

## October 2019



### 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.

October 7 to the 11 is Read in Week. SouthPointe School students will be participating in several activities this week to celebrate the joys of reading. We encourage all parents to take some time during the week to read with their kids. Our first book fair will be October 23-24 during the day and will also be open during the evenings of Parent-Teacher Interviews.

School Picture retakes will be occurring on October 24 (October 21 for Mon/Wed kindergarten) for those students that were away or requested a retake. Please come prepared to have your picture taken.

Parent Teacher Interviews will be held on Wednesday, October 23 and Thursday, October 24 from 4:30-7:30. Information will be 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.

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

### Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent Teacher Interviews will be held between 4:30 - 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 23 and Thursday, October 24, 2019. We will be using the online booking system for scheduling interviews. Bookings will be open on Tuesday, October 15, 2019 at noon. Go to [www.schoolinterviews.ca](http://www.schoolinterviews.ca) and use event code: **rhj5b**

These interviews 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 published. Report cards will be posted on PowerSchool Parent Portal on December 13, 2019.

### Scholastic Book Fair

We invite you to share in a celebration of books and reading during our Parent Teacher Interviews on **October 23 and October 24** from **4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.** in the Learning Commons. The Fair will also be open during those days, at first and second recess, for those students who have money. By supporting our Scholastic book fair you are helping to obtain new resources for our school library. Be sure to enter your child's name for the chance to win \$50 worth of books for your child and his/her classroom.



The Scholastic Classroom Wish List program will be part of our fair once again. To assist in adding to classroom libraries you may purchase a book at the fair that is on your child's teacher's wish list or donate money for the purchase to be made for their classroom. If you would like to assist with this program, the display will be setup in the library during our fair.

Please watch for the Scholastic flyers being sent home to you with your child. Just a reminder that the fair now accepts all forms of payments (debit, credit, cash or cheque) for your convenience. Thank you in advance for supporting this very important library fundraiser. We look forward to seeing you there!

### **Landscape Design Drawing Help**

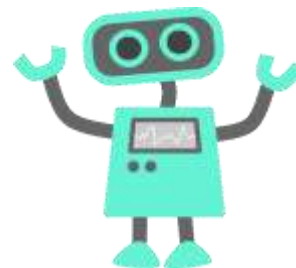
SouthPointe School is seeking a volunteer from our community that is willing and able to create a **Landscape Design Drawing** to scale for our outdoor classroom. We hope to complete the design process soon in order to install this spring. This outdoor learning space will provide our students with an outdoor learning center, a project-based station, and an area for reflection, observation and grounding. It will include boulders, plants and shrubs native to Alberta, and perhaps stones and water. If you or someone you know can help us out, please contact [kimberly.zapesocki@eips.ca](mailto:kimberly.zapesocki@eips.ca) or the school office and ask for Corey Kropp or Carol Brown. Thank you.

### **Makerspace at SouthPointe!**

We are creating a Makerspace in our Learning Commons this year! What do you do in a Makerspace you ask? You make things! Things that you are curious about, that come up in your imagination, that inspire you! Makerspace is a place for engineering, technology, art, and architecture! We'll be dabbling in robotics, coding, design, and much more!

We would love your help with some of the supplies that will be needed! Recyclables and old art/sewing/ decorating supplies are great for building and creating! For example:

- Cereal & cracker boxes
- Clean yogurt containers
- Paper towel and toilet rolls
- Popsicle sticks
- Masking tape & regular tape
- Ribbon
- Yarn
- Crayons, markers, pencil crayons
- Pipe cleaners & pompoms
- Scrap booking paper
- Small pieces of cardboard
- Bread tags
- Buttons
- Newspaper
- Straws





These items can be dropped off in the new cart in our school's front entrance. We will have the bins labeled!

If you have building blocks, Lego, straws and connectors, etc. that your children are no longer using, we would happily accept those kinds of donations as well! These items can be dropped off in the Learning Commons with Mrs. Adams, our librarian.

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

School fee information for the 2019-20 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 fees, you can apply to have [fees waived](#) by submitting an [Application for a Waiver of Fees](#). The application deadline is Dec. 15, 2019.

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

### **F.A.S.S. and School Council Update**

Thank you to everyone that came to this year's AGM. We'd like to welcome our new FASS Board and School Council.

