

3 Year Plan Coalhurst Elementary School

2025-2028





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Our Context

Coalhurst Elementary School is part of **The Palliser School Division** and provides educational opportunities for children from **preschool through grade six**. Our student enrolment has remained steady over the past decade, averaging around **340 students** each year.

We offer **eight preschool classes per week**, with both morning and afternoon sessions running Monday through Thursday. Our **kindergarten program** also operates in the mornings and afternoons from Monday to Thursday.

Our **grades one and two** are organized as single-grade classrooms, while our **grades three/four** and **five/six** use a **multi-age approach** to foster collaboration and peer learning. The school currently includes two grade one classes, two grade two classes, and four classes each at the grades 3/4 and 5/6 levels.

Most of our students reside in town, though we operate **three bus routes** to serve families in surrounding rural areas.

The school is led by a **principal and vice principal**, who also teach part-time. Our dedicated staff includes a **learning support teacher**, **preschool teacher**, **13 classroom teachers**, and **14 educational assistants**. We also have a **learning commons facilitator**, **school counselor**, **Making Connections worker**, and our indispensable **Super Secretary** who keeps the school running smoothly!

Vision & Mission

Vision

Success for every child.

Mission

Our connection is community.
Our virtue is kindness.
Our focus is literacy and mathematics.
Our strength is diversity.



Successes, Opportunities, Challenges

Successes

- Coalhurst Elementary School is proud of the growth we have seen in our student leaders.
 Our Student Leadership Committee (SLC) has spearheaded a variety of initiatives throughout the year, including organizing spirit days, leading holiday events, and volunteering at community programs such as the Angel Tree.
- Our School Council and the Friends of CES Society have also made a tremendous impact
 on our school in recent years. This dedicated group of parents and community members
 has supported staff and students in countless ways. While their financial contributions
 have helped us purchase new learning resources and fund meaningful field trip
 opportunities, their greatest impact has been in fostering school spirit and strengthening
 the sense of community within CES.

Opportunities

- We continue to expand our Career and Technology Foundations (CTF) opportunities for our grade 5/6 students. In recent years, our focus on fine arts, dramatic arts, business, and technology has given students exciting new avenues to explore their interests and passions.
- This year, we are launching a partnership with a local organization to bring senior dogs into the school through a program called **Paws and Pages**. We are excited about the unique learning and emotional growth opportunities this program will offer, as students read and engage with gentle canine companions.

Challenges

 In recent years, reductions in staffing have placed increasing pressure on our human resources. Although we continue to provide high-quality programming, our staff are truly doing more with less. Over the past seven years, we have experienced a 43% reduction in educational assistant hours and the loss of one full-time teaching position. Despite these challenges, our dedicated team has worked tirelessly to maintain the standard of excellence our community expects and deserves.

Palliser School Division Goal: Well-Being

All Palliser students will engage with the foundational elements supporting wellbeing to provide them with the tools and confidence to live a healthy life.

Coalhurst Elementary School Goal 1: Well-Being

Promote a culture of kindness, wellness, and connection among students, staff, parents, and community.

What do we want for our children and staff?

- Students and staff demonstrate kindness and empathy in their daily interactions.
- Everyone feels a strong sense of belonging and safety within the school.
- Parents and community members are actively engaged and feel welcomed as partners in learning.
- Wellness is embedded in the school culture staff and students feel supported socially, emotionally, and physically.
- Staff collaborate and support one another, modeling the positive relationships we promote for students.
- Communication between home and school is open, respectful, and solution-focused.
- When challenges arise, support is accessible, timely, and responsive to individual needs.

Measures

- Assurance Survey Measures of Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe Learning Environment and Access to Supports and Services
- Assurance Survey Measures of Students Citizenship and Learning Environment
- School-driven Student Survey (October 2025 and March 2026)
- School-driven Staff Survey (October 2025 and March 2026)
- School-driven Parent Survey (March 2026)

School Strategies

Check-ins

- Short, optional "how are you feeling?" moments at the start of class or staff meetings.
- Informal staff hallway buddies
- Focus on **listening rather than speaking**.

Kindness Recognition

• Highlight acts of kindness and collaboration, no matter how small.

Wellness Moments

• Short breaks for stretching, breathing exercises, or outdoor movement.

Flexible Routines

- Slow reintroduction of assemblies, field trips, or school-wide initiatives, house competition, and cross-graded opportunities
- Emphasize community-building over academic pressure.

Open Communication with Families

• Weekly updates focused on wellness and re-engagement rather than curriculum alone.

Visible Leadership

- Principal/VP spend time in classrooms or on playgrounds to model calm, approachable leadership.
- Focus on **connection**, **reassurance**, **and trust-building**.



Palliser School Division Goal: Optimal Learning

All Palliser students will engage in meaningful and optimal learning where the foundational skills of literacy and numeracy are emphasized across all aspects of daily living.

Coalhurst Elementary School Goal 2: Literacy and Numeracy

Students will build literacy and numeracy skills.

What do we want for our children?

- Children feel confident using reading, writing, and math every day.
- Children are curious and excited to explore new ideas.
- Children see themselves as capable and resilient learners.
- Children have a growth mindset.
- Children enjoy solving problems and thinking critically.

Measures

Student Learning Measures

- **Classroom assessments:** Reading levels, writing samples, math benchmarks, and problem-solving tasks
- **Progress monitoring:** Tracking improvement over time in literacy and numeracy skills.

Teacher/Instruction Measures

- **Use of formative assessment:** Teachers regularly check understanding and adjust instruction based on student needs.
- **Differentiation evidence:** Lesson plans and observations show tailored support for diverse learners.

School-Wide/Provincial Measures

- Provincial Achievement Tests (PATs): Grade 6 assessments in Language Arts and Mathematics
 provide a snapshot of student learning compared to provincial standards and inform targeted
 supports.
- Mandatory Assessments: Use of mandatory assessments to track trends.
- School-wide progress tracking: Summary of classroom and PAT results to identify trends, strengths, and gaps across grades.
- **Student confidence and mindset:** Surveys or informal check-ins capturing how students feel about their abilities in literacy and numeracy.
- **Celebration of growth:** Recognition programs, student portfolios, or presentations showcasing learning achievements.

School Strategies

Reading Progressions (Foundational Literacy Strategy)

- All teachers address reading and writing learning using the sequencing of reading progressions.
 - **Phonological Awareness:** Letter sounds, rhymes, syllables, blending/segmenting.
 - o **Phonics and Word Recognition:** Decoding, word-building activities.
 - **Fluency:** Accurate, expressive oral reading with repeated practice.
 - **Vocabulary and Comprehension:** Explicit teaching of words and sentence structures; discussion and text analysis.
 - Writing Progressions: From letter formation and sentence building to paragraphs and editing

Math Foundational Strategy

• Teachers refine instruction, assessment and differentiation of the learning progressions in the new math curriculum.

Literacy Resources

- Students are encouraged to select books that **stretch their reading skills**, promoting growth while maintaining high interest.
- Students are encouraged to read paperback books and balance their reading time with limited screen use.

Numeracy Resources

All classrooms are equipped with the tools needed to address mathematical instruction.

Staff Collaboration

- Ensure that teachers have weekly collaboration opportunities to discuss literacy and numeracy instruction, assessment, and growth.
- Educational assistant training to support interventions.

