



Alternative  
Programs



# Welcome to Balmoral School

Traditional Learning  
Centre (TLC)

June 10, 2026

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



Calgary Board  
of Education

## Traditional Learning Centre



## A TLC student demonstrates...

- respect for self, others, and the environment
- self-management and organizational skills
- 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 Programs of Study
- a willingness to work independently
- a commitment to daily homework

## Traditional Learning Centre



# A typical day at Balmoral

- Buses arrive around 7:40am
- Classes begin at 7:55am
- Mon-Thu: 4 periods with nutrition break between periods 2/3 in AM, lunch break, 2 periods in PM
- Classes end at 2:30pm, buses leave by 2:45pm
- Lunch break with outdoor recess time (Grades 8/9 students are permitted to go off-campus with parent permission)
- Fri: 4 periods plus Character block
- Friday early dismissal at 11:30am

# Sample Schedules

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Grade 5</b>	<b>Grade 7</b>	<b>Friday (Grade 6)</b>
Period 1	English Language Arts and Lit.	PE	CTF
Period 2	Social Studies	Art or FSL	CTF
Period 3	PE	Math	Character
Period 4	Music or FSL	Science	English Language Arts and Lit.
LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	Math
Period 5	Math	English Language Arts	Early dismissal
Period 6	Science	Social Studies	

## Traditional Learning Centre



## French as a Second Language (FSL)

- Mandatory FSL program – all students participate actively
- Program focuses on a blend of speaking, listening, reading and writing
- Year long program
- Promote a love of second language learning and expect all students to participate enthusiastically
- FSL lead teacher = Mme. Turner

## Traditional Learning Centre



# Music/Band/Art/ Leadership options

- General Music in Grades 5-6. Optional Band in Grades 7-9 (Overnight Band Camp in Grade 7 or 8)
- Choice of Art in Grades 7/8/9, and Leadership in Grades 8/9
- All are full year courses, offered twice a week
- Renting vs. owning instruments, mandatory parent meeting for new students to Band.
- Course fees for Band and Art.

## Traditional Learning Centre



## Character Education

- Safe, caring, respectful, welcoming learning environment for all
- Respect for self, others, environment
- Character education taught explicitly on Fridays and integrated into all curriculum areas
- Buddy classes:
  - Build strong learning communities across grades 5-9
  - Friendly competitions, spirit days and school events
  - Increases adult connections for all students

## Traditional Learning Centre



## Career and Technology Foundations (CTF)

- Offered every Friday for a double period
- All students in Grades 6-9 will take 2 CTF courses (1 per semester):
  - Examples: Foods, Construction, Robotics, Fashion, 3D Printing, Film Studies, Environmental Stewardship, Multimedia, Marketing, and more
- Grade 5 classes rotate through 4 different CTF modules throughout the year – scheduled on Mondays
- Will try to give each students one of their top 3 choices during the school year.

## Traditional Learning Centre



## School Athletics

- Competitive team tryouts for Grades 7-9 (Calgary Middle School Athletics Association)
  - Soccer
  - Basketball
  - Cross-country running (6's)
  - Volleyball
  - Badminton (6's)
  - Track and Field (6's)
- Recreational intramurals at lunch
  - Wednesdays – girls only

## Traditional Learning Centre



## Extra-curricular activities

- Clubs: Art, Chess, Robotics, Film, Speech, Yearbook, Newspaper, etc.
  - New clubs offered based on student interest and teacher availability
- School musical in May/June
- Student leadership opportunities through Student Voice Council (SVC)
- Volunteer opportunities in school cafeteria, announcements, etc.
- Math contests, Science fair, Geography competitions, Writing competitions, etc.

## Traditional Learning Centre



## Extra support for students

- Student Success Centre (Room 15A) – a quiet space with teacher support to work individually or in a small group
- The “Zen Den” – a sensory room in the office where students can come to relax or calm down with support from administration
- Resource/Student Services teacher available to support students with learning challenges and strategies – works to obtain external supports where needed
- Literacy intervention teacher – works to regroup students to target specific literacy skills
- Open communication with teachers and admin

## Traditional Learning Centre



## Digital device policy – AWAY FOR THE DAY

- No personal devices are permitted during class time, unless permission has been given by the teacher that period
- All personal devices must be stored in lockers during class time
- **UPDATE:** Students are not permitted to use their devices during lunch while outside the school building as we wish to promote physical activity, reduce interactions with social media and ensure student privacy.
- Families who need to contact their child during the school day can call the office and leave a message. A student phone is also available in the office.

## Traditional Learning Centre



## Uniform requirements

- TLC crest uniform (NAVY BLUE) must be worn every day from Monday – Thursday.
- Fridays are casual days – students are expected to wear appropriate clothing for school.
- All uniform pieces must be clean, tidy, in good repair, and fit appropriately.
- TLC uniform pieces are available at: **McCarthy Uniforms, 5911 3 St SE, 403-252-9342 ([www.mccarthyuniforms.ca](http://www.mccarthyuniforms.ca))**

## Traditional Learning Centre



# Yellow School Bus Transportation **DEADLINE – JUNE 14, 2026**

- 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**
- Congregated stops may not be within walking distance and alternate arrangements may be required to access the congregated stop

## Traditional Learning Centre



## First day of school

- First day for students is August 31, 2026
- School office opens August 27, 2026
- You will receive an email from your child's homeroom teacher before schools starts
- Classes will meet in designated areas outside the school, teachers will sort students into homerooms, and then take them inside.
- Parents are welcome to come for the first part of this (outdoors) but cannot join students inside the school
- Ensure your child know how they will get home that day!

## Traditional Learning Centre



## Join our School Council

- A wonderful group of parents who meet once/month to share information, participate in decision-making that impacts all students, and organize fundraising.
- Currently actively recruiting new members!
  - Fundraising committee
- Please email [balmoral@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:balmoral@cbe.ab.ca) if you would like to join, or have more questions.

## Traditional Learning Centre



## Tour Our School

- Highlights:
  - Learning Commons
  - Cafeteria
  - Specialty classrooms, including Foods, Construction, and Music
  - Main office
  - Large outdoor field and playground
  - Historical building
- Ask questions!
- Return to gym after tour if you have any remaining questions

## Traditional Learning Centre



# Thank you for attending our information evening

First day of classes is August 31, 2026

School office open August 27, 2026

## Questions?

Office phone number: 403-777-7330

Email: [balmoral@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:balmoral@cbe.ab.ca)

Rakhee Vijairaghavan, Principal

Krista Keet, Assistant Principal

Anh Truong, Admin Secretary