



southpointeschool.ca

SouthPointe Newsletter

Every Day, Every Student, A Success.



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.

A number of extracurricular activities have started for our students. The junior high students have participated in division cross country running meets and junior and senior volleyball teams. Mrs. Basaraba

has started an elementary choir and junior high band clubs. Thank you to all the staff for taking the time to support our student's interests.

Our grade 5 and 6 students have started to do some community building activities as well. Once a month for the full year students have signed up to participate in either: SYNC (Seniors and Youth Networking Communities), coding, sports, multiculturalism or land connections. Students started last month and are excited to continue with these opportunities. A big thank you to the grade 5 and 6 teachers for making these opportunities a possibility.

October 3-7 was Read in Week. This year's theme was *Choose your own Adventure*. SouthPointe School students have participated in several activities this week to celebrate the joys of reading. A big thank you to all our community guest speaker that came in to read with our students this year. The community support has been phenomenal. We encourage all parents to take some time during the weekend to read with their kids.

School Picture retakes will be occurring on October 18 (Tues/ Thurs ECS and grade 1-6 students) and October 19 (Mon/Wed ECS and junior high students) for those students that were away or would like a retake. Please come prepared to have your picture taken.

Parent Teacher Interviews will be held October 19 & 20 between 4:30-7:30 pm. These interviews will take place in person. Information can be found in this newsletter 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 will also be hosting a book fair during parent teacher interviews this year in our learning commons. Please feel free to peruse the book fair before your interview times. The book fair will close at 7:30 each evening.

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 contact the school.

Carol Brown, Principal



**What do you get if you divide the circumference of
a pumpkin by its diameter?**

PUMPKIN PI

Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent Teacher Interviews are taking place between 4:30-7:30 pm on Wednesday, October 19 and Thursday, October 20, 2022. We will be using the online booking system for scheduling an in-person meeting between parents and teachers. Bookings will open on Wednesday, October 12 at 12:00 pm (noon). Go to schoolinterviews.ca and use event code: **kzmt5**.

These interviews give parents and teachers an opportunity to discuss the progress students have made to 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 November 25, 2022.



We invite you to share in a celebration of books and reading during our Parent Teacher Interviews on **October 19 and October 20** from **4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.** in the Learning Commons. The fair will be open during those school days for students to shop as well. Grades 1-3 will shop during first recess, grades 7-9 during lunch break, and grades 4-6 during last recess.

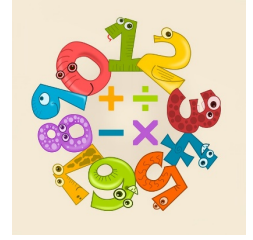
For parents, family and friends who cannot come to the school, we're excited that you will still be able to shop our Virtual Book Fair Extension on our Book Fair dates using this link:
virtualbookfairs.scholastic.ca/pages/5187816

The Scholastic Classroom Wish List program will be part of our fair once again. To assist in adding to classroom libraries you may purchase a book at the fair that is on your child's teacher's wish list. If you would like to participate the display will be setup in the library during our fair.

Please watch for the Scholastic flyers coming home with your child. Just a reminder that the fair now accepts all forms of payments (debit, credit, cash or cheque) for your convenience. Thank you in advance for supporting this very important library fundraiser. We look forward to seeing you there!

Enhancing literacy and numeracy

As part of Elk Island Public Schools' (EIPS) ongoing efforts to enhance the literacy and numeracy of students in all grade levels, the Division is once again administering the Star Early Literacy and Star Reading assessment tools in the 2022-23 school year. The Division's also launching a new assessment, called Star Math. These tools focus on literacy and numeracy, are digitally based and offer an opportunity for students to demonstrate their learning. The goal: To provide timely information to teachers, help enhance classroom instruction and identify student learning needs.



Three times a year, EIPS students in Grade 1 complete the Star Early Literacy assessment and students in grades 2-12 complete the Star Reading assessment. Both assessments are administered electronically and take about 20 minutes. Students in grades 2 through 10 also complete the Star Math, a mathematic screening tool. It, too, is administered electronically and takes about 30 minutes for students to complete. The results offer teachers a clearer picture of a student's learning needs and help determine if subsequent instructional planning is required. *NOTE:* Semester students, complete the Star Math twice, at the start and end of the course.

