

December 2018



Principal's Message

December is upon us. Report cards and junior high marks are being released through the PowerSchool Parent Portal on December, 7, 2018. We encourage all parents to log on and see how your child is progressing in school.

We would like to thank Mrs. Zapesocki and all of the students and staff for their hard work on making the holiday celebration such a great success on December 6, 2018. We would also like to thank the parents and extended family for coming out to watch the grades 1-6 concert. Thank-you to our kindergarten staff and all of the special guests that joined us for our kindergarten holiday activity afternoon on December 3, 2018. They were a great success and the students enjoyed the opportunity to showcase their musical talents.

A reminder to parents that the weather has turned cold. Please ensure that students are dressed properly for the conditions. Warm jackets, scarves, toques and gloves are all necessities. Snow pants are highly recommended. We are noticing a few students that are underdressed as they are coming off the bus. We want to ensure that if a bus breaks down during the morning or afterschool ride that students will be comfortable until help arrives.

We are hoping that everyone will enjoy the holiday break this year. The last day of school for student is December 21 and students return on January 7. We hope the break will provide you with some time to enjoy the holiday season with family and friends.

Carol Brown, Principal

Report Cards

We are pleased to announce that our Grade 1-6 Term 1 Report Cards and Grade 7 Term 1 marks will be available for online viewing and/or printing by 3:00 pm on December 7. Kindergarten report cards will be printed and send home with your child.

To access the online report card, log onto your PowerSchool Parent Portal account and click on "Communicating Student Learning".



If you wish to print the report card, click on the *print* button found on the right hand side of the top banner on the report card page. If you have any difficulty accessing, setting up, or printing the report card, please contact the office or email the school.

Parents of Junior High students, please log on to your PowerSchool Parent Portal account to access

term 1 marks.

Kindergarten Registration Starts Soon!

Is your child turning five on or before Dec. 31, 2019? If so, it's almost time to register for kindergarten.

Kindergarten registration opens for the 2019-20 school year on **Feb. 1, 2019**.

To help families prepare, Elk Island Public Schools has put together an online toolkit—available at www.eips.ca/kindergarten—to make the transition as smooth as possible. The kit includes information on registration, important dates, programming options, what to expect, eligibility, how to find your designated school, transportation and more.

Additional information regarding kindergarten can be found on our school website at <http://southpointeschool.ca/programs/kindergarten>

Elk Island Public Schools 2019-20 Registration Drive

All student registrations for the 2019-20 school year—including kindergarten registration, returning student registration and new student registration—will take place online commencing on **Feb. 1, 2019**.

- Kindergarten: Your child is eligible to enrol in kindergarten if he/she will be five years old on or before December 31, 2019.
- Returning Students: If your child will be returning to an EIPS school next fall, this is when you will confirm that registration and select your requested school—whether your child will attend your designated school or will request a non-designated school, your family will complete this process.
- New Students: Students new to EIPS for the 2019-20 school year will also complete their registration at this time.

All registration forms will be online for families to complete. Additional information, including a list of schools with open and closed boundaries, will be posted on the Division website in the new year.

Winter Break

SouthPointe School will close for the winter break at the end of the day on Dec. 21, 2018 and will reopen on Jan. 7, 2019. During this time, if you have any school-related questions or concerns, contact Central Services at Elk Island Public Schools.



Santa's Workshop

This year, SouthPointe School will be hosting our first annual Santa's Workshop on December 12 and 13 during the school day. This will give students the opportunity to 'shop' for a Christmas gift for someone they love. We are asking those students who wish to participate to bring in a \$2.00 donation (*exact cash only please*) on their assigned day, to purchase one gift. They will be able to choose from an assortment of gifts which were donated to our school. Gifts will be wrapped and brought home that day for the children to find a special spot under the tree. All money collected will be donated to the Fort Saskatchewan Food Bank. Any



donations of gift wrapping supplies or Christmas cards would be greatly appreciated. We would like to thank you in advance for supporting our Santa's Workshop!

Warm Hands – Warm Hearts

We are really excited that SouthPointe received a grant from the 'Dentons Make Your Mark on Poverty,' an initiative of the United Way. We have a very excited group of grade 3 and 4 students who will be reaching out to SouthPointe School and the City of Fort Saskatchewan to teach awareness and to help with our goal of making a MOUNTAIN OF MITTENS for the less fortunate in Fort Saskatchewan. We are hoping to fill 8 totes with mittens for every Kindergarten to grade four school in



Fort Saskatchewan. This project is our schools Christmas focus as well, so when you are thinking about giving to the less fortunate this season, please consider sending mittens to help with our initiative. Please watch for media releases and events where our students will be reaching out to the community.

A big thank you to the families and community businesses and organizations that have already generously donated to Warm Hands – Warm Hearts!

