



## April 2020

### Principal's Message

As we move into April, I want SouthPointe School families to know that we appreciate the support you have given our staff as we work through the new alternative way of learning. We recognize that staff and students are still adjusting to a “new normal” of video meetings and online communication. We also know that many of our families are experiencing competing demands, please be assured that we will continue to work together to support our SouthPointe School families. Please contact the school if you have any questions or need support with navigating the alternative learning platform.

We miss seeing all our students and hope you are well.

Carol Brown  
Principal

### Alternative Learning During In-school Class Cancellations



Thank you to all EIPS families and students for your patience while the Division worked out the details of how learning will take place while in-school classes are cancelled. Over the last few weeks, teachers and staff have worked hard at developing alternative learning plans at all grade levels. Students enrolled in diploma courses began working with their teachers in late March. And, on April 6, the Division officially launched its alternative instruction for all other students.

Delivering learning in this way is new for students, family members and teachers. They'll no doubt be obstacles to overcome along the way, and there will be successes that will bring surprise. Over the coming weeks, students will start to adjust to a different format, and teachers will learn what works best for those in their classes. It will take time. Know that teachers care deeply about students, about their achievement and are committed to ensuring all learners have the resources needed to successfully transition to the next year.

To help make the shift in learning as smooth as possible, EIPS has developed an online toolkit for families: [Alternative Learning During In-School Class Cancellations](#). The toolkit offers information about learning resources, supplemental lessons, navigating Google Classroom, how-to tips on supporting students, and more. In addition to learning supports, the toolkit also lists various mental health resources families can access to help navigate the unprecedented challenges everyone is facing as a result of the global COVID-19 pandemic.



Given the circumstances, it's important no one feel undue pressure to get it all right from the very beginning. There are many supports available to help along the way, and your child's education remains top of mind for every EIPS teacher and administrator. Using the resources available, teachers will do their best to help guide both you and your child until everyone is back at school, and face to face.

For more information, and questions about alternative instruction, contact the school at 780-998-2747 and [general.sps@eips.ca](mailto:general.sps@eips.ca).



### **Popcorn Sales**

Thank you for participating in our two popcorn days! Our profit was **\$464.96**, which will be used to support our growing school community.

### **Cash4Care – Stollery Donation**

SouthPointe's Leadership 8 class led an initiative, starting in January, to raise money for the Stollery Children's Hospital. Once a month, for a \$2.00 donation, student were allowed to wear a hat or toque for the entire school day. We are very pleased that **\$812.85** was raised through Cash4Care from January to March. Thank you for your participation!

### **School Council Update**

We at School Council wanted to let you know we are thinking about everyone in this difficult time. We are all in this together and doing the best we can. Keep smiling and loving each other. We love everyone who is part of our amazing Southpointe School Family and giving you all virtual hugs. Let's stick together, Sharks!

We cannot say enough amazing things about all the staff and teachers. You have all put your hearts into our children's lives and education and we cannot thank you enough. We love and appreciate you all.

### **Fundraising Association Update**

#### **Purdy's fundraiser:**

What can I say? What a fantastic response to the Purdys fundraiser, we far exceeded our expectations!

- **Sales: \$7,310.10** – \$2,000+ over our \$5,000 goal!
- **Profit: \$1,827.53** – going directly to the school.

#### **Ongoing fundraising:**

- **FlipGive:** If you're doing online shopping don't forget to use FlipGive! **Go thru the app** to shop or purchase gift cards at Amazon, Under Armour, Old Navy, and tons more. When you spend money, FASS raises money.

Download the FlipGive app, join the FASS team, enter code K2TQ9X, and start shopping. We've raised over \$1,000, let's keep going!

**Hot Lunch:** If anyone has paid for the next three hot lunches, credits will be issued to your account to use for next year's hot lunches. If your child is leaving the school, please email [spschoolhotlunch@gmail.com](mailto:spschoolhotlunch@gmail.com) to make other arrangements.

### **A big THANK YOU to all EIPS families**

National Volunteer Week takes place April 19-25. Most years, we celebrate the week in schools by thanking the hundreds of volunteers across EIPS who offer their knowledge and time to help enhance learning within the Division. This year is different. We're facing a global pandemic, and all in-school classes are cancelled until further notice. It's a challenging time for all of us. We're learning new routines and facing obstacles we couldn't even have imagined just a few weeks ago. The





coming weeks and months will bring a collective effort—from teachers, students, families, staff and trustees—to ensure the success of all students.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees at Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS), I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to every one of our EIPS school families who are supporting their child as we transition to alternative instruction. Whether it's providing positive learning environments, establishing new routines at home or navigating Google Classrooms with your child, the impact each of you is making is profound. Now more than ever, it's critical we continue to work together to support student learning and inspire learners to gain the skills they need to transition to the next grade or the world of work.

So, again, thank-you for your time, for your patience, for your kindness and for your understanding as we work together to ensure all students succeed.

Trina Boymook  
Chair, Board of Trustees

### **Watch for Thin Ice**

Remember, be aware 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 child about the dangers of thin ice, obey all posted signs, take the proper care and remain a safe distance from the ice.

For more information about ice safety, visit the [Canadian Red Cross](http://CanadianRedCross.ca).

### **Did you know?**

The colour of ice may be an indication of its strength. Clear blue ice is the strongest. White opaque is half as strong as blue ice. And, grey ice is unsafe—the greyness indicates the presence of water.

### **UPCOMING DATES**

<b>April 7</b>	World Health Day
<b>April 10</b>	Good Friday (STAT – No School)
<b>April 13</b>	Easter Monday (No School)
<b>April 22</b>	Earth Day