

January 2020



Principal's Message

Welcome back to school! It is hard to believe that January is already upon us. We hope that everyone had a good Winter Break and was able to fit in some time for relaxing. January is shaping up once again to be a busy month.

We would like to encourage all grade 4 and 7 parents at SouthPointe School to provide feedback to us by completing the Accountability Pillar Survey. The data collected through the survey provides feedback on areas where we are doing well and areas where we need to improve. This feedback helps us to measure how we are doing in reaching our school and district goals. The survey is short, but the information provided is greatly appreciated. Please take the time to provide your input. All parents will receive survey packages mailed from Alberta Education.

The school calendar for the 2020-21 school year has been approved. A copy has been posted on the website for your information. We are beginning to start the process for enrolment and registration for next year. If you have a child that will be entering ECS in the fall of 2020, registration will open February 1, 2020 and we encourage parents to register their children as early as possible. This allows us to have a better idea of how many classes will be needed for next year. Please remember that your child must be 5 years old by December 31, 2020 to enter ECS in the fall. All ECS registrations for the 2020-21 school year will be completed online. The online registration form can be found on our division website www.eips.ca/kindergarten.

Effective for the 2020-21 school year, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) is once again conducting an online student registration process to confirm the school their children will attend. Access to this form will be through the PowerSchool Parent Portal. All student registrations need to be confirmed from February 1-29, 2020. Just a reminder that SouthPointe School will once again be a closed boundary school.

Our next Parent/Teacher/Student interviews will take place on February 3-4, 2020 from 4:30-7:30 p.m. We will once again be using the online booking system for scheduling interviews for K-5 students. Bookings will be open Thursday, January 23 at noon. Go to www.schoolinterviews.ca and use event code: **rmbkr**. Please note that online bookings will NOT be available for grade 6-8. All grade 6-8 teachers will be in the gymnasium and it will be drop in only; this will ensure parents have the flexibility to see multiple teachers. Kindergarten bookings will be 20 minute group bookings. We will be hosting a book fair in our learning commons during interview nights.

Just a reminder that in January the SouthPointe School and Fundraising Society Council meets January 22 at 6:00pm in the Learning Commons. We encourage all parents to attend this meeting as we are looking to get feedback on student fees for the 2020-21 school year. Parents that are unable to attend will be able to go to the school website on January 23 and access the information that was shared and provide feedback via email.

Carol Brown, Principal



Kindergarten Registration Starts Soon!

Is your child turning five on or before Dec. 31, 2020? If so, it's almost time to register for kindergarten.

Kindergarten registration opens for the 2020-21 school year on Feb. 1, 2020.

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 is available at www.southpointeschool.ca/programs/kindergarten

Returning Student Registration for 2020-21

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) will once again conduct an online returning student registration process to confirm student registrations for the 2020-21 school year. Families of all returning students must complete the process to confirm the school their child plans to attend in the 2020-21 school year. Additionally, students who want to attend a non-designated school need to make that request through the returning student registration process—acceptance is based on available space. The 2020-21 returning student registration takes place Feb. 1-29, 2020.

Access to the Returning Student Registration Form is provided through the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#). If you don't have a PowerSchool Parent Portal account, you need to set one up before Feb. 1, 2020.

[Create a PowerSchool Parent Portal account](#)

For more information contact the school directly at 780-998-2747.

Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent Teacher Interviews will be held from 4:30-7:30 p.m. on Monday, February 3 and Tuesday, February 4, 2020. 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 and junior high marks will be posted on PowerSchool Parent Portal on March 20, 2020 at 3:00 pm.

We will again be using the online booking system for scheduling interviews. Bookings will be open on Thursday, January 23, 2020, at noon. Go to www.schoolinterviews.ca and use event code: **rmbkr**.

****Please note that online bookings will NOT be available for grade 6-8. All grade 6-8 teachers will be located in the gymnasium and it will be drop in only; this will ensure parents have the flexibility to see multiple teachers. Also, kindergarten bookings will be 20 minute group bookings (up to 4 students/families per booking).****

Book Fair

We invite you to share in a celebration of books and reading during our Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews on February 3 & 4 from 4:30 - 7:30 p.m. in the Learning Commons. By supporting our Scholastic book fair you are helping to obtain new resources for our school library as well as adding to classroom libraries.



Lost and Found

The school has accumulated a large amount of clothing, water bottles and other items in our lost and found. We would appreciate if you and/or your child would have a look through the items to claim anything that belongs to you. **Please note that items will be packed up and donated to charity after parent teacher interviews.**



Popcorn Sale

Popcorn Day on Friday, January 31! Students can purchase popcorn for \$1.00/bag. Money will be collected first thing in the morning on Thursday, January 30. Unfortunately, late orders will not be accepted. Please send exact amount as change will not be given. Limit 1 bag per student. Proceeds will go to support our growing school community.