Fundraising Association and School Council Update

FASS and School Council will not be having a meeting this month because there is so much going on with the holidays coming up. Monday, December 17 is the pick-up day for the Stawnichy Mundare fundraiser orders. Pick up time is from **2:00 to 6:00 pm**. We need volunteers to help from **12:00 to 6:00 pm**, please email president.fass@gmail.com, if you are able to help. Please make arrangements for pick up because orders will not be sent home with students. All food is delivered frozen and we do not have space to keep it frozen, which makes pick up date important.

The next hot lunch is Panago Pizza on December 14. Order forms and payment are due on December 11. We need volunteers to help with the hot lunch on the 14th, if you are available to help, please contact Jodie Robertshaw at vicepresident.fass@gmail.com.

On December 21 the SouthPointe staff is having a lunch together. We are looking for volunteers to help with lunch supervision for the entire lunch hour to free the staff up to attend. Younger siblings are welcome. Please email president.fass@gmail.com, if you are able to help.

SouthPointe Valentine's Family Dance

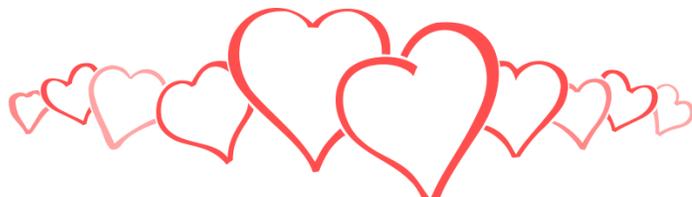
Join us for a fun night of dancing! All family members welcome!

Where: SouthPointe School Gym

When: Friday, February 22, 2019

Time: 6:30 to 8:30 pm

Cost: \$20 per family or \$5 each



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**Make Your Mark
on Poverty**

An Initiative of United Way of the Alberta Capital Region

Reporting Absences

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.

Inclement Weather

With the winter season already here, we want to remind parents to dress children appropriately for the weather when getting ready for school 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.



If inclement weather conditions occur, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) advises parents of any bus cancellations using various communications tools—automated-telephone messages, alerts posted on www.eips.ca and school websites, Twitter, Facebook, local radio stations and on Versatrans My Stop. Any morning bus cancellations are posted on www.eips.ca by 6:30 a.m.

Decisions regarding bus cancellations are guided by EIPS administrative procedures that states, “school bus service may be suspended...when Environment Canada reports a temperature of -40 C.” Other reasons for suspending or delaying school bus services include adverse weather and poor road condition.

When school bus services are suspended, schools remain open to students. EIPS believes parents have the right and responsibility to make choices for their children based on their beliefs and perceptions of safety during times of inclement weather. For more information, contact EIPS Student Transportation at 780-417-8151.

Lunches and Snacks

Please ensure your child has sufficient food and snacks each day. We do have a small supply of food in case of emergencies but the office has seen an increase in the number of children who do not have a lunch or have an insufficient amount to make it through the day. Also, if your child is responsible to make their own lunches, please ensure that they are packing enough each day.

Sienna Road Extension

As many of you are aware we are still awaiting the completion of the road which will connect Sienna to SouthPointe School. We have hit a wall at this point. In hopes that we may see a road completed prior to next school year we are asking for your help. We would encourage all parents to contact the Mayor’s



office and let them know that this is an important issue for the families of students at SouthPointe School.

SouthPointe School Spirit Wear!

This year at SouthPointe School, we have set up an online ordering store for our school community to purchase apparel items. The online store will open on the 3rd day of each month and close monthly on the last day to allow for the orders to be processed. Please click [here](#) for more information.



EIPS Central Services Winter Break Hours:

Closed December 22-January 1
Open January 2-4, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

*for location and contact information visit www.eips.ca.

From everyone at Elk Island Public Schools, we wish all of you a happy holiday season and a wonderful New Year.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Board of Trustees

As the holiday season approaches and we prepare for the winter break, I want to take the opportunity to extend warm wishes to all our students, staff and families on behalf of the Elk Island Public Schools Board of Trustees. We hope you and your loved ones have a wonderful and safe Christmas season, and a new year filled with joy. We look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Monday, Jan. 7, 2019.

Thank you and best wishes,
Trina Boymook, EIPS Board Chair

UPCOMING DATES

December 7	Term 1 Report Cards/Marks Published @ 3:00pm
December 14	Hot Lunch – Panago Pizza
December 17	Fundraiser (Stawnichy Mundare Sausage) Order Pickup (2pm & 6pm)
December 18	SYNC (Seniors and Youth Networking Communities) – Southfort Bend Gardens (Gr 5 & 6)
December 21	Last Instructional Day before Winter Break
Dec 24 – Jan 4	Winter Break – NO SCHOOL
January 7	First Instructional Day after Winter Break
January 9	Early Dismissal Day (end of the day 1:51 p.m.)
January 18	Hot Lunch – Boston Pizza