

May 13, 2025

Notice Regarding Overflow Designation Changes for Copperfield School

Dear parents/guardians,

Effective immediately, Copperfield School will no longer require an overflow school designation. The school is expected to be able to accommodate all students from its designated attendance area for the 2025-26 school year and beyond. Additionally, there will be no lottery for incoming students in the 2026-27 school year.

For several years Copperfield School operated at capacity, and students who could not be accommodated were designated to Sibylla Kiddle School. Enrolment in the Copperfield attendance area has stabilized and is expected to decline slightly in future years.

What does this mean for my kindergarten child or Grade 1 student?

Copperfield community kindergarten children currently attending Sibylla Kiddle School will be recalled to Copperfield School for September 2025. Current kindergarten children who live in Copperfield will not be able to attend Sibylla Kiddle School as Grade 1 students. This is because there is not enough space to accommodate out-of-attendance-area students at Sibylla Kiddle School in the Grade 1 cohort.

Children from the Copperfield community registered for kindergarten at Sibylla Kiddle School for the 2025-26 school year may attend Sibylla Kiddle School for kindergarten only. Copperfield families who have children registered for kindergarten at Sibylla Kiddle, who now wish to register instead at Copperfield School, may contact Sibylla Kiddle School to have their registration for kindergarten transferred to Copperfield School.

Please see below for more information on Copperfield students currently attending Sibylla Kiddle School in Grades 2 – 5.

Why is there a difference between kindergarten and Grade 1 students?

- Under the Alberta *Education Act*, kindergarten is optional. As a result, children are not considered students while attending kindergarten and do not need to attend their designated school for kindergarten.
- Kindergarten children may attend a kindergarten program in any CBE school if space and resources allow. However, admission to kindergarten does not guarantee admission as a student for Grade 1 at that school, unless it is their designated school.
- If a child attends kindergarten at a school other than their designated school, they are considered an out-of-attendance-area student when they become Grade 1 students.
- Out-of-attendance-area students are only accepted if space and resources allow.
- For the 2025-26 school year and beyond, Sibylla Kiddle does not have space to accommodate out-of-attendance-area Grade 1 students but does have space for kindergarten children, for one year only.

 Sibylla Kiddle will no longer have space to accept out-of-attendance-area kindergarten children starting in 2026-27.

What does this mean for my Grade 2-5 student?

CBE aims to minimize transition for students to support continuity in learning and social development. Students from the community of Copperfield who will be in Grades 2–5 at Sibylla Kiddle School for the 2025-26 school year may remain at that school until they complete Grade 5, or until they move out of the Copperfield community, as long as space and resources allow. These students will be considered out-of-attendance-area students going forward.

If families prefer to have all siblings attend the same school, they may choose to have all siblings attend Copperfield School. Copperfield families wishing to move Grade 2-5 students to Copperfield School should contact Sibylla Kiddle School to have their registration transferred.

How will students get to school?

Any current Grade 4 students who remain at Sibylla Kiddle School will have access to transportation services to Sibylla Kiddle School for the 2025-26 school year. Copperfield School students, currently in Grades 1 – 3 attending Sibylla Kiddle School, will be considered out-of-attendance area students and may apply for transportation as conditional riders.

Please see the <u>Busing & Transportation</u> page on the CBE website for details on conditional ridership. All transportation from the Copperfield community to Sibylla Kiddle School will end on June 30, 2026.

You can learn more about CBE's transportation service levels and fees, and how to register for the upcoming school year on our website.

Thank you for your understanding as we make these changes to our school system to ensure student success.

If you have questions or require additional information, please contact CBE's Area 5 office at 403-777-8412 (extension 0).

Ann Ard Education Director, Area 5 Ken Weipert Education Director, Area 5 Catherine Ford Director, Planning

