

# Shark Bites NEWSLETTER

SouthPointe School

## Principal's Message

What a wonderful week it has been at our school! A heartfelt thank you to all the families who joined us for our Night of Music on Wednesday evening. It was such a joy to see our talented students perform, and we're so proud of their hard work. A special shout-out goes to Ms. Yule for her dedication and effort in organizing such a fantastic event!

We'd also like to extend our gratitude to FASS for organizing the Purdy's Chocolate Fundraiser, and to all of you who supported it and picked up your orders. Your contributions go a long way in supporting our school community.

This past week was a busy one, with class photos taking place and junior high students submitting their elective choices for the next school year—thank you for ensuring they were chosen on time.

**We have extended the deadline to noon on April 22<sup>nd</sup>.** Please access the parent portal to support your child with preferences for their electives.

A reminder that there is no school on Friday or Monday as we observe the Easter holiday. We hope you enjoy a restful and joyful long weekend with your families.

Finally, congratulations to our badminton students, who have been performing exceptionally well in their recent tournaments. We're proud of their sportsmanship and dedication!

Wishing you all a safe and happy Easter!

Laurie Caines, Principal

## NEXT WEEK



Spring Into Action  
Food Drive!  
April 14-30!



Monday (21)	Easter Monday (No School)
Tuesday (22) 	EIAA Sr Badminton Tournament @ SPS & JP II Grade 6 & Jr High Band @ 3:00-3:45PM
Wednesday (23)	EIAA Jr Badminton Tournament @ FSC, FES & FH Grade 1-3 & M/W Kinder Hot Lunch Gr 4-6 Track Practice @ 3:00PM-3:45PM School Council & FASS Meeting @ 4:00PM
Thursday (24) <small>Hand out Flyers for Bottle Drive (FASS)</small>	Grade 4-6 & T/Th Kinder Hot Lunch Gr 4-6 Track Practice @ 3:00PM-3:45PM Wacky Hair Day!
Friday (25)	Grade 7-9 Kinder Hot Lunch

# April

## Coming Up this Month

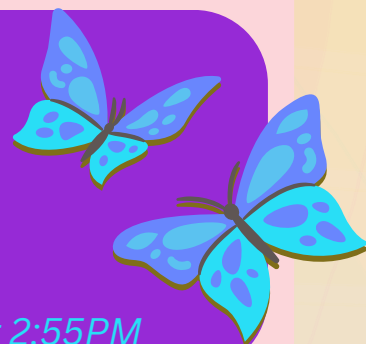
April 18-30	Spring Into Action Food Bank Drive
April 18	No School (Good Friday)
April 21	No School (Easter Monday)
April 22	<u>Earth Day</u>
April 22	SPS Hosting EIAA Sr Badminton Playoffs
April 22	EIPS Career Pathways Info Session @ 6:00PM @ Ardrossan
April 23	EIAA Jr Badminton Playoffs
April 23	Gr 1-3 and Mon/Wed Kindergarten Hot Lunch
April 23	School Council & FASS Meeting @ 4:00PM
April 23 & 24	Deliver Bottle Drive Flyers with FASS
April 24	Wacky Hair Day
April 24	Gr 4-6 and Tues/Thur Kindergarten Hot Lunch
April 25	Gr 7-9 Hot Lunch
April 26	SPS Bottle Drive @ 10:00AM
April 28	Federal Election



## School Start & End Times

8:10AM - School Begins  
11:08AM to 11:48AM - Lunch  
2:46PM - School Dismissed  
(1:46PM - Early Dismissal Days)

*Please note supervision begins at 7:55AM and ends at 2:55PM*



# Frog Moon

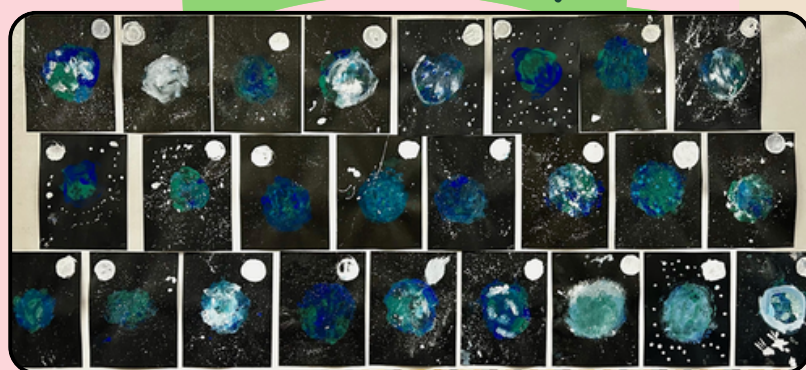
April

[Click Here for EIPS' First  
Nation Metis Inuit April  
Newsletter](#)

