

## March 2022

### Principal's Message



Report cards and junior high marks are being released through the PowerSchool Parent Portal on March 18, 2022. We encourage all parents to log on and see how your child is progressing in school. If you have any questions about how to set up your PowerSchool Parent Portal, please phone the school and Mrs. Warwa or Mrs. Barker will be happy to help you. ECS progress reports will be sent home with students during the week of March 14-18.

Parents, when the weather becomes warmer our fields can get quite wet and muddy. We ask that students wear boots and consider packing a change of clothing.

Elective registration information for junior high student for the 2022-23 school year will be shared by administration in mid-March. Registration for electives course will be completed from April 6-13, 2022. More information will be shared with junior high families.

Our next virtual School Council and Fundraising Society meeting will be Wednesday, March 16 at 4:30 pm. We will be sharing information from the parent school fee survey and projected fees for the 2022-23 school year. We hope you can join us. Meeting codes will be sent out on March 14 by school messenger. In April we look forward to having School Council Meetings in person.

A reminder that Spring Break occurs from March 25 - April 3. Classes resume Monday, April 4, 2022.

### Kindergarten Registration is Now Open!

Is your child turning five on or before Dec. 31, 2022? If so, it's now time to register for kindergarten. To register, simply complete the online registration form at [eips.ca/kindergarten](http://eips.ca/kindergarten).

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's kindergarten program is available at [www.southpointeschool.ca/](http://www.southpointeschool.ca/).

### Measuring Success: Complete this year's Alberta Education Assurance Survey

Once again, Alberta Education is surveying teachers, students and families through its annual Alberta Education Assurance (AEA) Survey. The survey acts as an annual check-up on the province's education system. Every year, Alberta Education conducts the survey to gather information about the quality of education provided by Alberta schools and school authorities. The survey looks at various measures such as education quality, citizenship, family involvement, engagement levels, school climate and student wellness.



Throughout March, Grade 4 and 7 students and teachers at SouthPointe School are completing the survey online at the school. Student participation is voluntary and completely anonymous. Students are assigned a random username and password to ensure survey responses aren't linked to any individual

student. The survey doesn't take long to complete and is done within the school day during regular class time.

Additionally, parents and guardians of students in grades 4, 7 and 10 are also asked to take a survey, either online or by mail. Alberta Education will send families information about the survey directly. As with the student and teacher survey, it's anonymous and asks questions about your school experiences. If you have a child in grades 4, 7 or 10, we encourage you to participate. The survey deadline is March 25, 2022.

Results from the AEA Survey are provided to Elk Island Public Schools each spring. The Division then uses the data to inform its four-year education plan, school education plans and strategies for continuous improvement. Each fall, the results are also shared with EIPS families and school communities in the Division's *Annual Education Results Report*.

### **RELATED INFORMATION**

[AEA Survey: Parent letter](#)

[AEA Survey: Methodology for rate calculation](#)

[Assurance and Accountability: Alberta's K-12 education system](#)

### **Pre-kindergarten Programming at EIPS**

Is there a preschooler in your life experiencing developmental delays or challenges with speech-language or motor-skill development—big or small? If so, Elk Island Public School's Play And Learn at School (PALS) program could help.

Early learning lays the foundation for success in primary grades and beyond. As such, EIPS offers the pre-kindergarten PALS program in six of its elementary school locations. In fact, EIPS is now accepting applications for free speech-language assessments for those interested in registering in the PALS program this fall. The assessment helps determine if PALS is appropriate for your child.

If you know a preschooler, born in 2018 or 2019, who could benefit from pre-kindergarten programming or want to book an assessment, visit [eips.ca](http://eips.ca) or call 780-417-8219 to learn more.

### **Jump Rope for Heart - March 1st - 24th, 2022**

Jump Rope for Heart has begun at SouthPointe school for the month of March. We will be raising money for the Heart and Stroke Foundation. All donations will need to be made online; we will not be accepting cash or cheque donations. Below is the link to make online donations:



[https://secure-support.heartandstroke.ca/site/SPageServer/?pagename=jfh\\_Home](https://secure-support.heartandstroke.ca/site/SPageServer/?pagename=jfh_Home)

A newsletter containing information regarding online donations and prizes has been sent home with your child.

You can also watch the Jump Rope for Heart Virtual Kick-Off Assembly to find out more about this amazing organization:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_4lxRqiU628](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_4lxRqiU628)

### **Have your say! The 2022 EIPS Parent Survey Opens March 14-27**

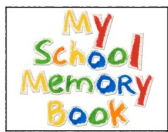
Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) wants to hear from you. Make sure to complete the 2022 EIPS Parent Survey—open from March 14-27.

Annually, EIPS conducts a parent survey to gauge its progress toward meeting the goals and priorities outlined in its [Four-Year Education Plan](#). Families are asked a series of questions about their experiences with EIPS and the school their child attends, the overall performance of the Division, the quality of education being provided to students and areas for improvement. The survey feedback helps the Division develop new strategies to better serve students and the wider community.

#### **VISIT [EIPS.CA](http://EIPS.CA) TO TAKE THE SURVEY: March 14-27**

*NOTE:* The survey is anonymous and only takes a few minutes to complete. If you want to share the experience of more than one child attending an EIPS school, simply complete the survey again.

### **Yearbooks Now Available to Order!**



**Where to Order:** [ybpay.ca](http://ybpay.ca)

**Order Deadline:** May 2, 2022

**Price:** \$20.00

**Yearbook ID Code:** 14214922

Don't miss out!  
Order your yearbook today!

### **Counsellor's Corner**



During the month of February SouthPointe staff and students participated in a variety of school initiatives including Black History Month, Have a Heart Day, Kindness Week, and Pink Shirt Day (Bully Awareness).

