



Principal's Message

September has been a very busy month. We would like to thank all staff, students and parents for a great start to the year.

Parent Teacher Interviews will be held on Wednesday, October 11th and Thursday, October 12th from 4:30-7:30. Information was sent home on how to sign up online for appointment times. If you are having any difficulties please contact the office and we would be happy to help you.

October 2nd to the 6th was Read in Week. This year's theme was "I'm a Reader! I Read for Me!" which focused on ways students can discover new stories and tell their own. SouthPointe School had a number of activities and guest readers as a part of Read in Week. Thank you to the following people who read to the students at SouthPointe School: Fire Deputy Chief Bill Heesing, Fire Captain Doug Stein, EIPS Superintendent Mark Liguori, MLA Jessica Littlewood, Daniele Nelson, and Karen MacDonald. The book fair will be taking place next week and will be open during the evenings of Parent-Teacher Interviews.

School Picture retakes will be occurring on October 16th and 17th for those students that were away or requested a retake. Please come prepared to have your picture taken.

We are asking for parents to please not park or drop off students in the staff parking lot located directly behind the school. This will allow for the safe arrival of staff in the morning.

I hope all families have an opportunity to enjoy their Thanksgiving weekend. As always if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call.

Carol Brown, Principal

Pay School Fees Online

School fee information for the 2017-18 school year is now posted on the PowerSchool Parent Portal. All fees are due within 30 days of being posted. To access your fee information, simply log in to the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#) and go to "Student Fees." There you can view your fees and pay them online using Visa, MasterCard or INTERAC Online—when available from your financial institution.

Don't forget to also log in to the PowerSchool Parent Portal regularly throughout the year. Fees are often added to your child's account to cover the cost of various school activities such as field trips, class projects, athletic-team fees and more.

If circumstances exist where you are unable to pay your student fees, you can apply to have [fees waived](#) by submitting an [Application for a Waiver of Fees](#). The application deadline is Dec. 15, 2017.

For more information about school fees, waivers and payment deadlines visit www.eips.ca/schools/fees or contact the school at 780.998.2747.

Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews

Parent/Teacher/Student interviews will be held between **4:30-7:30 PM on Wednesday, October 11 & Thursday, October 12, 2017**. We will be using the online booking system for scheduling interviews. Bookings will be open on Tuesday, October 3, 2017 at noon.

Go to www.schoolinterviews.ca and use event code: **spspt**

SouthPointe School's interview format for the 2017-18 school year will be the following: The first interviews for K -6 will occur October 11th and 12th, with report cards posted on PowerSchool Parent Portal on November 24, 2017. The second set of interviews will occur January 31st and February 1st. Report cards will be posted on PowerSchool Parent Portal on March 16th. The final report card of the year will be posted on PowerSchool Parent Portal on June 28th.



The interviews in early October give parents and teachers an opportunity to discuss the progress students have made to this date. This will also give students opportunity to improve before report cards are sent home.

Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair will be held during Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews between **4:30-7:30 PM on Wednesday, October 11 & Thursday, October 12, 2017.**

Inclement Weather

Due to the early cold weather, we want to remind parents to dress children appropriately for the weather when getting ready for school (recess) or the bus. The weather often changes unexpectedly throughout the day, so please select suitable outerwear and ensure your child is prepared for changing conditions.

Absence Check

Parents/guardians are asked to inform the school in advance, whenever possible, if their child is going to be absent. Messages may be sent by telephone (780) 998-2747, reported through the school website under Student Attendance or by note. If a child is absent and no reason has been received in the office by 9:00 a.m., the office staff will attempt to contact parents/guardians or emergency contacts.

Read In Week takes place October 2-6

Read In Week 2017 returns on **October 2-6**. The theme for this year is I'm a Reader! I Read for Me!. Through various activities, students will spend the week learning how stories have the power to teach lessons, broaden perspectives and foster empathy. Read In Week is a Division-wide initiative held annually to encourage a lifelong love of reading and to enhance literacy awareness among students, staff, parents and community members. We invite all our families to participate in Read In Week with us either by reading yourself, with your child or with someone in the community.

And, don't forget to share what you've learned throughout the week using the hashtag *#eipsreads*. We hope you discover some amazing stories.



Be a wee read volunteer!

Elk Island is pleased to announce that we are expanding an exciting program called **wee read** into 11 of our schools this year. The schools that will be participating this year are: A.L. Horton, Andrew, Brentwood, Bruderheim, Ecole Parc, Fort Saskatchewan Elementary, Fort Saskatchewan Christian, Fultonvale, James Mowat, SouthPointe, and Win Ferguson. This eight-week program was designed by Alberta Reads (www.albertareadsnetwork.com) to help Kindergarten and Grade One children strengthen the foundations for reading and school success, and help children develop a love for books.

