



SouthPointe Newsletter

Every Day, Every Student, A Success.



southpointeschool.ca



Principal's Message

We are excited to have students and staff back in our building to start the year. Our students have settled in well and we have had a smooth startup. We would like to thank all staff, students and parents for their help and support as we navigate back-to-school routines.

We are hosting our Meet the Teacher evening on September 14 between 5:30-7:00. This a drop-in event that will allow students and parents to visit their classroom and introduce themselves to their child's teacher. We hope everyone can join us to say hello.

Thank you to all the junior high students that participated in volleyball tryouts. Our teams have been finalized and the students and coaches are excited for the start of the season.

Our first School Council and Fundraising Association for SouthPointe School meeting will be September 21 at 4:30 in the large flex space. We welcome all parents that are interested in joining us.

We would like to thank you for your positivity, support and encouragement as we start our new school year. We feel lucky to be a part of the SouthPointe family.

Carol Brown, Principal

Jay Robertson, Assistant Principal

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, park or allow your child to walk through the bus lanes at any time.** We also ask parents not to park in the accessible stalls at the front of the school or in the staff parking lot. Thank you for modeling safety and respect in this manner.

Drop Off and Pick Up

All students should be using their designated doors to enter and exit the school at the beginning and end of the school day. 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 before going to class. Picking up your child early? Please let the teacher and the office know in advance. Once you are here, you can call the office at 780-998-2747 and we will send your child out or you can come into the main office. Thank you for continuing to sign in at the office if you are at the school for an appointment.



Bell Schedule

School starts: 8:15 a.m.

Lunch: 11:13 - 11:53 a.m. (Early Out lunch: 11:24 a.m. – 12:07 p.m.)

Regular school ends: 2:51 p.m. (Early Out school ends: 1:51 p.m.)

Improving home-school communication

To enhance communication between families and schools, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) created 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 guide also offers useful tools and resources schools, and families can use to enhance face-to-face meetings, email communication and various social media efforts. EIPS encourages all families and schools to review the guide at:

[Communication Protocol for Schools](#)

Update your PowerSchool information

The EIPS Correction and Verification Form is now available online through your [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#). Use the form to access and update your child's records information—including address, parent and guardian information, emergency contacts and medical information. Reviewing the form and submitting updates ensures the school has the most up-to-date information regarding your child.

When reviewing the form, pay close attention to all listed phone numbers, email addresses and emergency contact information. Also, if you recently moved, now is the time to ensure the Division has your updated address. Throughout the year, the Division and school uses the listed information to communicate with families about important information, including updates, the latest news and event.

[EIPS Correction and Verification Form](#)

Review and update the form by Sept. 22, 2022.

For more information about the PowerSchool Correction and Verification Form, contact the school office at 780-998-2747.

Download the SchoolMessenger App

SouthPointe School and the Division use the SchoolMessenger platform for communicating with families—through both phone and email. Be sure to add communications@eips.ca and general.sps@eips.ca to your safe sender list to avoid having important messages funneled into your junk mail folder.

The easiest way to stay connected is to download the SchoolMessenger app. Get the latest updates direct to your mobile device and enable push notifications to never miss a message. Families can also check back on past messages—for up to 30 days—directly in the app rather than searching to find an old message buried in your inbox. Download the SchoolMessenger app from the [App Store](#) or [Google Play](#) today.



Coming soon—the Safe Arrivals absence reporting tool will be rolled out within the SchoolMessenger app later this school year. Families will be able to quickly and easily report a child’s absence directly in the app. No more phone calls or emails required. Stay tuned for updates in the coming months.

Hour Zero Drills

Please discuss [these Hour Zero drills](#) with your children and reinforce the importance of [listening carefully to teacher instructions](#). The most likely scenarios we will face, and we have experienced in the past, are wildlife, severe weather, and various situations outside. Our goal is not to instill fear but to be prepared for different situations should they occur.



Our first drill will be held next Thursday, September 15, at 1:30 pm. If you have any questions or would like to discuss these drills, please contact Jay Robertson, Assistant Principal.

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 the applicable subscription option:

- Download to iCal
- Add to Google Calendar
- Subscribe to Calendar

NOTE: Options are located above the calendar.

Once you click on the desired subscription option, follow the instructions. Within seconds, your calendar will contain all SouthPointe’s important dates including holidays, school-closures days, planned activities, events and more.

Terry Fox Run

SouthPointe is proud to be participating in the 2022 Terry Fox School Run on Friday, September 23. Students will be encouraged to wear either a Terry Fox shirt or Canada colours on the run day.

Please help our students make a difference in the lives of so many Canadians affected by cancer. During the week of September 19-23, each classroom will be collecting

“Toonies for Terry” (any monetary amount will be accepted). As an added incentive, the classroom in each of the three divisions raising the most money will earn a PIZZA PARTY! Together we can all make a difference!



