

January 2022



Principal's Message

Welcome back to school! We are excited to have all our students joining us in person starting on January 10. We hope that everyone had a good Winter Break and was able to fit in some time for relaxing.

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 2022, registration will open February 1, 2022 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, 2022 to enter ECS in the fall. All ECS registrations for the 2022-23 school year will be completed online. The online registration form can be found on our division website www.eips.ca/kindergarten.

For the 2022-23 school year, Elk Island Public Schools is once again conducting an online returning 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 1-28, 2022. Just a reminder that SouthPointe School will once again be a closed boundary school.

Our next virtual School Council and Fundraising Association meeting is January 19, 2022 at 4:30 pm. At this meeting we will be discussing school fees for the upcoming school year. More information will be sent to parents closer to the meeting via SchoolMessenger. This will include information about school fees, how they are calculated and a survey for parents to complete. The same information will be posted on our school website for any parents that are unable to attend the meeting but would like to provide feedback.

A reminder to junior high students and parents that semester two starts on February 1. Students will be starting new elective classes at this time.

Parent Teacher Interviews will be held virtually from 4:00 – 7:00 pm on February 2-3. Sign up information is included in this newsletter. We encourage all parents to book an appointment with their child(ren)'s teacher(s) to see how they are progressing in school.

Carol Brown, Principal

Kindergarten Registration Starts Soon!

Is your child turning five on or before Dec. 31, 2022? If so, it's almost time to register for kindergarten.

Kindergarten registration opens for the 2022-23 school year on Feb. 1, 2022.

To help families prepare, Elk Island Public Schools has put together an online [EIPS Kindergarten Tool kit](#) 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 SouthPointe School's kindergarten program is available at southpointeschool.ca.

Returning Student Registration for 2022-23

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) will once again conduct an online returning student registration process to confirm student registrations for the 2022-23 school year. Families of all returning students must complete the process to confirm the school their child plans to attend in the 2022-23 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 2022-23 returning student registration takes place between Feb. 1-28, 2022.

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, 2022.

[Create a PowerSchool Parent Portal account](#)

For more information, contact the school directly.

Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent Teacher Interviews will be held from 4:00 - 7:00 pm on Wednesday, February 2 and Thursday, February 3, 2022. We will be using the online booking system for scheduling a phone call conversation between parents and teachers. Bookings will open at **noon** on Thursday, January 20. At that time, go to schoolinterviews.ca and use event code: **brkhg**. An email will be sent to parents 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 March 18, 2022.

Have your say, EIPS wants to hear from you!

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) wants to hear from you to gain a deeper understanding of your confidence in the Division and its strategic direction. As such, it's launched a new annual survey entitled, EIPS Year in Review: Stakeholder Confidence Survey—open January 6-18.

The survey covers a range of topics, including student growth and achievement, learning supports, teaching and leading, governance, and resource allocations. The information gathered will help EIPS:

- assess stakeholder confidence—families, staff, Grade 12 students and community members;
- gather input to guide future decision-making;
- gather feedback to enhance its [Four-Year Education Plan](#); and
- provide a platform for families, students, staff and community members to have a voice in ensuring high-quality, student-centred learning environments in EIPS schools.

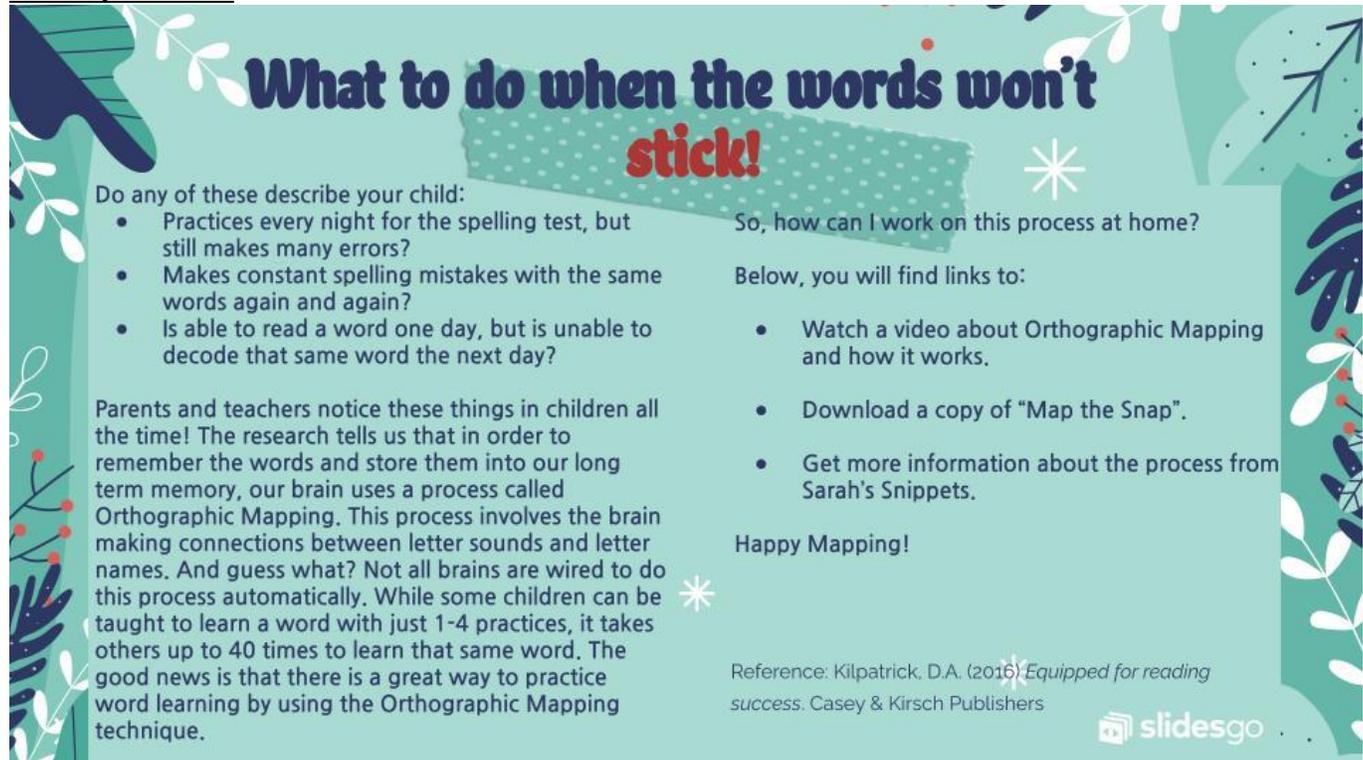
EIPS will share the results in the *Annual Education Results Report 2021-22*.

