



November 2019

Principal's Message

October was a very busy month and it looks like November is going to be more of the same. I would like to thank all the volunteers who came into classes to help make our Halloween activities such a huge success. There were so many great costumes and the hallways and classrooms were filled with a great deal of excitement and energy.

SouthPointe School held our Remembrance Day ceremony Friday, November 8 at 10:40 am. We were pleased to have Wesley Kopp, a veteran from the Canadian Armed Forces, as our guest speaker during our ceremony and Annick Carignan, an RCMP Constable, who opened the ceremony with the Treaty Acknowledgement. A special thanks to Mrs. Zapesocki, Mrs. Harburn, Mrs. Molyneaux, Mrs. Booker and Mrs. Dykstra for their help in planning and organizing the ceremony. I would also like to thank all our student leaders for their help during the ceremony. We would also like to thank the grade 8 student volunteers that participated in the Legion's Field of Honour "No Stone Left Alone" ceremony held at the Fort Saskatchewan Cemetery on November 7, 2019.

The junior high volleyball season has come to an end. The student athletes had a great season. Both teams made it into the playoffs this year. Both teams played their best but lost in the bronze final. Thank you to all our students for their hard work and dedication throughout the season. A big thank-you to Ms. McKee for coaching the girls' team and Mr. Percy for coaching the boys. These teams would not be possible without the support of staff and parent volunteers.

Please mark your calendars - the next School Council and Fundraising Association of SouthPointe School meeting will be on Wednesday, November 20, 2019 at 6pm in the Learning Commons. Please come out and join us to learn information on what is happening at our school.

The SouthPointe School Winter Concert is just around the corner. The concert will be on December 5 so please make sure you save the date on your calendar. There will be two performances that day; one at 1:00 pm and one at 6:30 pm at SouthPointe School. The ECS concert will be on December 3rd at 6pm. More information regarding tickets will be sent home soon.

I hope that the November break allows for some rest and relaxation for both the students and staff at SouthPointe School.

Carol Brown, Principal

Scholastic Book Fair

Thank you very much for supporting the Scholastic Book Fair! Our net sales were \$6,452.60 making this our most successful Book Fair to date. Your generous support means the SouthPointe Learning Commons will once again be blessed with many new resources for the students and staff. Congratulations to all the Book Fair contest winners!

Report Cards

We are pleased to announce that your child's Term 1 Report Card will be available for online viewing and/or printing by 3:00 pm on December 13. 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.

Family Fun Night on November 26

Science! Numeracy! Literacy! Prizes!! SouthPointe is excited to announce that we will be hosting our first Family Fun Night for students and parents in ECS to grade 6. This evening will be filled with Science, Numeracy and Literacy activities for the whole family to participate in. On **November 26, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm**, APEGA (Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta) will be running hands-on science and engineering activities and demonstrations in our school gym. As well, some of our SouthPointe staff members will have fun and engaging numeracy and literacy activities for all attendees to complete with their families in the Large Flex Space and Learning Commons (library) area. When you enter the school, you will receive a passport that will be stamped as you complete each station. This passport will be your ballot to enter a draw for a wonderful Family Fun basket!



There is no cost to attend this event and you can come stop by any time between 6:00-8:00 pm. Students must be accompanied by an adult. Please use the doors off of our bus lane (Junior High doors) not the front doors to enter this event. All family members are welcome to attend and participate.



New Outdoor Learning Space

Last school year, SouthPointe School was supported with a financial grant from Shell Scotford to implement an Outdoor Learning Space during the 2019/20 school year. This outdoor learning space will help our students to develop increased awareness of our connections to and dependence on nature in ways that cannot be implemented in a regular classroom. This will be a learning center, a project-based station, and an area for observation, reflection and sharing. On Friday, October 25, we began the creation of this space with the delivery and placement of sitting boulders. These boulders have been set up in a circular formation, to honor Indigenous Ways of Knowing, just north east of our flagpoles. In the spring, we will begin phase two and plant a variety of plants, shrubs, and trees that are indigenous to Alberta and benefit the birds, insects and other life forms of these lands. These plants will teach our students about the sacred plants of the Indigenous Peoples in Canada, the uses of these plants as medicines, the life cycles of the plants, and how to care for the plants. The space will be a place of making cross curricular connections to nature.

We are looking forward to putting it to use! Big thank you to Shell!

WITS Program

Starting after the November Break, students in ECS to grade 3 will have the opportunity to learn about and use the strategies taught as part of the WITS Program. The WITS Program teaches children to make safe and positive choices when faced with peer conflict. The WITS acronym – Walk away, Ignore, Talk it out, and Seek help – provides a common language that children and the adults in their environments can use to talk about and respond to peer problems. Our School Resource Office will be visiting SouthPointe School to officially launch the program with a Swearing-In Ceremony.

Correction and Verification Form Reminder

There are still a number of families who've not reviewed the student Correction and Verification Form, which is available online through the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#). If you haven't reviewed your child's form yet, please do so as soon as possible.