In addition to the Star assessments, Alberta Education now mandates all students in grades 1-3 complete additional literacy and numeracy assessments. Students in Grade 2 and Grade 3 completed these provincial assessments in September. Grade 1 students will complete the assessments in January 2023. EIPS also administers the assessments to all Grade 4 students to gauge learning loss from the pandemic, which the Division is now analyzing.

The scores of the assessments aren't used toward a student's grade, and there is no need to study ahead of time. The tools simply provide the teacher with information to better understand where each student is in terms of reading comprehension and mathematic ability. If, after analyzing the results, it's determined a student can benefit from extra support, the teacher will contact the family to discuss possible support strategies.

For more information about the Division's Star and MIPI assessment tools, contact EIPS Supports for Students at 780-464-3477.

Pay School Fees Online!

School fee information for the 2022-23 school year is now posted on the PowerSchool Parent Portal. 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 them online. Please note: fee payments cannot be made through the PowerSchool app.

Don't forget to also 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 various school activities such as field trips, class projects, extracurricular activities fees and more.

If circumstances exist where you are unable to pay your 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 www.eips.ca/schools/fees and <https://www.southpointeschool.ca/about/fees>. Alternatively, contact Joanne Warwa, Business Manager, at SouthPointe School at 780-998-2747.



Counsellor's Corner

Digital citizenship is learning how to navigate the digital world in a safe and responsible way. To help support digital citizenship within our school community we partnered with Fort Saskatchewan Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) and hosted SAFFRON presentations for our junior high students on internet safety. If you have a student in grades 3-6 FCSS along with Boys and Girls club

(BGC) are hosting a SAFFRON internet safety presentation on November 9 from 12-1 ([registration](#) required, lunch is provided!) at BGC. During these presentations students learn how to set boundaries when using popular apps, how to maintain privacy in the digital world, and the magnitude of the internet. If you are looking for more information to support your child's healthy engagement in the digital world, consider checking out this website <https://mediasmarts.ca/parents>, or attending a drop-in caregiver session on Wednesday October 19 from 7-9pm at BGC called [Cyberworld: What happens when you click send?](#) For more information about sessions offered through FCSS click [here](#).

AHS offers free online sessions for caregivers of school aged children as well as adults in the community who want to learn more about mental health. The focus of the October sessions is parenting teens in the 21st century and supporting children and adolescents with ADHD. For more information check out the [Caregiver Education Series October Newsletter](#).

Introducing



EIPS has begun migrating school and Division forms to the online Permission Click platform. Many families will have already received one or more forms within the new system. Permission Click makes the form submission process for families simple and straightforward. Forms are also easily accessible and fillable from your mobile device. Families will generally receive forms in one of two ways—sent as a link within a SchoolMessenger email or in a direct email from Permission Click sent to the first parent or guardian on record in PowerSchool. Be sure to add notifications@permissionclick.com to your safe sender list to ensure required forms aren't mistakenly directed to your junk mail folder.

Terry Fox Run

Terry Fox week was a huge success! We had a great day walking and running around the tracks on the field and coming together for a good cause. We surpassed our school goal of raising \$1000. We have successfully raised \$1852.70 for our 2022 Terry Fox Run! Thank you to everyone who donated. With your support, we are moving closer to Terry's dream of a world without cancer. Way to go SouthPointe Sharks!

Congratulations to these top 3 classrooms on earning a pizza party: Mrs. Ford's Kindergarten, Mr. Yung's Grade 2, and Mrs. Das's Grade 4/5! Once again, thank you to everyone who came together to try to make this our biggest year! Terry united the country 42 years ago with his dream of a world without cancer. Our school has united this year to carry on Terry's legacy and we should all be proud of the difference we are making! Thank you. Let's all continue to Try Like Terry!





Do you know what KidSport™ Fort Saskatchewan is all about?

