

Thank you for your interest in the proposed Logos Christian Program



Battle River School Division is considering offering a Logos Christian Program in Camrose.

An information night took place on Wednesday, May 31, with approximately 50 local parents in attendance.

The evening included a presentation by two parents whose children are enrolled in a Logos program in Elk Island School Division (Sherwood Park area). Representatives of BRSD shared a few details about how such a program might be offered in Camrose, such as:

- The program will be offered at Chester Ronning School.
- There could be up to two grades in a classroom, depending on numbers.
- In order to be a viable program, classes need to be no less than 12 – 15 students.
- BRSD hopes to start at the early elementary level and expand the program as students advance. But if there is interest at multiple grade levels the school division will consider starting at multiple grade levels.
- If there is interest, BRSD is willing to start the program for the 2017-2018 school year.
- There will be no tuition fee.
- There is likely to be a fee if students require bussing within Camrose. The school division will investigate transportation options for rural students. At this time we do not know if rural transportation will be possible.

On the following pages is the handout information that was shared during the information night. The last page is a **Parent Intent Form**. Anyone interested in taking part in the Logos program this fall or in a future year is asked to complete and return the form. In order to make decisions in time for the next school year, please return the form by Wednesday, June 14 at the latest.

The Parent Intent form can be dropped off at Chester Ronning School or Battle River School Division office, 5402-48A Avenue, Camrose, AB T4V 0L3. If you are able to scan and email the completed form, please send it to Diana White.

If you require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Diana White, Manager of Learning Services
dwhite@brsd.ab.ca; 780-672-6131 5223

Diane Hutchinson, Community Relations Advisor
dhutchinson@brsd.ab.ca; 780-672-6131 ext 5248



What is a Logos Christian Program?

The Logos Christian Program is a faith-based, non-denominational, alternative program that provides for the instruction of the Alberta curriculum within a Christian context. In the Logos Program, students are learning in a Christian values focused classroom alongside traditional program classes in a community school setting. The Program is tuition free.

The Logos Christian Program focuses on loving God and loving one another, a commitment to Christ's teachings, and an understanding that we are ultimately responsible to God for our actions. Staff create a Christian learning environment by:

- Integrating a Christian perspective into instruction delivery.
- Leading devotions and prayer time.
- Providing support for students in their personal relationship with God.

Activities such as reading the Bible, singing Christian songs, memorizing scripture and participating in Christian perspective assemblies may be used to enrich the Christian learning environment.

Logos is designed to reinforce the principles, beliefs and values our students learn at home. The program has an academic and service focus, with students working toward academic excellence and serving the community.

Guiding Principles

The Logos Program is based on traditional Christian principles as set out in the Bible and the Apostles' Creed (Appendix 1).

1. God is our Creator who knows and loves everyone.
2. The Bible is the primary resource for Christian teaching.
3. The Old and New Testaments of the Bible are the inspired Word of God.
4. There is one God, externally existing in three persons:
 - a. God the Father,
 - b. Jesus Christ, His only Son, and
 - c. The Holy Spirit.
5. Jesus lived on the Earth, was crucified, and rose again so that we are forgiven.
6. Salvation is given to those who confess their sins and believe in the death and resurrection of Jesus.
7. He strengthens us through His Holy Spirit.
8. We live on Earth to love God and serve Him by caring for and serving others.
9. We devote time to God by reading His Word and speaking to Him through prayer.



Frequently Asked Questions

Why was the term logos chosen for this program?

The word logos is used because of its rich biblical meaning of 'Jesus as the Word of God'. The Gospel of John says, "In the beginning was the Word [Logos] and the Word [Logos] was with God and the Word [Logos] was God...The Word [Logos] became flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1:1, 14a).

Is religion taught as a formal subject in the Logos Christian Program?

There is no separate religion class, as Christian principles are incorporated into the curriculum whenever possible. A daily devotional time that includes prayer, scripture reading and other spiritually nurturing activities is an important part of the Logos Christian Program.

Are Logos teachers Christians?

Teachers are chosen on the basis of their support for the Logos Christian Program and their sincere commitment to its mission, principles, and objectives. Logos teachers are to exemplify the Christian beliefs endorsed by the Logos Christian Program.

What does non-denominational mean?

There are many Christian denominations that share a belief in the fundamentals of Christianity (see Guiding Principles), but differ slightly in doctrinal practices. This program is intended to focus on the foundations of Christian belief and to nurture spiritual growth.

Are students in the Logos Christian Program segregated from other students in the school?

Logos classrooms are interspersed throughout the school. Students in the Logos Christian Program are part of the school community and community spirit is highly encouraged through shared activities such as assemblies and field trips. Logos students may be integrated with the rest of the school for non-core classes such as Phys Ed. and options.

Is the Alberta Education curriculum taught in the Logos Christian Program?

Yes. Instruction in all classes follow the Alberta Program of Study.

Is learning assistance provided and can special needs students access this program?

All Battle River School Division schools are inclusive learning environments. As in traditional classroom programs, learning assistance is provided to support identified student needs.



Frequently Asked Questions cont'd

Will materials that are objectionable or potentially offensive to Logos parents be removed from the school library?

No. Parents and teachers in BRSD work together in educating children on how to make responsible decisions regarding reading material, music, movies, and the internet.

Do students participate with non-Logos students in Halloween and Christmas celebrations?

Logos schools are encouraged to plan Christmas celebrations that include the entire school in order foster a community atmosphere. Logos students may also participate in additional Christmas activities unique to the Logos program. Activities for Logos students at Halloween will be determined by the school based on parent input and the age of the students. Possible scenarios could include: an alternate faith-based activity, field-trip, or parallel celebration with costumes respectful of Christian values or no costumes at all. Parents of Logos students are able to choose whether their children participate in planned holiday activities.

APOSTLES' CREED (Appendix 1)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of Heaven and Earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again.

He ascended into Heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Amen.

The Apostles' Creed dates very early in the Christian Church, within a century of the last books of the New Testament. The term 'Catholic Church' refers to the universal church of believers.

Contact BRSD for More Information

Diana White, Manager of Learning Services dwhite@brsd.ab.ca

Diana Hutchinson, Community Relations Advisor dhutchinson@brsd.ab.ca



BRSD Logos Christian Program Intent Form

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Phone Number: _____ E-mail Address _____

Our family would (check all that apply):

- Be interested in registering in the Logos Christian Program for the September 2017/18 school year
- Be interested in registering in the Logos Christian Program beginning in the September 2018/19 school year
- Be interested in registering our pre-school child in the Logos Christian Program when they start school Year they will begin _____
- Be open to split grades
- Be interested in acting as a Parent Liaison

Student Name _____

Current Grade _____ School Currently Attending _____

Student Name _____

Current Grade _____ School Currently Attending _____

Student Name _____

Current Grade _____ School Currently Attending _____

Student Name _____

Current Grade _____ School Currently Attending _____

Student Name _____

Current Grade _____ School Currently Attending _____

Comments or suggestions: _____
