



Poplar Ridge School September Newsletter

Welcome back! We are delighted to see all our students and families!
We look forward to a wonderful year together learning, growing and having fun.

Top things you need to know about Poplar Ridge for September:

1. **A big welcome to our new and returning families at Poplar Ridge School!**
2. **School Start Up: Grades 1-6** start school on **Tuesday, September 3** for a full, regular school day. **Kindergarten** has a staggered entry on **Thursday, September 5**. If you haven't already picked your time slot, click [here](#) to book.
3. **Hours of Instruction/Supervision:** Our bell times are 8:40 am to 3:05 pm. Outside supervision begins at 8:30 until 8:40 am. Please have your child(ren) on time!
4. **Drop off and Pick up Routine** - Please keep your child in your car until supervision starts at 8:30 am. Once the supervisors are outside, students can walk to the playground using the sidewalks. Your child will meet you at your car at 3:05 pm. Please encourage your child to look for your car and we will do the same to continue the efficiency. We will be parking right behind the buses again to allow for more cars in the drop off/pick up lane to avoid the front road. **You all are commended for your cooperation and swiftness in this process last year.** We encourage families to visit after 8:45 am and 3:15 pm when the busyness is done.
5. **Absent or Late** - If your child is going to be absent or late, please email the teacher or call the office. We will call home if we haven't heard from you when your child is absent. If your child rides the bus, make sure your bus driver is also aware.
6. **Open House** - We will be hosting a Meet the Staff Open House and Popsicles with the Principals on Thursday, September 5 from 3:15 to 4:30 pm. We invite you to stop in and meet your child's teacher and our staff.
*****We don't have child care, so if you cannot attend right after school, your child will go home and come back with you.**
7. **Hot Lunch** - Our School Council organizes hot lunches for purchase. Watch your email for more information coming soon.
8. **School Fees** - Each student has their own account for school related charges. After September 3, each student will be charged \$8.00 for their agenda. Payments are done online through your [Power School Parent Portal](#).
9. **Agendas**- A great communication tool for our parents is your child's agenda. If you know your child is being picked up early or not riding the bus, please write it in their agenda. If it's a last minute change, feel free to email or call the office and Ms. Salomons will let your child and their teacher know. msalomons@cesd73.ca or call 403-343-8821.
10. **2024/2025 Re-Enrollment Forms** - In the summer, you were emailed a time sensitive re-enrollment form filled out prior to Sept 3. If you are having issues signing into Power School Parent Portal account please contact the school office.
11. **Contact Hours** - Chinook's Edge School Division has a policy called Weekdays 'til 6. This approach prohibits non-emergency emails being sent and or responded to after 6:00 pm and prior to 6:00 am on weekdays, to honor the personal time of families and staff. This approach to wellness is making a difference and we thank you for your support.
12. **Poplar Ridge School Spirit Days** -On Fridays, we encourage students to wear blue and white or their Poplar Ridge gear.



Dates to Remember:

Aug 30 - New Family Open House 2:00 to 3:00 pm
Sept 3 - First Day of School grades 1-6
Sept 5 - First Day of Kindergarten Staggered Entry
Sept 5 - Open House 3:15 to 4:30 pm
Sept 11-13- Bring your bottles and cans to our bottle drive!
Sept 12 - School Photos
Sept 13 - PR Spirit Day - wear your Poplar Ridge gear if you have it, if not, please wear blue and white!

Sept 20 - Professional Learning Day - No School
Sept 26 - Terry Fox Run @ 2:00 pm
Sept 27 - AGM for School Council at 9:00 am.
Everyone is welcome to attend the AGM.
Wear your PR gear or colors
Sept 30 - National Day for Truth & Reconciliation - No School
Oct 1 - Orange Shirt Day
Oct 11 - Non Instructional Day - No School
Oct 14 - Thanksgiving - Gobble, Gobble! No School



Chinook's Edge School Division - Poplar Ridge School

2024-2025 Student Attendance Traditional Calendar

AUGUST 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Aug 28-30 Professional Learning Day

FEBRUARY 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

Feb 3 First Day Semester Two
Feb 14 Kindergarten Friday
Feb 17 Family Day
Feb 17-21 Winter Break
Feb 20-21 Teachers' Convention
Feb 28 Kindergarten Friday

SEPTEMBER 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Sept 2 Labour Day
Sept 3 Students' First Day of School
Sept 5 First day of Kindergarten
Sept 20 Professional Learning Day
Sept 30 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

MARCH 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Mar 7 Professional Learning Day (HS Common Collab)
Mar 14 Kindergarten Friday
Mar 21 Professional Learning Day

OCTOBER 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Oct 11 Non Instructional Day
Oct 14 Thanksgiving Day
Oct 18 Kindergarten Friday
Oct 25 Professional Learning Day (HS Common Collab)