## Note:

May (Tim's & Papa  
John's) Hot Lunch  
online ordering is now  
open

## EARTH DAY



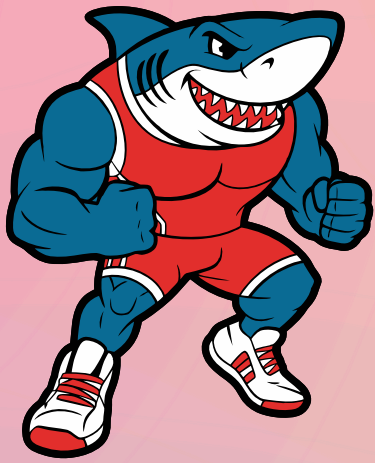
## April Hot Lunch

Grades 1-3 and Mon/Wed K	23 Apr
Grades 4-6 and Tues/Thur K	24 Apr
Grades 7-9	25 Apr

To order next month's hot lunch, go to  
<https://spschool.hotlunches.net/admin/>







## SHARKS ATHLETICS

**Monday (21)**

No School

**Tuesday (22)**

EIAA Sr Badminton @ SPS/JPII

**Wednesday (23)**

EIAA Jr Badminton @ FSC/FES/FH  
Gr 4-6 Track Practice @ 3:00-3:45PM

**Thursday (24)**

Gr 4-6 Track Practice @ 3:00-3:45PM

**Friday (25)**



**GO  
SHARKS!**



## *Grade 4-6 Track*

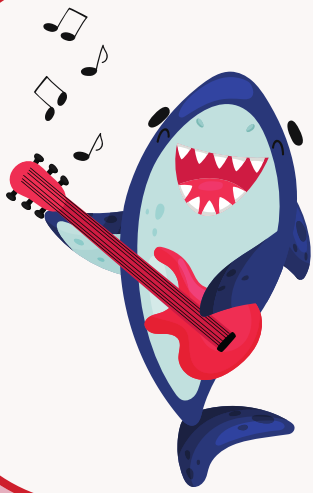
Practices will take place Mon/Wed/Thur from 3:00-3:45PM throughout April & the first week of May.

Our Track Coaches are preparing the team for the EIPS Track Meet on May 8th where they will compete in relay races against EIPS schools.

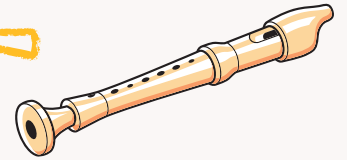
**BRING YOUR  
OWN WATER BOTTLE**

To stay hydrated throughout the day, please ensure your child brings a labeled, non-glass water bottle to school. There are numerous water fountains with water bottle dispensers around the school, so refilling is easy! This not only helps keep them refreshed but also reduces waste, making a positive impact on our environment! Thank you for your support!

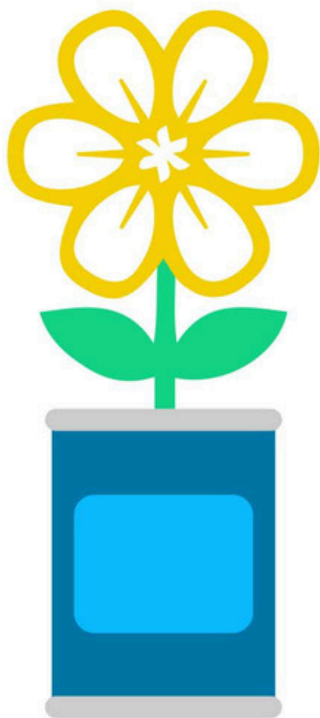




# MUSIC



Gr 4-6 Recorder Club is now finished for the year  
Gr. 6 Hand Chime Club is now finished for the year  
Gr 4-6 Choir will begin again on May 6<sup>th</sup> on Tuesdays at  
Lunch Recess  
Gr. 6 & Jr High Band is on Tuesdays from 3:00-3:45PM



# Spring — INTO — ACTION FOOD DRIVE

## April 14-30

### Spring Food Drive

Beginnning **Monday, April 14** and continuing through to **Wednesday, April 30**, Southpointe School will be collecting Food Bank donations. In addition to the regular school days, we will have bins available at the gym doors to collect donations during the **Night of Music**, (6:00pm Wednesday, April 16). We gratefully accept any toy, non-perishable food, or personal care items that you generously donate.

**Your generosity is appreciated!**

# THANK YOU!



# Counsellor's Corner...

Happy  
**Earth**  
day



Our planet is an amazing place, but it needs our help to thrive! That's why each year on April 22, more than a billion people celebrate Earth Day to protect the planet from things like pollution and deforestation. The first Earth Day was celebrated in 1970. Rallies took place across the country and, by the end of the year, the U.S. government had created the Environmental Protection Agency. By 1990, Earth Day was an event celebrated by more than 140 countries around the globe.