One of the many initiatives students participated in to help bolster the spread of kindness throughout SouthPointe was brainstorming together what a healthy school environment looks, sounds, and feels like. Students then explored how to take the vision they have for a healthy school and put it into action through the ways they choose to interact with each other and spread kindness. As always, I am grateful for the many great ways SouthPointe students and staff spread kindness.

Alberta Health Services in collaboration with The Mental Health Foundation is offering a series of free zoom sessions for parents and caregivers of children and youth. The sessions offer a variety of topics including Autism, Substance Abuse, Test Success, Depression, Mindfulness, Understanding Anxiety, Promoting Mental Health, and Supporting Emotional Growth in Children. For more information and to register check out <https://www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca/home>.

### **Fundraising Assoc. and School Council Update**

#### **NEXT VIRTUAL MEETING:**

- March 16 at 4:30 pm
- All parents are welcome to join our meetings each month! Keep up to date on what's happening in your child(ren)'s school!

- Please check your email next week for the invitation link to join the meeting.

#### **HOT LUNCH:**

- March's Hot Lunch will be with Freson Bros on **March 18** (Kinder B class will be **March 17**). If you haven't placed an order for your child and would like to, please make sure to have your order submitted online by **March 11**.
- April's Hot Lunch will be with Boston Pizza on **April 29** (Kinder A class will be on **April 27**).  
Ordering cut off for April's Hot Lunch is **April 22**.
- There are larger sized portions at the bottom of the menus for Boston Pizza
- If you have any questions or concerns or are interested in helping with our hot lunch program, please reach out to Laelia at [president.fass@gmail.com](mailto:president.fass@gmail.com).



#### **VOLUNTEERS:**

We will be looking for lots of volunteers this year! Please let us know if you can help us out. We will be looking for volunteers for a variety of positions and fundraisers.

- Committee Heads and members (hot lunch program, bottle drives, fundraisers, etc.)
- Marketing Coordinator
- Volunteer Coordinator

Email Laelia at [president.fass@gmail.com](mailto:president.fass@gmail.com) for more information.

#### **MEMBERSHIPS:**

Become a member of the Fundraising Association! Have a say and let your voice be heard!

- Membership forms can be found [here](#) or you can email Danielle at [secretary.fass@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.fass@gmail.com) for more information.

#### **FUNDRAISERS:**

##### **PURDY'S EASTER FUNDRAISER**

- **Keep an eye out for information coming home with your child(ren) this week!**
- All orders must be paid for and submitted by **March 24**.
- Order pickup will be **April 14-17**.
- **HAVE A SNEAK PEAK AT THE [ONLINE CATALOGUE AND ORDER FORM!](#)**
- If you have any questions, contact Danielle at [secretary.fass@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.fass@gmail.com)

##### **COBS - Fort Sask Location**

- Just mention Southpointe School when you are making a purchase.
- Cobs gives back 5% of what we spend!

##### **FLIPGIVE**

- For online shopping (Old Navy, Indigo, Canadian Tire, Walmart, Home Depot, Starbucks and more!)
- Just download the app, use the code K2TQ9X and start shopping!

#### **Literacy at Home**



[EIPS March Madness Brackets](#)

[EIPS March Madness Booklist](#)

[Instructions on how to participate](#)

Follow along on the [Official Website!](#)

### **Your Future: Post-Secondary and Career Fair – Spring Session**

Thinking about attending post-secondary school after graduation? Exploring career options? Not sure on the career or sector? Plan to attend the hybrid spring session of Your Future: Post-Secondary and Career Fair—taking place on March 10, 2022.

The in-person portion of the event brings together a variety of colleges, universities, polytechnic, private schools and sector experts in one place. Meanwhile, the virtual component includes additional opportunities to attend sessions from several colleges, universities and sector experts. Both events are free and open to all students in grades 9 through 12.

Participating students and family members—attending both the in-person and virtual sessions—will have the chance to meet with representatives from each attending post-secondary institutions, ask questions, talk to experts about various career sectors, learn about future career trends, plus much more.

### **Event Details:**

*Date:* March 10, 2022

*In-person:* 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

**Location:** Strathcona County Agora  
401 Festival Lane, Sherwood Park

**Virtual:** Times and schedule to be confirmed

Visit [www.eips.ca/students/your-future](http://www.eips.ca/students/your-future) for the list of vendors.

## **EIPS Career Pathways**

### **March 2022 Career Pathways News**



Career Pathways is designed to develop skills that students can apply in their daily lives when preparing for entry into the workplace or for further learning opportunities. Competencies achieved will allow students to make relevant connections with work and/or post-secondary training.

Mission: To provide authentic, relevant, and engaging career opportunities and foster growth and readiness for life after school.

## **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. Try to remind your child about the dangers of thin ice, obey all posted signs, take 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—greyness indicates the presence of water.



## **UPCOMING DATES**

<b>March 4</b>	NO SCHOOL – Professional Learning Day
<b>March 8</b>	<a href="#">International Women’s Day</a>
<b>March 8 - 12</b>	Substitute Appreciation Week
<b>March 14</b>	<a href="#">Pi Day</a>
<b>March 14-18</b>	Week of Inspirational Math
<b>March 16</b>	School Council & Fundraising Society virtual meeting – 4:30 pm
<b>March 17</b>	Tu/Th Kindergarten Hot Lunch
<b>March 18</b>	Hot Lunch
	Term 2 Report Cards/Grades Published Online - 3:00 pm
<b>March 21</b>	<a href="#">World Poetry Day</a>
<b>March 25</b>	NO SCHOOL – Day-in-Lieu for Parent Teacher Interviews
<b>Mar 28 – Apr 1</b>	NO SCHOOL – Spring Break
<b>April 6</b>	Early Dismissal Day (end of the day 1:51 pm)