We are looking for volunteers who can come to one of the schools for about 30 minutes, once a week, for eight consecutive weeks to read with two children, talk about books, and play games that support literacy skills.

If you are interested in being part of this fun and meaningful opportunity, or know of someone who might be, there will be two volunteer training sessions on **Thursday, October 12th**. One will be held in the library at **SouthPointe School from 7:00p.m. to 8:00p.m.**

The other volunteer session will be in the library at **Brentwood Elementary beginning at 4:00 p.m.** We hope that you will consider partnering with us on this. If you have any questions please contact heather.balog@eips.ca.



Terry Fox Run – Help Us Celebrate!

Thanks to all students, parents and staff that participated in the Terry Fox School Run on Thursday, September 28 at 1:00 p.m. We raised **\$406.85** for this wonderful cause!

Fundraising Society / School Council for SouthPointe School

The next meeting for both the Society and the Council will be held Wednesday, October 18th at 7:00pm in the Learning Commons.

Playground Fundraising

SouthPointe School will be having a bottle drive on Saturday, October 14, 2017. We are asking families to collect bottles from friends and family to help fundraise for our playground. Bottles can be dropped off at SouthPointe School, 11 SouthPointe BLVD, Fort Saskatchewan from 10:00 am-2:00 pm or call Jennifer at 587-785-2248 for information regarding bottle pick-up.

Stay Connected: Subscribe to our news

Want to stay up-to-date on the latest news and events taking place at your school? Make sure to subscribe to Elk Island Public Schools' (EIPS) email distribution list. Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation (CASL) now requires the Division to have direct consent before engaging in electronic communication with its families. If you haven't yet subscribed, simply visit www.eips.ca/contact/synrevoice. As soon as you sign up and confirm, you'll begin receiving Division- and school-related news—newsletters, information about upcoming events, parent and community engagement opportunities, important school-based updates and more.

NOTE: Even if you're not subscribed, you will continue to receive emails regarding emergency situations and financial matters. Those who received notifications about high school attendance will also continue to receive those messages.

EIPS appreciates your co-operation in ensuring its

distribution lists are compliant with CASL and you continue to receive only the information you feel is important.

Literacy and Learning Day

This year's Literacy and Learning Day Conference takes place at the Northlands Expo Centre on October 28. The event is a fun-filled day for both parents and teachers, and includes various keynote speakers and free workshops. Participants are guaranteed to walk away with new strategies, tools and resources to support children as they grow and learn. The conference is free and everyone is welcome. For more information, or to register, visit www.literacyday.ca.

School Bus Safety Week: October 15–21

Schools throughout Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) are celebrating School Bus Safety Week October 15–21. The theme: Rider Rules = Safe to School, which is all about teaching children about proper school bus safety. Throughout the week, various activities are planned including information sessions, bus safety lesson plans and bus-evacuations drills.

As part of School Bus Safety Week, we'd like to remind our students and our families all EIPS school buses are equipped with both a bus-pass scanner and GPS technology, which allow Student Transportation to better monitor and manage its more than 170 buses and 600 bus routes. Thanks to this technology, parents and students also have access to the Versatrans My Stop app, a mobile tool to help determine the location of a bus, projected arrival times and when a child scanned onto a bus.

More information about School Bus Safety Week and EIPS Student Transportation services can be found by visiting www.eips.ca/transportation or by contacting Student Transportation (780-417-8151, st@eips.ca) directly.

Municipal Election 2017: Vote October 16

Election Day is Monday, Oct. 16, 2017. Polls open as early as 9 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. If you can't vote during those times, there's also the option of



advance voting and voting by special ballot. To learn more about the election and candidates running— for mayor, reeve, councillor and public school trustee—visit:

Fort Saskatchewan:

www.fortsask.ca/city-government/city-council/2017-municipal-election

Lamont County:

www.lamontcounty.ca/Election-2017

Minburn County:

<http://minburncounty.ab.ca/2017-election/>

Strathcona County:

www.strathcona.ca/election

EIPS School Trustees:

www.eips.ca

Upcoming Dates:

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| October 4: | Early Dismissal Day
(1:51 p.m.) |
| October 5 & 6: | NO SCHOOL – Professional Learning Day for Staff |
| October 9: | NO SCHOOL – Thanksgiving Day |
| October 11 & 12: | Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews & Scholastic Book Fair
(4:30-7:30) |
| October 12: | Bus Evacuation Drill |
| October 14: | Bottle Drive Fundraiser - SouthPointe Playground |
| October 16: | Picture Re-takes |
| October 17: | Picture Re-takes (for Tues/Fri full day ECS) |
| October 18: | Visit from Elder Wilson
Parent Council and Fundraising Society meeting (7:00 pm) |