Filling out the form is easy and takes only a few minutes to complete. Simply, review the form and each of its sections, make revisions where required, and then select "Sign & Submit," for the school to review.

The Correction and Verification Form replaces the paper version that was previously sent each fall. Every year, school divisions are required to give families the opportunity to review and update their child's information—including address, parent and guardian information, emergency contacts, medical details, parent consents and other related information. Reviewing and updating the form ensures the school has the most up-to-date information regarding your child.

NOTE: Parents or guardians who've opted out of having the Correction and Verification Form visible on PowerSchool, must contact the school directly to request any changes or updates to their child's information.

If you require more information about this process or the form contact Stephanie Barker at general.sps@eips.ca or 780-998-2747.

Spare Clothing for the Office

If you are looking to pass on clothing your child has outgrown, the SouthPointe School office could use a few items for those children who need a change of clothes during the day. Pants that fit both boys and girls ages 5-7 are in highest demand but some t-shirts, sweatshirts and larger sized items (ages 8-10) would be useful as well. If you have some of these items you would like to donate, please contact the school office at general.sps@eips.ca or 780-998-2747.

Inclement Weather

With the winter season almost here, we want to remind families 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 families 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. 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 families 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.

Fundraising Association and School Council Update

Write it down! **Next meeting is Wednesday, November 21 at 6pm in the Learning Commons.** Childcare is provided and all participants will be entered in a draw for a \$25 gift certificate.

Bottle drive was a huge success. We raised \$2,325 in just a few hours. Thank you to all the volunteers for their time and vehicles.

Stawnychy Mundare Sausage Fundraiser is in full swing. Order forms were sent home with every student this week. Extra forms are in the office, if need. Top selling student will win a \$100 gift certificate. Top selling class will win an ice cream party. Order forms and full payment must be received by 2:51 pm on Tuesday, November 19. Cheques can be made payable to FASS. Order pick up is Wednesday, December 11, between 2:00 and 6:00 pm. Orders will not be sent home with students, nor stored overnight. Volunteers are needed. Please email vicepresident.fass@gmail.com, if you can help. Additional product information can be found at <https://www.stawnychys.com/>.

2019 Sign Night is Friday, November 29, at Roustabouts. There will be a silent auction too. If you wish to donate an item, please email southpointeschool.schoolcouncil@gmail.com. Please sign up at [SouthPointe Sign Night](#). Cost is \$58. **Cut off for sign up is Friday, November 22.** Hope to see you there!

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

- **BOSTON PIZZA** 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 to our school. When you go to our local store, tell them you're from SouthPointe School. They will keep track on their end. Here's a coupon for a free loaf on your next visit: [COBS Doughraiser Letter](#).



- **FLIP GIVE** Make your Christmas shopping easier. GO thru the app to shop at Amazon, Under Armour and Old Navy, or purchase gift cards. When you spend money, FASS raises money. Download the FLIP GIVE APP, join the FASS team, enter code K2TQ9X, and start shopping.

Next Hot Lunch is Cobs Bread on Friday, November 22. Forms and payment are due on Monday, November 18 by 2:51 pm.

Keep your eyes peeled for Hot Lunch On-Line ordering.....coming soon!

School Fees Reminder

School Fees are now due. Online payments can be made by credit or debit card in the School Fees section of the PowerSchool Parent Portal at www.eips.ca/powerschool. If you need help with your Parent Portal please call the school office. We can reset your password or provide assistance with setting up your account. Payments can also be made at the school office in the form of cash or cheque made out to SouthPointe School. Post-dated cheques will also be accepted at the school office.

Should you require any further information, or to set up a payment plan, please feel free to contact Joanne Warwa at 780-998-2747. All payment plans must be paid by April 30, 2020.

Caregiver Education Series

The Division, in partnership with Alberta Health Services and Elk Island Catholic Schools, is hosting a series of caregiver information sessions focused on ways to support students' mental health. The sessions are free and geared toward parents, caregivers, teachers and community members who want to learn more about challenges impacting children and adolescents. This year, session topics include anxiety, ADHD, depression, self-harm, technology, teens and teaching leadership skills, and more.

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

UPCOMING DATES

November 11	NO SCHOOL - Remembrance Day
November 12-15	NO SCHOOL - November Break
November 18-22	Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week
November 19	S.Y.N.C/Connecting Communities (Gr 4/5)
November 20	School Council & Fundraising Society Meeting - 6:00 pm, Learning Commons
November 22	Spirit Day (Mustache Day)
November 26	Family Fun Night - 6:00 pm
November 29	NO SCHOOL – Professional Learning Day for Staff
December 3	Kindergarten Winter Concert - 6:00-7:00 pm, SPS gym
December 4	Early Dismissal Day (end of the day 1:51 pm)
December 5	Grades 1-6 Winter Concert - 1:00 pm & 6:30pm, SPS gym
December 13	Report Cards Published @ 3:00pm