KidSport™ Fort Saskatchewan is a charitable organization that provides support to children to remove the financial barriers that prevent them from playing organized sport. We do this by providing financial assistance to cover registration fees for kids up to the age of 18, and strategically partnering with Sports Central in Edmonton to provide access to equipment. Our volunteers use a confidential application process to provide grants to families in our community. Upon registering their child in a season of sport of their choice, parents or guardians complete an online or paper application for KidSport funding. These applications must be supported by proof of need - typically, a CRA Notice of Assessment, Canada Child Benefit statement, Alberta Health Benefit Card or 3 consecutive pay stubs for each adult in the home. Visit our website at kidsportcanada.ca/alberta/fort-saskatchewan/ or email us at fortsask@kidsport.ab.ca for more information.

What is truly remarkable is that public awareness of KidSport™ programming is primarily spread through word of mouth. If your family or someone you know could benefit from KidSport™ support, please visit our website at kidsportcanada.ca/alberta/fort-saskatchewan/ or email us at fortsask@kidsport.ab.ca for more information.



Music at Southpointe!

Junior High students are invited to join Ms. Basaraba if you are interested in doing some music! There are three options that we will try starting October 12. If you missed the lunch meeting, stop by and introduce yourself to join in the music fun.

- **BAND:** If you have ever wanted to learn to play any band instruments, we will be starting up a band that meets on **Wednesdays after school until 4:00** (except for early dismissal days). This is where you can learn to play instruments like the flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, baritone, and maybe some other options. If you want to do music in high school, this is your chance to get a head start on those instruments.
- **GUITAR:** We will run guitar as a club that meets on **Mondays at lunch**. Come by to learn a few chords and jam to some of your favourite tunes.
- **CHOIR:** If you want to sing, come join us on **Wednesdays at lunch**. Music selection will depend on who is there and what you are interested in.

Grade 4-6 choir is off to a great start this year. Thank you to the students who have been showing up every lunch recess on Tuesdays and Thursdays. We are busy preparing to sing for the Remembrance Day service.

All Grade 4, 5, and 6 classes are beginning to work on recorder. Please make sure that students have their recorder for every class to be ready to play.



Royal Canadian Mounted Police Gendarmerie royale du Canada

Community Safety and Resilience: RCMP info session

On October 19 the Fort Saskatchewan RCMP, along with Alberta RCMP Hate Crimes Unit, are hosting a Community Safety and Resilience Presentation.

- Understanding hate-motivated crime
- Enhancing personal safety
- Victim/community resources
- Community resiliency

Please see [poster](#) for details.



Hi, my name is Kristi Wahl and I am the Youth and Family Coordinator with the City of Fort Saskatchewan FCSS. What is FCSS? It stands for Family and Community Support Services and that is what we are, we are there to help support, lift up and provide navigation to those who need it. My role specifically is to help support and provide resources/trainings/workshops and presentations to schools and local organizations. I also run the Youth Advisory Committee and Youth Council.

I am one very small part of FCSS; Natasha Magas is the Youth Outreach Worker, and her role is to work with children, youth and families aged 6-18 with short term goal orientated support that is aimed at building on youth and families' strengths and abilities.

Amber Grant is the Community Coordinator, and her role is to support and encourage community projects. She is responsible for things like the Good Neighbour, Neighbourhood Connector, and Block Parties to just name a few.

Toni VanVelzen is our Seniors Coordinator, and she supports seniors and families in navigating the senior world. She is an amazing advocate and knows the ins and outs of Senior supports.

Michelle Hoy is the Home Support Coordinator; Home Support provides practical, in-home support services to residents of Fort Saskatchewan. Home Support enables individuals to retain and/or improve their quality of life by enhancing independent living, reducing isolation and promoting a safe and quality home life.

The FCSS Counselling Program is an affordable, professional service designated to address short term counselling needs and focuses on resolving client concerns. Our counsellor Valerie Jansen-Lakusta (M.Ed.) and uses solution focused, cognitive behavioural approaches to assist clients in meeting their counselling goals.