#### FASS:

Laelia Winston - President  
Zoi Vasilantonakis - Vice President  
Jodie Robertshaw - Treasurer  
Courtney Lee - Secretary

#### School Council:

Co-chairs - Jamie Nelson and Whitney Nerbas  
Secretaries – Candace Dealy and Ariane Taylor Brzozka

Our first hot lunch of the year is Panago Pizza on Thursday October 10. Orders and payment are due by 2:51pm on Monday, October 7. Volunteers are always needed. Please contact Jamie Nelson at [southpointeschool.schoolcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:southpointeschool.schoolcouncil@gmail.com).

We are kicking off the year with a bottle drive on Saturday, October 19 from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm. On Thursday, October 17, we will need volunteers to deliver flyers to the community to let them know about the bottle drive and if they want to leave bottles out for us Saturday morning. On Saturday



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p 780-998-2747 [SouthPointeSchool.ca](http://SouthPointeSchool.ca)



volunteers who have trucks can pick up around our area. Please email Courtney if you can help at [secretary.fass@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.fass@gmail.com)

Ongoing fundraising: Our goal is to raise \$30,000.00 to complete a space for the junior high students outside! **How can you help?**

- Every time you eat at a Boston Pizza in the Edmonton area and Northern Alberta SAVE YOUR RECEIPTS! There is a collection envelope on the FASS Bulletin board in the front entry way of the school, please drop your receipts there. Boston Pizza will give back 5% of what we spend!
- COBS Doughraiser program also gives back 5% of what you spend back to our school. When you go to our local store, tell them you're from SouthPointe School. They will keep track on their end.
- Our annual Stawnichy Fundraiser will be happening before Christmas. More info will be available later this month.
- Our new School Council is looking into another paint night this fall. If anyone is able to donate items for the silent auction or can volunteer please contact [southpointe.schoolcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:southpointe.schoolcouncil@gmail.com)

COBS is making donations to our school every two weeks. Every Friday morning we need people to help cut up the bread. Please contact the office if you can help!

### **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. Please click [here](#) for more information.



### **Terry Fox Run**

Thanks to all students, parents and staff that participated in the Terry Fox School Run on Friday, September 27 at 1:00 p.m. We raised **\$548.80** for this wonderful cause.

### **Read In Week takes place October 7-11**

Read In Week 2019 returns, marking its 30th anniversary, on October 7-11. The theme this year is "30 Years of Read In: Celebrate with Stories/Célébrons avec des Histoires 30 Anniversaire de Read In." Through various activities, students will spend the week learning how stories have the power to teach lessons, broaden perspectives and foster empathy. Some of the activities planned for Read In Week include:

- Teacher reading swap
- Guest readers from the community
- Pajama party with learning buddies

Read In Week is a Divisionwide 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 by reading yourself, with your child or with someone in the community.

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

### **Oil King Adopt- A- School Program**

A big thank-you to MLC Group - South Pointe Estates Inc. for adopting our school and providing us with six tickets for every home game that the Oil Kings play during the regular season. All student names will be entered in a random draw to distribute a pack of three tickets to two students for every home game. MLC Groups generosity provides an opportunity for students in our school to attend a professional hockey game.

### **Seniors and Youth Networking Communities**

The SYNC (Seniors and Youth Networking Communities) Program builds important links between elementary-aged children and senior citizens in Fort Saskatchewan. By taking part in joint visits and activities at Dr. Turner Lodge and Southfort Bend Gardens, students from [James Mowat Elementary](#), [Fort Saskatchewan Christian](#) and [SouthPointe School](#) make connections with seniors in our community that foster greater understanding and empathy, and reduce isolation and loneliness.

Thank you to our 2019-20 sponsors for making this program possible:

- The Elks Club
- Fort Saskatchewan Co-op
- Laurette's Legacy of Love

### **School Bus Safety Week: October 21-25**

Schools throughout Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) are celebrating School Bus Safety Week October 21-25. The theme: Ready to Ride, which focuses on being a responsible rider. Throughout the week, various activities are planned, including information sessions, bus-safety lesson plans and bus-evacuation drills.



As part of School Bus Safety Week, we'd like to remind students and families all of the Division's school buses are equipped with a bus-pass scanner and GPS technology, which allows Student Transportation to better monitor and manage its more than 156 buses and 594 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 is scanned onto a bus.

