

October 2020



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 5 - 9 is Read in Week. SouthPointe School students have participated 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.

School Picture retakes will be occurring on October 21 (Monday/Wednesday ECS and junior high students) and October 22 (Tuesday/Thursday ECS and grade 1-6 students) for those students that were away or requested a retake. Please come prepared to have your picture taken.

Parent Teacher Interviews will be held October 13-19. These interviews will be conducted over the phone. Please check teachers' schedules for their availability. Information has been sent home by email 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.

We 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 & Corey Kropp
Principal & Assistant Principal

Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent Teacher Interviews will be held between 3:15-5:15 pm between Tuesday, October 13 and Monday, October 19, 2020. We will be using the online booking system for scheduling a phone call conversation between parents and teachers. Bookings are open now. Go to schoolinterviews.ca and use event code: **3yn33**. An email was sent to parents on October 8 with further details.

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. Elementary report cards and junior high marks will be posted on the PowerSchool Parent Portal on December 4, 2020.

Stay at Home Guide

Still unsure about what to do when your child is ill? Please use [this guide](#) to determine when to keep your child home from school and when it is safe to return.



Fall Funding Allocations

Our school received additional funding from the Federal Government and EIPS. This funding could be spent in three broad categories: *learning gaps, mental health and classroom configurations*. The monies have been used for the following:

- Additional ECS Educational Assistant to support the Tuesday/Thursday schedule B classroom.
- Additional Educational Assistant to support the learning needs of students.
- A Family School Liaison to work with students and families.
- Part-time Literacy Lead teacher.

Staffing News

We are pleased to welcome the following people to SouthPointe School:

- Danielle Booker, grade one teacher
- Christy Ford, grade two teacher
- Melanie Morrison, Family School Liaison
- Dallys Boychuk, ECS Educational Assistant
- Doug Sereda, grade five student teacher
- Matt Bennet, grade five student teacher
- Kelsey Moore, grade six student teacher
- Faith Mahoney, Noon Supervisor
- Deandra Williamson, Noon Supervisor

Improving Home-School Communication

To enhance communication between families and schools, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) has developed a how-to guide entitled, "Communication Protocol for Schools." Topics include appropriate channels to use, standard formats and structures, timing and sequencing for regular and ongoing home-school communication, and ways to bring forward questions or concerns. The manual also offers useful tools and resources schools and families can use to enhance face-to-face meetings, email communication and various social media efforts.

Communication Protocol for Schools

Most email communication from the Division will come from communications@eips.ca. From the school level, messages will often come from general.sps@eips.ca. We encourage families to add these email addresses to your address book or safe senders list to help prevent Division and school messages from filtering to a junk, spam or other folder in your email inbox.

School Fees: Now available

School fee information for the 2020-21 school year is now posted on the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#). When you log on, you'll notice the fee schedule is different from previous years. Instead of a fee based on the entire year, fees are charged on a quarterly basis.

The fee schedule change accommodates students switching from out-of-school learning to in-school learning; the four-semester system in place at some schools, and possible fee adjustments if the province decides to transition to Scenario 2—partial return to school—or Scenario 3—the suspension of in-school classes. Fees for kits or equipment kept by the student are charged in full at the start of the course.

Each quarter, you'll receive an email notification letting you know fees are posted on the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#). To access your fee information, go to “Student Fees” on PowerSchool. There you can view your fees and pay online using Visa, MasterCard or INTERAC Online—when available from your financial institution. All fees are due within 14 days of being posted. *NOTE:* School Fees apply to in-school learners only.

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 deadline is Dec. 15, 2020—if new to EIPS, the deadline is the latter of Dec. 15, 2020, or 45 days after registration.

For more information about school fees, waivers and payment deadlines, visit eips.ca and southpointeschool.ca/about/fees. Alternatively, contact the school at 780-998-2747.

Sync the School Calendar to Your Calendar

Did you know you can sync the school calendar to your own calendar? You can. Simply, visit southpointeschool.ca/about/calendar and click on one of the following calendar options you want to subscribe to:

- Add to Google Calendar: Google calendar
- Subscribe to Calendar: Outlook
- Download to iCal: Apple calendar



NOTE: Options are located above the calendar.

Once you click on the calendar option you want to subscribe to, follow the instructions. Within seconds, your calendar will contain all of SouthPointe School's important dates including holidays, school-closures days, planned activities, events and more.



Terry Fox Run

This year is the 40th Anniversary of Terry Fox's Marathon of Hope and Southpointe School is proud to be continuing the legacy of one of our greatest heroes! Please help our students make a difference in the lives of so many Canadians affected by cancer. Donate at: <http://www.terryfox.ca/SouthpointeSchool>. Together, we can all make a difference!

Please check out [this video](#) starring our grade 5's to learn more about Terry Fox. A special thank you to our guest, Brittany, and ThreeSixty Alberta for putting the video together for us.



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p 780-998-2747 SouthPointeSchool.ca



Fundraising Association and School Council Update

A virtual AGM will be held on Wednesday, October 21, 2020 at 4:00 pm. If you would like to participate in the meeting please email Corey Kropp at corey.kropp@eips.ca and request an invite.

Voting for board positions will be held during the meeting. Current positions that are available are:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Marketing Coordinator
- Volunteer Coordinator

In order to vote you must be a member. [Membership forms](#) can be filled out and emailed to secretary.fass@gmail.com.

Munch-a-Lunch update: FASS will be in touch and will email with all parents who have a remaining credit over the next few weeks.

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!
- Every time you shop at **Cobs Bread** mention SouthPointe School. 5% of what you spend will go back to the school.
- **FLIP GIVE** - Who doesn't love online shopping? 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, start shopping. We've raised over \$1000, let's keep going!

SouthPointe Spirit Wear Now Available to Order!

Please visit our [online store](#) to view and order an assortment of quality SouthPointe School spirit wear. The on-line store will close on October 21. Items will be delivered to the school and sent home with students.



Caregiver Education Series

Alberta Health Services is hosting a series of virtual 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. Session topics include anxiety, ADHD, depression, self-harm, technology, teens and teaching leadership skills, communication, resiliency, and more

Visit the [Division calendar](#) or [Caregiver Education](#) to see the monthly caregiver sessions.

Parent Waiting Area

Picking up your child? Please wait at your child's designated doors or your prearranged pick up area outside 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 front office for you. Thank you for continuing to sign in at the office if you are at the school for an appointment.



Late Drop Off and Early Pick Up

If your child arrives after 8:15 a.m., please send them through the main entrance doors (located on Allard Way) as all other doors are locked after this time. They will have to come through the office to sign in and sanitize hands before going to class.

If you need to pick up your child early, please let the teacher or front office know in advance. Once you are here, you can call the office at 780-998-2747 or you can come to the main office door and we will send your child out to you. You do not have to sign them out in the office – we will do that for you!

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 or along the street on SouthPointe Blvd. 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

October 5-9	Read In Week
October 9	NO SCHOOL – Professional Learning Day for Staff
October 10	World Mental Health Day
October 12	NO SCHOOL – Thanksgiving Day
October 13-19	Parent-Teacher Interviews
October 21	School Council & Fundraising Society virtual AGM - 4:00 p.m.
October 18-24	School Bus Safety Week
October 21	Picture re-takes for Mon/Wed kindergarten and grades 7, 8 & 9
October 22	Picture re-takes for Tues/Thurs kindergarten and grades 1 - 6
November 4	Early Dismissal Day (end of the day 1:51 p.m.)
November 9-13	NO SCHOOL – November Break