For any questions or to book service please contact FCSS via email FCSSinfo@fortsask.ca or call 780-992-6267.

School Bus Safety Week: October 16-22



Schools throughout Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) are celebrating School Bus Safety Week October 16-22. The theme: 'Make the World Green, Ride Yellow,' which focuses on transportation choice and the environment. Throughout the week, various activities are planned, including information sessions, bus-safety lesson plans and bus-evacuation drills

As part of School Bus Safety Week, SouthPointe School reminds students and families all Division school buses are equipped with a bus-pass scanner, GPS technology, the Child Check-Mate system and surveillance equipment, which allows Student Transportation to better monitor and manage its more than 170 buses. Families and students also have access to the Traversa Ride 360 app, a mobile tool to help determine the location of a bus, projected arrival times and when a child is scanned onto a bus.

For more information visit [EIPS Student Transportation](#) or contact 780-417-8151.

Your Future: Post-Secondary and Career Fair

Thinking about attending post-secondary school after graduation? Not sure on the career or sector? Plan to attend this year's Your Future: Post-Secondary and Career Fair on Oct. 19, 2022.

Hosted by Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS), in partnership with the Educational Liaison Association of Alberta, Your Future is an annual educational fair that brings together colleges, universities, polytechnic and private schools, and sector experts in one place—one of the largest events of its kind in Alberta.

The event is free and open to all students in grades 9 through 12 from both EIPS and Elk Island Catholic Schools. Both students and family members will have the opportunity to meet with representatives from each attending post-secondary institutions; ask questions; talk to experts about various career sectors; learn about future career trends; and much more.

Event Details:

Date: Oct. 19, 2022
Time: 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Location: Strathcona County Agora
401 Festival Lane, Sherwood Park

Numeracy at Home

Games help to lift math off the textbook pages, and they support students' learning about Numbers and Operation." (Marilyn Burns)

Here are some fun ideas that you can work on at home with your child:

- Play Shake & Spill: fill a container or cup (that you cannot see through) with items such as beads, goldfish, mini marshmallows, etc. Determine how many items you have in your cup (start with small numbers) shake the cup, flip it over onto a surface and "spill" some of the items out. Count how many you have spilled and figure out how many are under the cup!
- Play "Who Am I?" This game is great for developing mental math and math vocabulary! Example: "I am an even number. I am greater than 12 but less than 20. The sum of my digits is 7. Who am I?"



- Grab a classic deck of cards and access the free e-book 'Acing Math One Deck At A Time' for instruction and game ideas for you and your child.

Fundraising Association Update

NEXT MEETING:

- October 19, 2022 at 4:30 pm (IN-PERSON! – at the school in the learning commons)
- VERY IMPORTANT!! ANNUAL Meeting where the FASS will be voting on this school years Board Member positions
- FASS Board Members are needed (Secretary, Vice President)
- All parents are welcome to join the FASS meetings each month. Keep up to date on what's happening in your child(ren)'s school.

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

- Committee heads and members (hot lunch program administrator, bottle drives, volunteers, fundraisers, etc.)
- Marketing Coordinator (Facebook posts, posters, etc.)

HOT LUNCH:

- Hot Lunch for October is Papa John's Pizza:
 - * Wednesday, Oct 26 - Grades 1, 2 and 3 + KAF
 - * Thursday, Oct 27 - Grades 4, 5 and 6 + KBH/KBS
 - * Friday, Oct 28 - Grades 7, 8 and 9
- October will be the test month using 3 different days.
- We have transitioned to a new website to accommodate the size of our school. Details on the new site will come out very soon and we are working hard to get the website up and running. Watch for SchoolMessenger email regarding information on how to register and order!
- Volunteers will be needed for hot lunch days (approx. 1 1/2 to 2 hours). If interested, please email volunteer.fass@gmail.com or spshotlunch@gmail.com.
- If you have any questions, concerns or suggestions or are interested in helping with our hot lunch program, please reach out to the hot lunch admin at spshotlunch@gmail.com



MEMBERSHIPS:

- Become a member of the Fundraising Association! Have your say and have your voice 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!) You can even get/reload your gift cards here!
- Just download the app, use the code **K2TQ9X** and start shopping!