APRIL 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Apr 4 Kindergarten Friday
Apr 18 Good Friday
Apr 21 Easter Monday
Apr 21-25 Spring Break

NOVEMBER 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
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Nov 11 Remembrance Day
Nov 8/11 Fall Break
Nov 15 Kindergarten Friday
Nov 29 Professional Learning Day (HS Common Collab)

MAY 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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May 2 Professional Learning Day
May 9 Kindergarten Friday
May 16 Focused PD Day (TPGP Day)
May 19 Victoria Day
May 30 Kindergarten Friday

DECEMBER 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Dec 6 Kindergarten Friday
Dec 13 Non Instructional Day
Dec 23-31 Christmas Break

JUNE 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Jun 6 Kindergarten Friday
Jun 26 Students Last Day (noon dismissal)
Jun 27 Professional Learning Day

JANUARY 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Jan 1-3 Christmas Break
Jan 10 Kindergarten Friday
Jan 24 Kindergarten Friday
Jan 30 Professional Learning Day
Jan 31 Non Instructional Day

LEGEND	
	Professional Learning Day
	Teachers' Convention
	Non Instructional Day
	Significant Start and End Dates
	Holiday
	Breaks
	Kindergarten Fridays

CESD appreciates feedback from all of our stakeholders in the creation of this calendar. Over 2000 CESD staff members, parents and students contributed to the most recent CESD Calendar Survey. The next opportunity for feedback will be in the 2028-2029 school year.

Cell phones/Personal Mobile Devices and Social Media



Starting the first day of school, Chinook's Edge School Division will align with the Alberta government's Ministerial Order on Personal Mobile Devices and Social Media in School. ***In accordance with the government's new standards students will not be permitted to use cellphones/personal mobile devices (Personal mobile devices include: cellphones, smartwatches, and tablets) and social media during instructional time. Student access to social media will not be permitted on Chinook's Edge networks.*** These guidelines will ensure our students' learning environments are free from distractions, allowing our teachers to deepen engagement and learning. These restrictions will differ slightly by grade and school configuration:

Kindergarten to Grade 8: Students are not permitted to use personal mobile devices at school and or during school hours.

Grades 9 - 12: Students are not permitted to use personal mobile devices during instructional time, but may have access before school, during spares and class transitions, at lunch and after school. Students will store all personal mobile devices out of view and powered off in a school determined designated space. If a student has a specified, documented educational, health or medical reason for the use of personal mobile devices, a principal, in consultation with parent and classroom teacher, may permit limited use.

In accordance with the Ministerial Order, Chinook's Edge will use a progressive discipline approach emphasizing education, communication and ongoing support to help students and parents understand the importance of responsible use of their personal mobile devices, which aligns with the Ministerial Order.

Under the direction of the school and classroom teacher, students will be permitted to use classroom appropriate technology such as school/personal Chromebooks and laptops when appropriate to support learning activities.

From September to January, we will engage with staff and our stakeholder groups to ensure our procedure aligns with the Ministerial Order and that there is an opportunity for clarity and understanding with our stakeholders. We will use stakeholder feedback as we develop and update our policies and procedures regarding cellphones, technology, personal devices, and social media. Each school in our division will be developing local school rules that align with these updates.

Support documents, literature and research related to cellphones/social media:

Reference documents:

[Government communication regarding cellphone use in schools](#)

[Ministerial Order - June 20, 2024](#)

Literature/research on the topic of cellphone use:

[Anxious Generation - Digital Minimalism](#) - [iGen](#) - [2022 OECD PISA Study](#) -

[2023 UNESCO Study on Technology in Education](#) - [2024 Norwegian Study on Middle School cellphone bans](#)

[The case for cellphone free schools](#)

School Council Corner

September, 2024

Thank you to all who attended the final meeting of the 2023/24 year.
The minutes from the June 13th meeting are on the school website.

Please save the date for the AGM of the 2024/25 school year for Sept 27 at 9:00 am.

Thank you for your support with bottle drives last year.
We raised \$1842.96 from these drives !!
Remember to drop off your summer recyclable stash for
the first drive of the year Sept 11-13.



Our farm fresh apple fundraiser is back by popular demand.

Don't miss out!

In partnership with
Sun-oka
FRUIT FARMS
growing better food since 1987

Follow this link until Oct 9
...remember how much
you loved them last year
and double your order!!

https://fundraising.sunokafruit.com/seller_1/colleen-robertson/org-campaign/oplar-ridge-school-council-harvest-2024

Buyers will be contacted
with the pick up date as
that is still TBD by Mother
Nature

A huge THANK YOU to Colet Grimbeek (vice-chair), Eloise Silvernagle (secretary) and Tricia Hansen (Healthy Hunger) for their years of service!

Your dedication to the kids, the school and the community are unsurpassed!

As they step down from these positions we welcome Joanna Van Duzen, Alyne Hoar and Tina-Louise Steyn!



THANK YOU for the ongoing support of your School Council!