

## September 2018



### Principal's Message

Welcome to SouthPointe School! We had another smooth start to the school year. Students seem to be settling into their new classes nicely.

We are looking forward to making this year a great success and we invite all parents and students to join us on Wednesday, September 12<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:00pm for our Meet the Staff Evening. Parents and students will meet in the gymnasium for some quick introductions. Afterwards, please visit your child's classroom to meet their teacher.

Please continue to check our [website](#) on a regular basis for updated school information as well as your child's teacher e-page regarding specific class news and events.

We are looking forward to a successful school year. We hope to have an opportunity to meet everyone at the Meet the Teacher evening. If you have any questions or concerns throughout the school year please do not hesitate to contact your child's teachers or administration.

Carol Brown, Principal

### Parent Waiting Area

Picking up your child? Please wait at your child's designated doors as this is where they will exit the building at the end of the day. If you need to pick up your child earlier for an appointment etc., we would be happy to call them to the office for you. Thank you for continuing to sign in at the office if you are volunteering at the school.

### Parking

Parents, when dropping off or picking up your children, please use the parent drop off located at the front of the school on Allard Way. Please do not stop or park in the bus lanes or in the staff parking lot at any time during school hours. As well, we also ask parents not to park in the accessible stalls at the front of the school. Thank you for modeling respect and safety in this manner.

### Entrance and Exit Door Info

To help our students and their families, we have labeled the exterior doors of the school with pink signs to indicate the entrances and exits for each grade. Please pick up and drop off your children at their designated doors. Designated doors are as follows:



- ❖ Kindergarten: Please use the main doors located at the front of the school (Main Entrance Doors).
- ❖ Grades 1 & 2: Please use the doors located on the far South East of the school located at the parent drop off loop.
- ❖ Grades 3 & 4: Please use the West doors located at the back of the school (left of the overhead

door).

- ❖ Grades 5 & 6: Please use the North West doors located by the bus drop off lanes.
- ❖ Grades 7: Please use the West doors located at the back of the school (right of the overhead door).

### **Bell Schedule**

School starts: 8:15 a.m.  
Lunch: 11:12 - 11:52 a.m.  
Regular school ends: 2:51 p.m. (Early Out school ends: 1:51 p.m.)

### **Six (6) Day Rotation and Staggered Lunch**

This year at SouthPointe School, all of our students will be on a rotating six-day schedule. Under the new schedule, each day will be assigned a number rather than a day of the week. The cycle day is noted on the right hand side under calendar on our [website](#).

To accommodate the number of students wishing to play on our new playground, we have a staggered our lunch hour schedule. Students in K-3 will eat their lunch from 11:12-11:32 a.m. and then go outside for lunch recess. Grades 4-6 students will go outside for lunch recess from 11:-12-11:32 a.m. and then come inside to eat lunch. Our Grade 7 students will have the option to go outside from 11:12-11:32 a.m. and then come inside for lunch or they can remain inside for the entire lunch break.

### **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 a note in the agenda to the homeroom teacher. 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.

### **2018 - 19 Staff List**

#### **Certificated Staff**

<b>ECS</b>	Ms. Sharp and Ms. Salkeld
<b>Grade 1</b>	Mrs. Bossert, Mrs. Jefferis, Mrs. Harburn
<b>Grade 2</b>	Mr. Bratton, Mrs. Harburn, Mrs. Johnson
<b>Grade 3</b>	Ms. Oram, Miss Gusniowsky
<b>Grade 4</b>	Miss Melnyk, Mrs. Booker
<b>Grade 5</b>	Mr. Epp, Ms. McKee, Mrs. O'Neill
<b>Grade 6</b>	Miss Freitag
<b>Grade 7</b>	Mrs. Gillam, Ms. McKee, Mr. Nyznyk, Mrs. O'Neill
<b>Music</b>	Mrs. Zapesocki
<b>Principal</b>	Miss Brown
<b>Assistant Principal</b>	Mrs. Kropp





**Counselling** Mrs. Kropp

Classified Staff

Educational Assistants:

**ECS** Mrs. Hamilton, Mrs. Butler

**Grade 1** Mrs. Dykstra, Mrs. Hammel, Mrs. Zielinski

**Grade 3** Ms. Edwards

**Grade 4** Mrs. Charity

**Grade 5** Mrs. Gaudet

**Grade 6** Mrs. O'Hara

**Grade 7** Mrs. O'Hara, Mrs. Scott, Mrs. Tilbury

**Library Assistant** Mrs. Harland

**Business Manager** Mrs. Warwa

**Secretary** Mrs. Barker

**Meet the SouthPointe School Staff**

The staff at SouthPointe School would like to invite you to **Meet the Staff** on Wednesday, September 12<sup>th</sup>. A brief introduction will start at 6:30 p.m. in the gym and then parents/guardians can proceed to the homeroom classroom to meet the teacher.