TAKE THE SURVEY NOW!
Survey closes Jan. 18, 2022



NOTE: EIPS encourages everyone to respond honestly. Your identity and answers are confidential and cannot be linked in any way to you or your child's school. Grade 12 students will have an opportunity to complete the survey at school. Families who do not want their child to complete the survey simply need to advise their child's school.

Literacy at Home



What to do when the words won't stick!

Do any of these describe your child:

- Practices every night for the spelling test, but still makes many errors?
- Makes constant spelling mistakes with the same words again and again?
- Is able to read a word one day, but is unable to decode that same word the next day?

Parents and teachers notice these things in children all the time! The research tells us that in order to remember the words and store them into our long term memory, our brain uses a process called Orthographic Mapping. This process involves the brain making connections between letter sounds and letter names. And guess what? Not all brains are wired to do this process automatically. While some children can be taught to learn a word with just 1-4 practices, it takes others up to 40 times to learn that same word. The good news is that there is a great way to practice word learning by using the Orthographic Mapping technique.

So, how can I work on this process at home?

Below, you will find links to:

- Watch a video about Orthographic Mapping and how it works.
- Download a copy of "Map the Snap".
- Get more information about the process from Sarah's Snippets.

Happy Mapping!

Reference: Kilpatrick, D.A. (2016). *Equipped for reading success*. Casey & Kirsch Publishers

slidesgo

[Download Video](#)

[Download Map the Snap](#)

[Sarah's Snippets](#)

YWITT – Careers in Agriculture and the Skilled Trades in Cooking

January 12, 2022 @ 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm

Students in Grades 9-12

Register: <https://www.careersnextgen.ca/event/ywitt-careers-in-agriculture-and-skilled-trades-cook-and-baker/>

Young Women in Trades and Technologies (YWITT) is a program designed to break barriers and give young women the opportunity and confidence to explore different career options in non-traditional skilled trades and technologies.

Agriculture:

The agricultural industry is both valuable and critical to our society and remains one of the largest sources of employment in many areas across Alberta and the world. It is an industry that continues to redefine itself and to present ever-evolving career opportunities. Whether it is working as a farmer,

harvester, technician for farm equipment, scientist, and so on, there are an amazing number of opportunities for careers.

Careers: Beekeeper, Horticulturist, Veterinarian, Food Specialist, Seed Producer, Equine Stable Hand, Farmer, Irrigation Specialist, the list “grows” on and on...

Cooking:

As the industry shifts, and the gender barrier dissipates, the opportunities for women in cooking are better than ever. The skills that we learn in the culinary arts can be applied to so many different areas in our lives. We learn organization, teamwork, cleanliness, food safety, sanitization practices, as well as the undeniably great skill behind the art of cooking. Skilled Trades: Cook and Baker

2022 EIPS Alternative Program In-Person Information Session Dates

HIGH SCHOOL

INFORMATION SESSIONS

EIPS Secondary French Immersion @ AJS

Tuesday, January 18

Advanced Placement @ BFH

Thursday, January 27

International Baccalaureate @ SAL

Thursday, February 3

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 the Ride 360 and Bus Status apps.

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 conditions.

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 they feel is safest during times of inclement weather.

For more information, contact EIPS Student Transportation at 780-417-8151.

UPCOMING DATES

- January 19** School Council & Fundraising Society virtual meeting – 4:30 pm
- January 20** Parent Teacher Interview on-line booking opens at NOON (12:00 pm)
- January 27** [Family Literacy Day](#)
- January 31** NO SCHOOL – Professional Learning Day
- February 1** Second semester junior high elective courses begin
[Kindergarten](#) and [grades 1-12](#) new student registration opens for 2022-23
[Returning student registration](#) opens for 2022-23
- February 2** Early Dismissal Day (end of the day 1:51 pm)
- February 2-3** Parent Teacher Interviews
- February 10-11** NO SCHOOL - Teachers' Convention
- February 21** NO SCHOOL - Family Day



YOUNG WOMEN IN TRADES & TECHNOLOGIES VIRTUAL MENTORSHIP SERIES



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JANUARY 12 • 5 PM

**GRADES 9-12
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