



**August 1, 2025**

Dear Caledonia Families,

It's hard to believe, but the calendar has now turned to August and that means the start of another great school year is just ahead! Whether your summer included travel, time at the lake, or quiet moments with a good book, we hope it was both restful and enriching. Here at school our staff has been working hard in preparation for the 2025–26 school year, and we are looking forward to welcoming back our outstanding students for another wonderful year of learning!

As students return, many will get to experience brand new facilities made possible through our community's generous support of the 2020 and 2023 bonds. Children at Kettle Lake and Paris Ridge will be able to enjoy new playground structures, and work is wrapping up on a major renovation at Caledonia Elementary! Kettle Lake's parking lot and adjacent areas have also been updated, including a widened lane on Garbow Dr. Behind the scenes, our transportation fleet will also be better protected from the elements with a new canopy that includes a full replacement of our bus plug-ins for the cold winter months that lie ahead.

But our two biggest projects coming online this fall will be the sparkling new Dutton Elementary and completely renovated Ralph E. Meyers Stadium. We are very excited about these new facilities that will serve present and future generations of Fighting Scots, and we hope you'll join us for a look around during our upcoming Community Open House events:

**Dutton Elementary** – Wednesday, August 20 - 5:30-7:00 PM (ribbon cutting at 5:30 PM)

**Ralph E. Meyers Stadium** – Tuesday, August 26 - 6:30-8:00 PM (ribbon cutting at 6:30 PM)

Thank you for your continued support during these important improvements!

**Calendar Update:** Due to ongoing contract negotiations with our teaching staff, our full 2025-26 calendar is not finalized. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we work through this process that is required under state law. At this time, we are able to share dates for the first three months of school and for our major breaks. Please visit the [calendar linked on our district website](#) for the most current information.

### **2025–26 Key Dates:**

**First Day of School:** Monday, August 25

**No School:** Friday, August 29 & Monday, September 1

**Half Day:** Thursday, October 30 (PM – Staff PD)

**No School:** Friday, October 31

**Winter Break:** December 22 – January 2

**Spring Break:** Friday, April 3 – Friday, April 10

**School Meals:** As of this communication, the state budget has not been finalized, and discussions continue in Lansing. At this time, we can share that breakfast and lunch will be free for all students through September 30, 2025. Additional updates will be communicated once the state budget is approved. If the "Free for All" program is not continued, schools will revert to the free and reduced breakfast/lunch program that was provided prior to 2023. To be eligible for benefits, families would be required to complete the [Free and](#)

[Reduced Meal Application](#). Beyond meal qualification, filling out this application ensures eligibility for additional benefits and helps our district access other important funds to provide more services for students. We encourage all of our families to take a few moments and fill out the form today.

**Back-to-School Resources:** Our website includes helpful information such as the calendar, open house schedules, school supply lists, and more. Visit your school's "For Parents" page at [www.calschools.org](http://www.calschools.org) to get started.

We are very grateful for the trust you place in us as we carry out our mission to prepare the next generation of Caledonia children for rich and rewarding lives. It's going to be a wonderful year, and we can't wait to be a part of all that lies ahead!

Sincerely,

Dirk Weeldreyer  
Superintendent  
Caledonia Community Schools