

April 2019



Principal's Message

I hope that everyone had a restful and relaxing spring break. The weather has continued to be quite chilly in the morning. We encourage students to check the weather forecast before coming to school in the mornings and dress appropriately for the conditions. With the spring thaw, there may be some standing water out on the field and would encourage students to wear rubber boots so their feet don't get wet.

We would like to thank Freson Bros for once again supplying our healthy snack of the month. The students enjoyed a Cara, Cara Orange for their snack on Thursday.

A reminder that we are hosting a parent presentation, **CYBERWORLD- What happens when you push send**. This presentation will be in the learning commons on **April 16 at 6pm**. We hope you can join us.

Just a quick reminder the next School Council and Society meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 17 at 6pm in the Library Commons. We invite all interested parents to join us for these meetings.

New Bus Status App Available

A new version of the Bus Status app is now available. If you haven't already, we encourage all families to download the new version from the App Store or Google Play. After downloading, make sure to delete the older version from your device.

All information from the [Division Bus Status page](#) is currently pushing out to both the old and new versions of the app, so you'll receive updates regardless of the app you're using. However, at the end of the school year, the old version of the app will no longer work. Families will need to ensure they've downloaded the new version of the app to receive updates about bus delays and cancellations in 2019-20.



The changes aren't specifically related to the overall functionality of the app—it's much the same as the current version. What is changing is it's now one unified app available for download rather than each school division having a separate app. The first time you open the new app, it will prompt you to select Elk Island Public Schools from the list of school divisions. After that, you will use the app the same way you have in the past. You can reselect your favourite routes and update them as needed. You'll also continue to receive push notifications about delays and cancellations the same way you do now.

Gearing up for Kindergarten

Do you have a child registered in kindergarten next year? If so, make sure to attend our upcoming Kindergarten Information Night on May 14, 2019 at 6:30 pm:

- tour the school;
- meet the teachers;
- gain insight on play-based learning; and
- see what a typical day looks like.

Elk Island Public Schools has also put together an online toolkit to make the transition to school as smooth as possible. The kit includes information about registration, important dates, programming options, what to expect, eligibility, how to find your designated school, transportation and more. Find it by visiting www.eips.ca/programs-services/kindergarten.

Additional information regarding SouthPointe School's kindergarten program, is available on our school website at www.southpointeschool.ca/programs/kindergarten.

NOTE: To be eligible to attend kindergarten in the 2019-20 school year, children must be five years of age on or before Dec. 31, 2019.

Fundraising Association and School Council Update

The Fundraising Association for SouthPointe School is excited to announce our next fundraiser. We will be selling Little Caesar kits again this year since it was such a success last year! Now that we have seen the elementary students enjoying the playground for almost a year, we have decided to focus our fundraising efforts towards the junior high students to help them have something to do during their outdoor break times as well. We are hoping to provide them with a larger basketball court and some picnic tables and benches where they can congregate and enjoy the outdoors. Let's help them get what they want and need by buying and eating lots of pizza! Details about dates will be coming home soon in your child's backpack.



Our next hot lunch will be Panago Pizza on April 12th. Order forms were sent home in backpacks this week. If you have not received one, there are extra copies in the office or you can contact our vice president at vicepresident.fass@gmail.com and she can send you a copy. Please have these forms returned by Tuesday, April 9th.

Our next general meeting, in conjunction with the Parent Council meeting, will be held on April 17th in the Learning Commons. Start time is 6 p.m. Babysitting is available. Please contact the Parent Council Chairs if you are in need of babysitting. We look forward to seeing some new faces!

Food Drive



Abby Schmidt, a SouthPointe student in Grade 5MO, is a howler with the 1st Fort Saskatchewan Cubs. She is working to achieve her Seonee award which is focused on community service. Abby is completing 15 hours of community service and a community minded project. For her project, Abby has chosen to collect food bank donations for our local food bank. She chose to do the food bank drive because she wants everyone to have a meal and not be without. It is sad that some people don't have enough to eat.

She will be collecting food bank donations from April 8 to May 3. All non-perishable food items can be dropped off in the donation bin that Abby has placed in the school. Students can bring items and put them in the bin, which will be located by the couches outside of the front office. Abby says, "Thank you for your support!"

Jump Rope for Heart

Congratulations SouthPointe School and the community for a job well done! We set a goal of \$1,000 to raise for the Heart and Stroke Foundation for the month of March. We well surpassed that goal and our final fundraising total is **\$7,793.00!** We are amazed at all of the efforts put in to help support such an amazing cause.

Bouquets to our SouthPointe Volunteers!

Thank you to the parents who have volunteered to be part of the School Council and the Fundraising Society. Your ongoing support is greatly appreciated!

Thanks also to the parent volunteers who spent countless hours organizing our latest shipment of home reading books. Our staff and students appreciate all of your hard work!

Finally, thanks to all the parent and community volunteers who come out to help us in the classroom and on special events. We really appreciate your help. You add so much to our school atmosphere!

A Big THANK YOU to all of our Volunteers

On behalf of the Board of Trustees at Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS), thank you to all of our volunteers within the Division who help make our schools and programs successful. Whether it's assisting at an athletic competition, co-ordinating a fundraising initiative or helping at a school event, the impact you make within our school community is profound. Together, we've created a relationship that allows us to rally behind one clear vision: Providing exceptional education for all students.



In recognition of National Volunteer Week, which runs April 7-13, EIPS extends a heartfelt thank you to the hundreds of volunteers across EIPS who offer their knowledge and dedicate countless hours in our schools.

Trina Boymook
Chair, Board of Trustees

Watch for Thin Ice

Elk Island Public Schools remind families to be cognizant of thin ice this time of year. Depending on changing temperatures, ice can form and melt to varying degrees on outdoor bodies of water. Please remind your children about the dangers of thin ice, to obey all posted signs and to take the proper care to remain a safe distance from the ice. For more information about ice safety, visit the [Canadian Red Cross](#).

Did you know?

The way ice forms affects the way it melts in spring. Minerals in the water actually become concentrated in vertical veins throughout the ice as it freezes. Warm temperatures cause these veins to melt more quickly and weaken the ice, a process known as *candling*.



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.

UPCOMING DATES

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| April 6 | APEGA Science Olympics at U of A |
| April 7 | World Health Day |
| April 9 | Hot Lunch Forms due |
| April 12 | Hot Lunch – Panago Pizza |
| April 16 | S.Y.N.C (Gr 5/6) – Southfort Bend Gardens
Cyberworld: What happens when you press send? - 6pm |
| April 29 | Warm Hands Warm Hearts - Eastglen (United Way) |
| April 17 | School Council & Fundraising Society Meeting @ 6:00 pm in the Learning Commons |
| April 19 | NO SCHOOL – Good Friday |
| April 22 | NO SCHOOL – Easter Monday
Earth Day |
| May 1 | Early Dismissal Day (end of the day 1:51pm) |
| May 14 | Volunteer Tea – 12:30pm |
| May 16 | Musical Performance at Dow – 6:30pm |