

# FOUR WINDS PUBLIC SCHOOL

545 Grandin Drive, Morinville, AB T8R 2R3

Phone: 825-349-0021 Email: FWPS @sturgeon.ab.ca

www.fourwindsschool.ca



Principal: Gidget Bouchard([gidget.bouchard@sturgeon.ab.ca](mailto:gidget.bouchard@sturgeon.ab.ca)) VP: Savannah Bosch ([savanah.bosch@sturgeon.ab.ca](mailto:savanah.bosch@sturgeon.ab.ca))

VP: Christina Dafoe([christina.dafoe@sturgeon.ab.ca](mailto:christina.dafoe@sturgeon.ab.ca))

Dear Firebird Families,

As we look forward to the upcoming 2025–2026 school year, we are excited to welcome students back and want to share some important information about our *staggered start* approach for the fall. This helps ensure a smooth and supportive transition for all students—especially our youngest learners—and helps reduce anxiety as they return to school.

## What is a Staggered Start?

A staggered start means students begin school on different days instead of everyone starting on the same day. This allows staff to welcome students in smaller groups, giving children extra support as they settle into new routines and spaces.

## Staggered Start Schedule:

- Wednesday, August 27, 2025: 4-6pm Drop off your school supplies. Food trucks will be on site for light snacks. Come meet your homeroom teacher!
- Thursday, August 28, 2025: Students with last names beginning A–K
- Friday, August 29, 2025: Students with last names beginning L–Z
- Tuesday, September 2, 2025: All students attend together

Transportation services will be provided on staggered start days for students who are registered for bus service. Families can expect to be contacted directly by their assigned bus operator prior to the first day of school with specific route and schedule details.

## Why Use a Staggered Start?

- Easier Transitions: Beginning the school year in smaller groups helps reduce anxiety and allows students to get comfortable at their own pace.
- More Individualized Attention: Teachers have extra time to connect with each child, answer questions, and build strong relationships right from the start.

How to Prepare:

- Watch for Updates: Check your email, school website and social media for additional back-to-school information.
- Talk with Your Child: Share the staggered start plan in a positive way so your child knows what to expect.
- Have your school supplies and lock ready for the drop off on August 27th.
- Reach Out with Questions: If you're unsure about anything, please contact the school office. We're happy to help!

We're looking forward to a fantastic year ahead and can't wait to welcome our students back to school.

Warm regards,

Gidget Bouchard