Volunteers Needed



We are looking for volunteers to coach or help to coach, with another staff member, our junior high volleyball and basketball teams. The commitment is one game and two practices per week. Each team typically participates in two tournaments per season. Practice and games start at 3:00pm. We are also looking for people interested in refereeing both volleyball and basketball. An honorarium is available for those willing to referee. Please contact the school if you have an interest and are willing to either coach or referee volleyball or basketball.



Pay School fees online!

School fee information for the 2022-23 school year will be posted on the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#) in late September. All fees are due within 30 days of being posted. To access your fee information, simply log in to the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#) and go to "Student Fees." There you can view your fees and pay online using a credit card.

Don't forget to log in to the PowerSchool Parent Portal regularly throughout the year. Fees are often added to your child's account to cover the cost of certain school activities such as field trips, class projects, athletic-team fees and more. Additionally, junior high and senior high fees can change as courses are added and deleted.

If you're unable to pay your school fees, you can apply to have certain [fees waived](#) by submitting an [Application for a Waiver of Fees](#). The application deadline is Dec. 15, 2022.

For more information about school fees, waivers and payment deadlines visit [eips.ca](#). Alternatively, contact Joanne Warwa, Business Manager at SouthPointe School at 780-998-2747.

2022-23 Staff List

Certificated Staff

ECS	Mrs. Ford, Mrs. Henderson, Ms. Salkeld
Grade 1	Ms. Foster, Ms. Sheridan
Grade 1/2	Mrs. Gulseth
Grade 2	Mrs. Lechelt, Mrs. Sadownyk, Mr. Yung
Grade 3	Ms. Germaine, Mrs. Mitchell, Ms. Oram
Grade 4	Miss Melnyk, Mrs. Beasley (Mr. Smith)
Grade 4/5	Mrs. Posh Das
Grade 5	Mrs. Bossert, Mr. Epp
Grade 6	Mrs. Booker, Mr. Henderson
Grade 7/8/9	Mrs. Estey, Mrs. Henry, Ms. Lichak, Ms. Louma, Ms. McKee, Mrs. Nelson, Mr. Nyznyk, Mr. Sudyk
Literacy/Numeracy	Mrs. Beasley
Music	Ms. Basaraba
Principal	Miss Brown
Assistant Principal	Mr. Robertson
School Counsellor	Mrs. Arnason



Classified Staff

Educational Assistants:

ECS	Mrs. Boychuk, Mrs. Scott
Grade 1	Mrs. Butler, Ms. Parvez
Grade 2	Mrs. Hammel
Grade 3	Mrs. Pitters
Grade 4	Mrs. Kenny, Mrs. Osicki
Grade 5	Ms. Williams
Grade 6	Mrs. Dykstra, Ms. Gaudet
Grade 7	Mrs. Hamilton, Mrs. Zielinski
Grade 9	Mrs. Huren
Library Assistant	Mrs. Adams
Business Manager	Mrs. Warwa
Secretary	Mrs. Barker

Meet the SouthPointe Teachers!

SouthPointe School would like to invite you to Meet the Teacher night on Wednesday, September 14 from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. Parents/guardians and students can go directly to the classrooms to meet teachers. We will also have Brightspace and PowerSchool Parent Portal drop-in assistance from 5:30 – 6:30 pm in the large flex space. Please bring your Brightspace or Parent Portal log in information.

Numeracy at Home

The benefits of reading stories to our children at nighttime have been shared countless times over, and for good reason. Reading improves literacy skills. Why is it that we don't do math with our children before bed?

[Math Before Bed](#) is a collection of prompts that can inspire mathematical discussions that you and your children can have before bed, at dinner, or anytime.



Each prompt on [this site](#) shows you and your child a perplexing problem. Sometimes there is one right answer and sometimes there are many right answers. The purpose of each question is to generate a discussion about HOW you determined an answer. If you find one answer, try to find another. You could complete one prompt a night, or many prompts.” Considering checking out this website and integrating math into your child’s bedtime routine!

Fundraising Association Update

NEXT MEETING:

- Sept 21, 2022 at 4:30 pm (IN-PERSON! - at the school in the learning commons)
- All parents are welcome to join our meetings each month. Keep up to date on what’s happening in your child(ren)’s school.

HOT LUNCH:

- Hot Lunch will commence in October this year.

- We are transitioning to a new website that will be more suitable for the size of our school. This will allow segregation of the days to the three divisions plus kindergarten to aid in less confusion and hopefully more options for vendors. Most likely there will be three different hot lunch dates in the month to accommodate this.
- Details on the new site will come out soon! We are working hard to get the website up and running. Watch for a SchoolMessenger email with more details!
- If you have any questions, concerns or suggestions or are interested in helping with our hot lunch program, please reach out to Laelia at president.fass@gmail.com or spsshotlunch@gmail.com

VOLUNTEERS:

We are looking for a lot of volunteers this year for a variety of positions and fundraisers! Please let us know if you would like to help us out in any of the following:

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

Email Laelia at president.fass@gmail.com for more information.

MEMBERSHIPS:

- Become a member of the Fundraising Association! Have your say and let your voice be heard.
- Membership forms can be found [here](#) or you can email Danielle at secretary.fass@gmail.com for more information.

