. If this is the case for your family, please reach out to school administration at riverside@cbe.ab.ca. Lower-cost alternatives for families to consider are available.

We have created a "FAQ" document regarding uniforms and school expectations, which has been posted to our website. You can access it at the link below:

- [Uniform FAQ Sheet](#)

McCarthy Uniforms will offer free shipping to your home on all orders totaling \$150 or more. You can also pick up your orders and try on sample items at their physical store, which is located at 5911 3rd Street SE.

2024-2025 School Start-up

The first day of school for the upcoming school year is August 29. We'll look forward to reconnecting with our students when classes begin at 8:10AM. It will be a full day of classes for students in Grade 1-9, while our Kindergarten students will have a staggered entry, details of which will be shared by Ms. Copot upon our return in late August.

Lifetouch will again be taking school photos for us. Photo Day for the upcoming school year will be on Thursday, September 26.

We know that classroom placements will be an area of great interest for our students as the new year approaches. Our staff collaborated very purposely to place students with teachers and peers that help

each student learn best. Our teachers will be sharing classroom placements with their homeroom students by the end of the working day on August 27.

Our 2nd Annual Welcome Back BBQ will again welcome Riverside staff and students back to school. This event will take place on August 30. Thank you to our School Council and Parent Society for their support of this initiative. We will ensure there are options for our students with dietary restrictions as well.

As well, our School Council hosts a Welcome Back Tea on the morning of the first day of classes (August 29) in the compound on the north side of 1st Avenue.

Securing bikes in our bike cage

It's great to see so many of our students riding bikes to school each day! We're hoping that we will return to an expanded bike cage in the fall, a project funded through the No Fuss Fundraiser arranged by School Council last school year.

It is important that students have proper locks to secure their bikes. It is an unfortunate reality that theft of bikes can be an issue in our community. *At minimum*, students should use a metal 'U-lock' to secure their bike, making sure to attach their bike to the bike rack through the frame of the bike. Locks that are built with a metal cord are not sufficient to deter or prevent theft. A lock with a thick chain, like the one we secure the cage door with, would also be sufficient (but the chain should be quite thick).

School supplies

Students in Kindergarten through Grade 6 in the CBE have all of their needed school supplies purchased centrally. This is paid for through the Student Supply Fee that parents are charged at the beginning of each school year. **The Student Supply Fee for Grade 1-6 students for the 2023-24 school year was \$40. Families of students in Kindergarten were charged \$20.** Information about the cost for these fees for 2024-25 has not been shared yet, though it has been stable over the last few years. Families do not need to purchase additional school supplies for their children.

Students and families in Grades 7-9 are responsible for providing their own school supplies. Homeroom teachers will provide a list of needed supplies to you by the end of the working day on August 28. These lists will contain all of the required supplies for the upcoming school year.

School Council and Parent Society

Riverside School enjoys a productive and healthy partnership with our School Council and Parent Society. We meet monthly (approximately) to continue building and strengthening our partnership, discuss student learning, and consult on decisions impactful to our school community.

We meet in the Learning Commons at our school usually on the third Thursday of every month at 7:00PM. All parents and guardians in our school community are welcome to join. While there are vacancies on the executives of both groups, you do not need to volunteer for the executive if you wish

to attend. A detailed meeting calendar for both groups will be accessible on the School Council page on our website, accessible here: [School Council - Riverside School \(cbe.ab.ca\)](https://www.cbe.ab.ca/school-council/riverside-school)

You can reach our School Council chairperson at schoolcouncil.riverside@gmail.com.

You can reach the President of our Parent Society at parentsociety.riverside@gmail.com.

MyCBE/PowerSchool parent/guardian accounts

MyCBE/PowerSchool is the platform the CBE uses to share information with parents and guardians regarding their children. It is used to communicate attendance information from the school to home. It is also used to share student progress information (marks on assignments, tests, other tasks, report cards). This platform is also used to book Parent/Teacher Conferences. Finally, we also use it for fee payment purposes.

MyCBE/PowerSchool can be accessed at the following address: <https://sis.cbe.ab.ca/public/home.html>.

By navigating there, you can also sign up for a MyCBE account if you do not currently have one.

Instructions and a link to sign-up for a MyCBE account can be found here:

<https://sis.cbe.ab.ca/public/createaccounthelp.html>.

We strongly encourage all families to create an account and ensure access to it prior to the beginning of the school year. As I'm sure you'll understand, August and September will be a very busy time for the entire Calgary Board of Education, including our tech support personnel!