**School Council & Fundraising Association for SouthPointe School (FASS)**

Welcome back to all staff, students and parents!! SouthPointe School Council and the Fundraising Association for SouthPointe School (FASS) would like to welcome everyone back from summer break, and also extend a very warm welcome to our new students and parents. We hope you'll love our school as much as we all do!

We invite you to join us at our Annual General Meeting (AGM) taking place on Wednesday, September 19 at 7:00pm in the Learning Commons (aka the library). Our School Council and FASS regular joint meetings will take place the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:00pm. Here we talk about a wide variety of topics, including school financials, improvements, events, fundraisers and much, much more. Have a say in your child's education, let your voice be heard!

Board elections will be an agenda item at the September 19 AGM. The School Council Executive roles include: Chair, Vice-Chair (or two Co-Chairs, as we currently have) and Secretary. FASS elections will also take place, roles include: President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary. Our Treasurer position is currently vacant and thus we're in need of a numbers guru who brings previous experience in a financial capacity. If you have interest in this position on the board please be sure to attend our AGM on September 19. You can touch base with our FASS or School Council executive members in advance of the meetings should you have questions.

You don't need to be part of the School Council or FASS boards to have your voice heard! Join us as a member, attend our meetings, and share your feedback and expertise. We encourage as many parents as possible to join - the more voices, the stronger we'll be!

Without further ado, a big HOORAY for the completion of our playground!! We're so excited to have this incredible addition to our school for the 2018/2019 school year and hope all the kids will enjoy it. We couldn't have done this without all the hard work of school staff, parent volunteers, EIPS and the City of Fort Saskatchewan. We will continue to fundraise for further additions and improvements to our playground, so please stay tuned!

Speaking of fundraising, please keep an eye out for our parent survey pertaining to school fundraising. We'd love to hear from you about what type of fundraisers you'd like to see at the school this year. Coming soon to a computer near you, you'll have an opportunity to voice your opinion - we sure hope you'll take a few minutes to participate! Fundraising dollars go towards a number of school initiatives and programs, all aimed to make our school even better.

Information pertaining to School Council and FASS, including our contact info, can be found on the school website in the Parents link. Lets all work together to make SouthPointe School the best school it can be!

### **Pay School Fees Online!**

School fee information for the 2018-19 school year is expected to be posted on the PowerSchool Parent Portal by the end of September. 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.

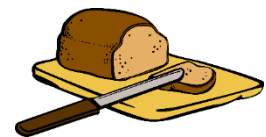
Don't forget to log in to the PowerSchool Parent Portal regularly throughout the year. Fees are often added to your child's account to cover the cost of various school activities such as field trips, class projects, athletic-team fees and more.

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, 2018.

For more information about school fees, waivers and payment deadlines visit [www.eips.ca/schools/fees](http://www.eips.ca/schools/fees). Alternatively, contact Joanne Warwa at SouthPointe School at 780-998-2747.

### **COBS Bread**

We are thankful to COBS Bread for donating bread and other treats to our school again this year. Bread will be available every second Friday morning for any students that are interested. The bread will be delivered to individual classrooms first thing in the morning. We would like parents to know that the baked items may contain nuts. Please contact the classroom teacher if you have any questions or concerns. A big thank you to COBS bread and the staff members who are picking up the products and helping to distribute bread/treats to the students.



### **Quick Facts: EIPS buses are all equipped with video surveillance**

Did you know each EIPS bus is equipped with video surveillance? The video surveillance and equipment helps:

- ensure the safety of all students, drivers and property; and
- deter from destructive acts.

On a regular basis, EIPS Student Transportation reviews the video recordings, in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FOIP). The recordings assist the department with monitoring student and driver conduct, and may be used as evidence in a disciplinary matter.

For more information about the collection, use and disclosure of personal information, contact the EIPS FOIP co-ordinator at 780-464-3477.

### **Stay Connected: Subscribe to Our News**

As of the 2018-19 school year, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) is moving to a new service provider for sending phone and email notifications to families, School Messenger. Families won't notice much of a difference—all email subscriptions are being transferred so, there is no need to resubscribe.