ONGOING FUNDRAISERS

COBS (Fort Saskatchewan location):

- Just mention Southpointe School when you are making a purchase.
- Cobs gives back 5% of what we spend! For the 2021-22 school year \$350.00 was given back to the school from this fundraiser!

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!

FALL FUNDRAISERS

POPCORN RUN:

- Fort Saskatchewan is having a Popcorn Run on Saturday, Sept 17.
- Run, or walk this 5k - 10k course and then enjoy a large bag of kettle corn and fresh lemonade.
- A flyer was sent home with students.
- Visit the Popcorn Run [website](#) to sign up for the run or hit the DONATE NOW button to donate to the school's fundraising account.

BOTTLE DRIVE:

The snow is coming and it's time to clean out those garages from the summer pile up of bottles. The Fundraising Association for SouthPointe School is holding a bottle drive to support our classrooms and students.

When: Saturday, October 15

How:

2 Options

- Flyers will be going out for ease of pick up outside your home. Attach the flyer and have those bags outside by 10:00 am and our trusty volunteers will come by and ensure the bottles are brought to the school.
- Trailer will be set up outside the school for ease of drop off from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon

This is a perfect opportunity to get the kids involved. Please see below for volunteers needed.

- 15 volunteers to deliver flyers in the afternoon on Thursday, Oct 13 and/or Friday, October 14 (15 routes)
- 6 trucks/drivers to drive routes for pickup on Saturday, October 15 from 10:00 to 12:00 pm
- 4 volunteers for trailer at school on Sat, Oct 15 from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm

If you wish to volunteer, please email volunteer.fass@gmail.com or via Facebook page post.

Video surveillance on buses

Did you know each EIPS bus is equipped with video surveillance?

Video surveillance and equipment help:

- ensure the safety of all students, drivers and property; and
- discourage destructive acts.

Regularly basis, EIPS Student Transportation reviews the video recordings, in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act. The recordings assist the department with monitoring student and driver conduct and may be used as evidence in a disciplinary matter.

For more information about the collection, use and disclosure of personal information, contact the EIPS FOIP Co-ordinator at 780-464-3477.

UPCOMING DATES

September 23	Terry Fox School Run Day
September 26	Picture Day for Mon/Wed kindergarten and grade 7, 8 & 9
September 27	Picture Day for Tues/Thurs kindergarten and grade 1 – 6
September 29	Orange Shirt Day
September 30	NO SCHOOL - National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
October 5	World Teachers' Day Early Dismissal (end of the day 1:51 p.m.)
October 7	NO SCHOOL – Professional Learning Day
October 10	NO SCHOOL – Thanksgiving Day
October 20 & 21	Parent Teacher Interviews



Hour Zero Drills

Evacuation/Fire

- “Evacuation” is used when the fire alarm sounds. This alarm requires all students and staff to leave the school and go to a designated location.
- In some cases, this may mean only going outside and away from the school building until it is safe to re-enter the school.
- In other cases, students and staff may need to go to a designated evacuation center. Parents would be informed of the alternate location via the school’s crisis notification network.

On Alert

- “On Alert” indicates there is a potential situation OUTSIDE and most often it has nothing to do with our school (wildlife in area, severe weather).
- When an “On Alert” is called, staff and students are directed to their classrooms, when outside they are to return to their classrooms.
- Movement is restricted in or out of classrooms, normal classroom activities continue.
- Staff are “on alert” and maintain situational awareness and are prepared to execute further action if needed.

Hold and Secure

- “Hold and Secure” is used when there is an immediate situation OUTSIDE (in the neighborhood).
- All exterior doors/windows are locked, interior doors remain in a normal state and normal classroom activities continue.
- Keep away from exterior windows and doors.
- No one is allowed in or out of the building.

Shelter-in-Place

- “Shelter-in-Place” is used when there is an immediate situation OUTSIDE (tornado, severe weather).
- All doors and windows are closed. Keep away from all doors and windows.
- All staff and students are directed to their designated “shelter-in-place” area.
- No one can leave their designated “shelter-in-place” area.
- Prepare for possible evacuation or “drop-cover-hold”.

Drop-Cover-Hold

- “Drop-Cover-Hold” is used when there is a situation happening to our building NOW (tornado, severe weather).
- All staff and students will drop under desk/sturdy table. Get down onto knees, curl chest to knees, clasp hands behind neck, put face down.
- Stay under cover with head down between knees. Cover face and eyes.
- Hold onto desk or table. Prepare for possible evacuation.

Lockdown

- “Lockdown” is used when there is a situation happening INSIDE the building.
- All staff and students are directed to closest lockdown zone/room. Lock and secure all doors and windows.
- Take cover, keep away from all doors and windows, stay out of sight lines.
- Do not allow anyone in or out of rooms.

Please discuss these drills with your children and reinforce the importance of listening carefully to teacher instructions. The most likely scenarios we will face, and we have experienced in the past, are wildlife, severe weather, and various situations outside. Our goal is not to instill fear but to be prepared.