For more information about School Bus Safety Week and EIPS Student Transportation visit [www.eips.ca/transportation](http://www.eips.ca/transportation) or contact Student Transportation (780-417-8151, [st@eips.ca](mailto:st@eips.ca)) directly.

### **Celebrating World Teachers' Day: October 5**

October 5 is World Teachers' Day! Launched in 1994 by the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), World Teachers' Day is celebrated annually around the world to recognize teachers and the integral role they play in providing quality education to students. On October 5, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) encourages all of its students, parents and community members to show their appreciation for their teachers and the positive impact they make on our lives.



New this year, to honour the day, EIPS kick-started a new contest inviting friends, family, students and staff to share a story about how a teacher inspired them. Thank you to all those who have shared stories to date. Collectively they tell a story about the vital role teachers play in shaping the minds of youth and supporting their journey of success.

EIPS extends a heartfelt thank you to all its teachers for their dedication, hard work and commitment in guiding and educating our students through their kindergarten to Grade 12 years.

### **REMINDER: Make head checks for lice a routine!**

Head lice are one of the most common problems faced by school-aged children and their families. Typically, head lice are tiny, greyish-brown insects that live on the scalp and lay their eggs, or nits, in the hair close to the scalp—itching is the main complaint. Lice don't jump from head to head, nor are they dangerous. Having a head lice infestation, however, can cause stress, anxiety and hardship for staff, students and parents. As such, it's essential each of our families do their part at home by undertaking weekly routine head checks and, if head lice and nits are found, physically removing them.

While head lice prevention and control is primarily the responsibility of the parent, the school does work discreetly with the teacher, students and families to prevent further transmission. To prevent the spread of head lice, we strongly encourage you to speak to your child about preventative behaviour such as avoiding head-to-head contact and not sharing combs, hats, pillows and hair accessories. It's also important to teach children not to tease other students about head lice—anyone can get head lice. If you find head lice on your child, notify the school, physically remove the lice and nits using the proper lice comb, and keep your child home until all signs of active head lice are gone.

For more information about head lice prevention and treatment, visit [www.eips.ca/programs-services/healthy-schools/head-lice](http://www.eips.ca/programs-services/healthy-schools/head-lice). Alternatively, you can contact the school at 780-998-2747.

### **No Child Without: Free MedicAlert for Students**

In our ongoing effort to provide safe and caring schools for our students, SouthPointe School continues to be registered in the Canadian MedicAlert Foundation's No Child Without program. The program is a national initiative that provides no-cost MedicAlert services to children—between the ages four of 14—who have chronic health conditions. The goal is twofold: to help children with severe allergies, medical conditions or special needs and to assist schools with medical-emergency plans for students.

Once a child is registered, their school is provided with advice on a medical-emergency plan for that student and given a list of medications, allergies and medical conditions the student has. If your child has a serious medical condition or allergy and could benefit from MedicAlert services, contact the school office at 780-998-2747. To learn more about the No Child Without program, visit [www.nochildwithout.ca](http://www.nochildwithout.ca).



### **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.

### **UPCOMING DATES**

<b>October 5</b>	World Teachers' Day
<b>October 7-11</b>	Read In Week
<b>October 10</b>	Hot Lunch – Panago Pizza
	World Mental Health Day
<b>October 11</b>	NO SCHOOL – Professional Learning Day for Staff
<b>October 14</b>	NO SCHOOL – Thanksgiving Day
<b>October 15</b>	S.Y.N.C (Gr 5/6) – Southfort Bend Gardens
<b>October 16</b>	School Council & Fundraising Society Meeting @ 6:00 p.m. in the Learning Commons
<b>October 18</b>	Kindergarten Field Trip – John Janzen Nature Centre
<b>October 19</b>	Fundraising Society Bottle Drive
<b>October 21</b>	Picture Re-takes for Mon/Wed Kindergarten only
<b>October 23 &amp; 24</b>	Parent-Teacher Interviews & Scholastic Book Fair (4:30-7:30 p.m.)
<b>October 24</b>	Picture Re-takes for Grade 1 – 8 and Tues/Thurs Kindergarten)
<b>November 6</b>	Early Dismissal Day (end of the day 1:51 p.m.)
<b>November 11</b>	NO SCHOOL – Remembrance Day
<b>November 12-15</b>	NO SCHOOL – November Break
<b>November 29</b>	NO SCHOOL – Professional Learning Day for Staff