If you're new to EIPS and want to start receiving Division news and updates, or just want to review your subscription information, visit [www.eips.ca/contact/subscribe](http://www.eips.ca/contact/subscribe). Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation (CASL) requires the Division to have direct consent before engaging in electronic communication with its families. Only those who have subscribed to receive emails will get information about Division and school-related news, such as 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

[Manage your subscription preferences](#) online or through the School Messenger app, available through the App Store or Google Play.

- The first time you log in, select **Sign Up** in the top, right corner and create your account using the same email address on file with your child's school

If you have questions about School Messenger or need help creating your account and managing your preferences, contact EIPS Student Transportation at 780-417-8151 or through our [online contact form](#).

### **Sync the School Calendar to Your Personal Calendar**

Did you know you can sync the school calendar to your own personal calendar? You can. Just visit <http://southpointeschool.ca/about/calendar> and click on one of the following calendar options you want to subscribe to:

- Add to Google Calendar
- Subscribe to Calendar (Outlook)



the following calendar



- Download iCal

*NOTE:* Using a mobile device, these options are located above the calendar. Using a computer, these options are located below the calendar.

Once you click on the calendar option you want to subscribe to, follow the instructions. Within seconds, your personal calendar will contain all of SouthPointe School important dates including holidays, school-closures days, planned activities, events and more.

### **Enhancing Literacy and Numeracy**

As part of Elk Island Public Schools' (EIPS) ongoing efforts to enhance the literacy and numeracy of students in all grade levels, the Division is once again administering the STAR 360 and Math Intervention/Programming Instrument (MIPI) assessment tools in the 2018-19 school year. The tools focus on literacy and numeracy, are digitally based and offer an opportunity for students to demonstrate their learning. The goal: to provide timely information to teachers, help enhance classroom instruction and ensure student learning needs are identified.

In September and May, EIPS students in grades 1 through 12 will complete the STAR 360 assessment, which evaluates reading comprehension. The assessment takes approximately 20 minutes and can be taken on any digital device. Also in September, students in grades 2 through 10 will complete the MIPI assessment, which is a mathematic screening tool used to inform teachers about a student's math skills. For students in grades 7 through 10, the MIPI takes approximately 50 minutes and for students in grades 2 through 6 it takes approximately 20 minutes. The results of each offers the teacher a clearer picture about a student's learning needs and helps determine if subsequent instructional planning is required.

The scores of the assessments are not used towards a student's grade and there is no need to study ahead of time. Both simply provide the teacher with information to better understand where each student is in terms of reading comprehension and mathematic ability. If, after analyzing the results, it's determined a student can benefit from extra support, the teacher will contact the family to discuss possible support strategies.

For more information about the Division's STAR 360 and MIPI assessment tools, contact Deb Barron, the Director of Learning Supports, at 780-464-3477.

### **Caregiver Education Series**

The Division, in partnership with Strathcona County and Elk Island Catholic Schools, is hosting a series of caregiver information sessions focused on ways to support youth mental health. The free sessions provide parents, caregivers, teachers and community members with information about challenges that can impact children and adolescents. Some of the session topics include: dealing with anxiety, teenagers and technology, cannabis, understanding depression and self-injury, test anxiety, building executive functioning skills, and limit setting.

Visit the [Division calendar](#) to see all scheduled caregiver sessions.



11 SouthPointe Blvd., Fort Saskatchewan, AB T8L 0T9  
p 780-998-2747 [SouthPointeSchool.ca](http://SouthPointeSchool.ca)



### UPCOMING DATES

<b>September 12</b>	Meet the Staff 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
<b>September 19</b>	School Council & Fundraising Society Meeting @ 7:00 PM in the Learning Commons EIPS Cross-country Run
<b>September 20-22</b>	Junior High EIPS Volleyball Tournament
<b>September 24</b>	Picture Day
<b>September 25</b>	Picture Day (Tues/Fri Kindergarten)
<b>September 26</b>	Junior High Cross-country Zones
<b>October 3</b>	Early Dismissal Day (end of the day 1:51 p.m.)
<b>October 5</b>	NO SCHOOL – Professional Learning Day for staff
<b>October 8</b>	NO SCHOOL – Thanksgiving Day
<b>October 17 &amp; 18</b>	Parent-Teacher Interviews (4:30-7:30 p.m.)
<b>October 24</b>	Picture Re-takes
<b>October 28</b>	Orange Shirt Day