SouthPointe School Spirit Wear

Moving forward, SouthPointe School spirit wear will only be available for purchase twice a year. Once in the Autumn for delivery before Christmas and again in the Spring.

Our Spring ordering will be open on February 1 and closing March 31 with items arriving early in May. Please go to our [website](#) for updated information as February 1 approaches.



EIPS 2020-21 Division Calendar: Now available!

The 2020-21 EIPS calendar is now available online. The calendar includes important dates during the 2020-21 school year, such as school-closure days; breaks; the first and last day of classes; professional learning days; and early dismissal days.

Highlights from the 2020-21 EIPS calendar include:

- September 1* – first day of classes
- November 9-13* – November break
- December 23 to January 5* – Christmas break
- February 1* – second semester begins
- February 4-6* – Teachers' Convention
- March 29 to April 2* – spring break
- June 25* – last day of classes
- June 28* – last operational day before the summer break



To view the 2020-21 calendar, visit eips.ca.

Did you know you can sync the Division calendar to your personal calendar? You can. Simply, visit www.eips.ca/calendar and click on "subscribe to calendar." It's that easy.



Fundraising Association and School Council Update

Write it down! **Next meeting is Wednesday, January 22, 2020 at 6:00 pm in the Learning Commons.** Childcare is provided and all participants will be entered in a draw for a \$25 gift certificate.

Stawnichy Mundare Sausage Fundraiser raised over \$4,000! Thank you to all the volunteers and staff who helped make this a super successful fundraiser.

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!
- **FLIP GIVE** Make your Christmas shopping easier. GO thru the app to shop at Amazon, Under Armour, Old Navy, and tons more 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. We've raised over \$700 in less than one month!

Next Hot Lunch is Friday, January 17 - Freson Bros, winter comfort menu. The cut-off date is midnight, 5 days prior to the scheduled hot lunch. Please make sure you order ASAP so you don't miss out!

Upcoming hot lunch dates:

Panago Pizza – Friday: February 21, April 17 and June 19

Boston Pizza – Friday: March 13

Freson Bros Pancakes – Friday: May 22

<https://munchalunch.com/schools/SouthPointeSchool/>

2020 School Dance – Mark down the date Friday, February 21. More information to follow.

Another way to stay connected: Follow EIPS on Twitter and Facebook

With 43 schools and close to 17,400 students, there's a wealth of events, activities and stories taking place across the Division every day. You can find these stories and more by following Elk Island Public Schools on both [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). Each uses the combination of news articles, videos and photographs that showcases the latest news, updates, events and alerts taking place across the Division.

Plus, if you're a member of an EIPS school community and want to share in the storytelling, simply tag the Division using [#EIPS](#).

Stay in the loop, follow EIPS on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

NOTE: Communications Services manages the Division's Facebook and Twitter accounts. The account is updated and monitored intermittently during regular office hours from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday. The Division welcomes feedback and ideas from followers but does ask everyone interacting on the EIPS Facebook page to be respectful. Personal attacks and offensive language are not allowed and may be deleted.

Inclement Weather

With the winter season well underway, 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) will advise families of any bus cancellations using various communications tools, including automated-telephone messages, alerts posted on www.eips.ca and school websites, Twitter, Facebook, local radio stations and on Versatrans My Stop.

Decisions regarding bus cancellations are guided by EIPS' [Administrative Procedure 131: Inclement Weather](#), which states: "school bus service may be suspended ... when there is a forecast or current temperature of -40 C including wind chill, in one or more regions." 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.

UPCOMING DATES

January 17	Spirit Day – Wacky Hair Day! Hot Lunch – Freson Bros
January 21	S.Y.N.C/Connecting Communities (Gr 4/5)
January 22	School Council & Fundraising Society Meeting - 6:00 pm, Learning Commons
January 23	Parent Teacher Interview on-line booking opens at NOON (12:00 pm)
January 31	Second semester junior high elective courses begin
February 3-4	Parent Teacher Interviews & Scholastic Book Fair (4:30 – 7:30 pm)
February 5	Early Dismissal Day (end of the day 1:51 pm)
February 6-7	NO SCHOOL - Teachers' Convention
February 13	Hot Lunch – Panago Pizza
February 14	NO SCHOOL - School Closure Day
February 17	NO SCHOOL - Family Day
February 26	Pink Shirt Day