FALL FUNDRAISERS

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 Saturday, October 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.

BEAR TRACKS ICE MELT:

The Fundraising Association of SouthPointe School (FASS) is holding a Bear Tracks Ice Melt fundraiser.

- PET FRIENDLY, SAFE ON GRASS AND CONCRETE!
- HURRY, TIME IS RUNNING OUT – Preorders until October 21. \$30.00 per bucket. Don't wait, this product sells out quickly!
- Please email president.fass@gmail.com to order.
- Pick up will begin in November once the delivery date is set and a SchoolMessenger will be sent with details on pick up date and address. Funds will be collected at time of pick up (cash preferred).

Caregiver Education Sessions

Alberta Health Services hosts a variety of virtual caregiver information sessions throughout the year 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 [Caregiver Education](#) to see the monthly caregiver sessions.

UPCOMING DATES

October 3-7	Read In Week
October 7	NO SCHOOL – Professional Learning Day
October 10	NO SCHOOL – Thanksgiving Day
October 12	Parent Teacher Interview bookings open, 12:00 PM
October 16-22	Bus Safety Week
October 18	Picture Retakes – Gr 1-6 & Tues/Thurs kindergarten
October 19	Picture Retakes – Gr 7-9 & Mon/Wed kindergarten



	Your Future, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
October 19-20	Parent Teacher Interviews and Scholastic Book Fair, 4:30 – 7:30 pm
October 26	Hot Lunch – Grade 1-3 & Mon/Wed kindergarten
October 27	Hot Lunch – Grade 4-6 & Tues/Thurs kindergarten
October 28	Hot Lunch – Grade 7-9
	Hat Day – bring a food or cash donation for the food bank
November 2	Early Dismissal (end of the day 1:51 p.m.)
November 4	Remembrance Day Ceremony

IN-PERSON INFORMATION SESSION
(VIRTUAL OPTION AVAILABLE VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS
UPON REGISTRATION)

COMMUNITY SAFETY AND RESILIENCE

October 19th, 2022 @ 6:00 PM

Location: The RCMP Detachment Front
Community Room @ 200 Town Crest Road, Fort
Saskatchewan, AB

- **UNDERSTANDING HATE-MOTIVATED CRIME**
- **ENHANCING PERSONAL SAFETY**
- **VICTIM/COMMUNITY RESOURCES**
- **COMMUNITY RESILIENCY**



To register, email: KCOMMUNITYENGAGEMENT@RCMP-GRC.GC.CA

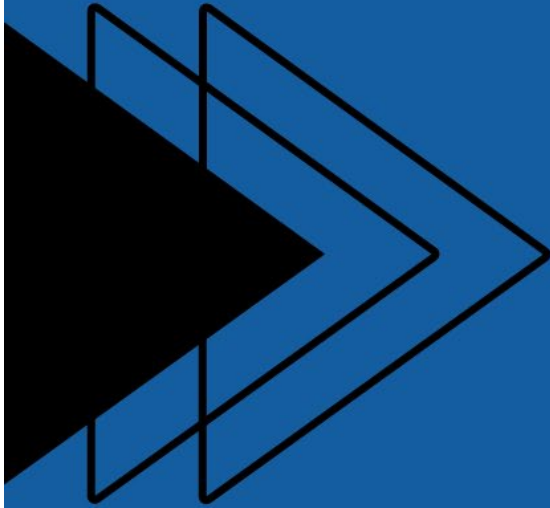
Deadline to register: October 12th, 2022



Royal Canadian Mounted Police
Gendarmerie royale du Canada

Canada

Cyberworld: What Happens When Youth Press Send?



October 19. 2022

7:00 – 9:00 pm

@ BGC Fort Saskatchewan

**Registration not required*

A presentation for parents and caregivers on practicing internet safety with youth. The presentation also discusses online child sexual exploitation and how to respond to it.

For more info call 780.992.6267 or
email FCSSinfo@fortsask.ca

