

June 25, 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians of Riverside School students,

Please review this newsletter as it contains important information for the beginning of the 2025-26 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. Let's go, Ravens!

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 26. We will close for the summer at noon on June 27.

The Main Office will reopen at 9:00AM on August 30. We will respond to any inquiries received during the summer months 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 2025-26 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](#)
- [Uniform Visual Guide](#)

Thank you to the Riverside School Council and Parent Society for their support in providing 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](mailto: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 3<sup>rd</sup> Street SE.

## **2025-2026 School Start-up**

The first day of school for the upcoming school year is September 2. 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 25.

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 28.

Our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Welcome Back BBQ will again welcome Riverside staff and students back to school. This event will take place on September 5. 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 (September 2) in the compound on the north side of 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue.

### **Securing bikes in our bike cage**

It's great to see so many of our students riding bikes to school each day! Biking to school supports their independence and physical fitness.

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 insufficient 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 2024-25 school year was \$40. Families of students in Kindergarten were charged \$20. Information about the cost for these fees for 2025-26 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.

The Purpose of the Riverside School Council is to support and enhance the learning and performance of all students enrolled at Riverside School, while building community and fostering connections in a fun and engaging manner. School Council not only supports the mandates of the Science Alternative

Program and the ACCESS III Program, but also volunteers and participates in a variety of school and community activities such as the Welcome Back BBQ, Terry Fox Run and Science Olympics.

Riverside Parent Society is the fundraising arm of the school and runs several low touch events each year including bottle drives, a spring plant sale, and a silent auction. All funds raised go back into the school or local community.

Want to get involved? Our monthly meetings are held on the third Thursday each month at 7:00pm in the Learning Commons and are open to all parents, legal guardians or extended family members of a student at Riverside school, all staff of Riverside School and any interested community members. It's a great way to learn about your school and meet new parents!

You can reach our School Council Chairperson at [schoolcouncil.riverside@gmail.com](mailto:schoolcouncil.riverside@gmail.com).

You can reach the President of our Parent Society at [parentsociety.riverside@gmail.com](mailto: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!