



Alternative
Programs



Thorncliffe School

(Kindergarten)

Colonel Sanders School

(grades 1-4)

Balmoral School

(grades 5-9)

Traditional Learning Centre
(TLC)

January 11, 2024 – 6:30pm

learning | as unique | as every student



Calgary Board
of Education

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



Timeline | Registration

- Opens **January 15, 2024**



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 and/or Alberta Curricula 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/Lottery

- Opens [January 15, 2024](#)
- Closed **noon** on Tuesday before Teachers' Convention ([February 13, 2024](#))
- Lottery drawn on Wednesday before Teachers' Convention ([February 14, 2024](#))
- Results of the lottery draw sent via SchoolEngage within 10 business days of the draw ([February 22, 2024](#))
- Parents must accept/decline within 10 business days from the date of the acceptance letter

Alternative Programs



Inform | Lottery Process

- Where a program is oversubscribed the lottery process will be employed
- Registrations are categorized using 3 priorities:
 - Priority 1 - siblings in walk zone
 - Priority 2 - walk zone, no siblings or outside walk zone with sibling
 - Priority 3 – designated attendance area
- Parents must accept or decline placement in SchoolEngage by 10 business days after the lottery ([March 14, 2024](#))

Inform | Transportation

Traditional Learning Centre



- 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
- For Kindergarten at Thorncliffe, the program is half day and therefore requires transportation at the conclusion of the day (anticipated pick-up at 12:12 PM)

School Engage | Expression of Interest

Alternative Programs



Not a current CBE student: Registration is required.

Go to www.cbe.ab.ca/registration

Register your child through School Engage

Current CBE student: Complete the Expression of Interest Form through School Engage:

§ by noon on February 14, 2024 for schools in lottery;
and

§ until further notice, for all other Alternative Programs

All Expression of Interests are based on Priority Lists as stated in Administrative Regulation 6090 | Child and Student Registration and Admission.

§ Completing an Expression of interest does not guarantee acceptance into an alternative program.

§ Registration will not occur until a family receives an Offer of Placement and an invitation to register.

§ Acceptance into a kindergarten program does not guarantee registration into grade 1.

Please ensure you fill out ALL sections of School Engage when registering, uploading all pertinent documents helps streamline the registration process.

Traditional Learning Centre



Elements of the TLC Program:

- character education
- whole group instruction
- mandatory Music/Band until end of grade 9
- mandatory French as a Second Language from grade 1
- singing of *O Canada*
- mandatory school uniform
- TLC Program ends in Grade 9
- grade 1-9 students receive homework

Traditional Learning Centre



Differences and similarities with community school programs:

Differences:

- gradual release of responsibility model
- character education program
- French from Grade 1
- Music/Band until end of Grade 9
- in middle school, with mandatory Band and French, students will not have access to as many other complementary courses
- costs associated with purchasing the uniform and fees associated with the Band program

Similarities:

- Alberta Programs of Study
- Second language opportunities
- daily PE
- Character
- Citizenship
- Personal Development

Traditional Learning Centre

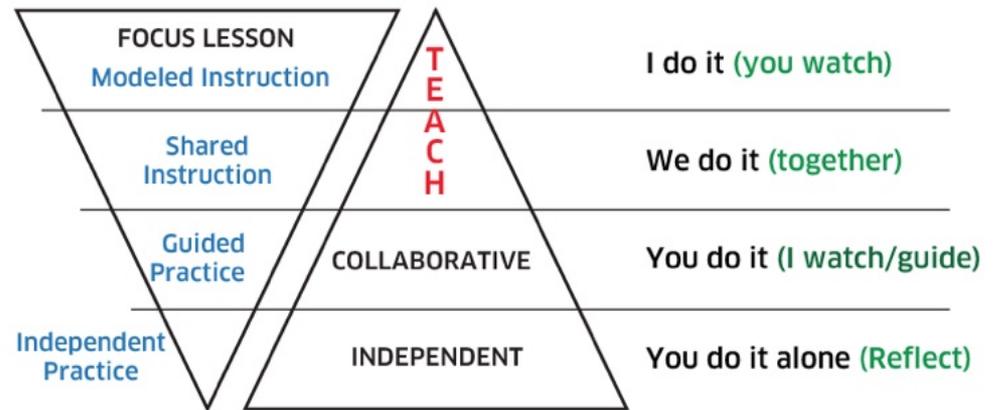


The TLC classroom

- 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



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 as guided by Administrative Regulation 3060

Traditional Learning Centre



Family Supports | Commitments

- Daily uniform compliance
- French/Music/Band
- Actively support with homework
- Regular communication with the school through email, phone calls and conferences
- Support a welcoming, safe, respectful learning environment

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 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

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

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 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



Thorncliffe School

- Currently, Thorncliffe School has 3 TLC Kindergarten classes (subject to change)
 - 25 morning students
 - 50 afternoon students
- Students in Kindergarten attend Monday-Thursday until January (subject to change)
- From January to June Kindergarten students will be required to attend 6 Fridays in addition to the Monday to Thursday schedule (subject to change).
- Welcome to Kindergarten on May 16
 - 6:00-7:00Pm
- Bussing is only one way.
 - Bussing in the morning to school or at the end of the school day (no mid-day bus).

Traditional Learning Centre



Colonel Sanders School

For the 2024-25 School Year

French

- Grades 1-3 will receive French instruction every other day for 30 minutes
- Grade 4 will receive French instruction every day for 30 minutes

Soft Entry

- Students must be in their classrooms ready to learn at 9:10am
- 9:00-9:05am – Grade Level Doors are open for students to enter
- 9:05-9:10am – students enter the school through the main door and receive a welcome slip

TLC Welcome

- In June all students who have been admitted through the lottery process will be invited to a welcome evening

Traditional Learning Centre



Balmoral School – Music/Band

- General Music in Grades 5-6
- Band in Grades 7-9 (Overnight Band Camp in Grade 7)
- Expectations and benefits include daily practice, skill development, analytical listening skills and ability to self-assess
- Mandatory performances and events may include band clinics, festival performances and band camp
- Renting vs. owning instruments
- **Extra fees associated with Band**

Traditional Learning Centre



Balmoral School – CTF

- Offered every other Friday for a double period
- All students in Grades 5-9 will take four CTF modules throughout the year:
 - Foods
 - Construction
 - Grade team module 3
 - Grade team module 4

** Grade team modules differ by grade and can include, but are not limited to: 3D printing, environmental stewardship, marketing/media communications, tourism, design studies, etc.



Thank you!

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



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Alternative
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SchoolEngage

- Helpful link

<https://cbe.ab.ca/support/Pages/SchoolEngage.aspx>