Courtesy of <https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/celebrations/article/earth-day>

## How does Fort Saskatchewan manage our urban forests?

Did you know the City manages over 30,000 trees?

The City's dedicated arborist team actively manages trees on public land through pruning and maintenance to mitigate, reduce, or remove potential hazards. Trees are also assessed regularly for pests and disease and are treated accordingly. Trees are removed only as a last resort.

They also have a yearly tree planting program, which aims to replace any trees that were removed. Their arborists also advise on which tree species and locations are suitable in new developments, so the trees have the best chance at survival.

The City also takes part in province-wide monitoring for elm bark beetles and Dutch elm disease through programs like StopDED and the Edmonton Pest Lab.

Courtesy of <https://www.fortsask.ca/en/living-here/earth-day.aspx>

If you have any question, please feel free to reach out: [Kofi.Frimpong@eips.ca](mailto:Kofi.Frimpong@eips.ca)



# What's Happening AROUND SOUTHPOINTE...

SouthPointe School YEARBOOK

[ybpay.ca](http://ybpay.ca)

Order Deadline:  
**May 11, 2025**

Price:  
**\$20.00**

Yearbook ID Code:  
**14214925**

Don't miss out!  
Order your yearbook today!



Scan the QR code or visit:  
<https://ybpay.lifetouch.ca/>  
To purchase your copy.



## MAY 11

## YEARBOOK

Hey, families! The school year is almost over, and it's time to grab your very own yearbook! It's full of fun photos and special memories from the year. Yearbooks are only \$20 each. Be sure to order before **May 11** - don't miss out on this cool keepsake!

Order your yearbook [HERE](#) and use the code 14214925.



Due to the muddy conditions outside, we kindly ask parents to send extra pants & socks with their child to school to help keep them comfortable and dry throughout the day.



## WACKY HAIR DAY

### APRIL 24



GET READY TO SHOW OFF YOUR WILD SIDE! STAFF & STUDENTS ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE FUN AND COME TO SCHOOL WITH THE WACKIEST, MOST CREATIVE HAIRSTYLES YOU CAN DREAM UP!



# What's Happening AROUND SOUTHPOINTE...



## BOTTLE DRIVE


### **FASS BOTTLE DRIVE – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

**FASS is hosting a Bottle Drive on Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup> to raise funds for 40 Chromebooks and a charging cart for our students — a fantastic investment in their learning experience!**

**But we can't do it without your help.**

**We urgently need volunteers to make this fundraiser a success:**

 **16 volunteers to deliver flyers on Wednesday, April 23 or Thursday, April 24**

 **6 volunteers with trucks on Saturday, April 26 (10AM–12PM) to collect bottles around the community**

 **6 volunteers to help unload bottles at the school (10AM-12PM)**

**If these spots aren't filled, we may have to cancel the fundraiser.**

**This is also a great way for kids to get involved and support their school!**

**To volunteer, please contact Laelia at 403-612-9580 or email [president.fass@gmail.com](mailto:president.fass@gmail.com).**

**Let's come together and make this happen!**



# FASS/School Council Info

Canteen will be open on Tuesday, APRIL 22 from 9:00AM-3:00PM as we host the EIAA Badminton Playoffs.

We are pleased to offer all of our **JUNIOR HIGH STUDENTS** the option to purchase from the Canteen that day.

Items to purchase are: Hot dogs, popcorn, chips, chocolate bars, fruit, freezies, popsicles, drinks and taco in a bag.

**CASH ONLY WILL BE ACCEPTED**



## Growing Smiles Spring Plant Fundraiser

The Growing Smiles Spring Plant Fundraiser offers a beautiful selection of hanging baskets, patio planters, vibrant flowers, herbs, and vegetables—perfect for brightening up your home and garden. **Order now** to support our school and get high-quality plants just in time for spring!

## Fundraising Association for SouthPointe School

Order Deadline: May 7 at 12PM

Pickup Date: May 22 @ SPS



**Mark your calendars! Our next School Council Meeting is APRIL 23 at 4:00PM in the Large Flex Space.**



# HOT LUNCH

## **Hot Lunch is OPEN for May!**

To order hot lunches, we use the [spschool.hotlunches.net](https://spschool.hotlunches.net) website.

**Deadline to order for MAY is coming up on May 22<sup>nd</sup> at NOON.**

**Failure to pay for the order by the deadline will result in the order being cancelled.**

If your child is sick on the day of their hot lunch, please call the office **before 10:30AM** and let them know. No refunds will be given if a student is absent on the day of their hot lunch.

**Once the deadline has passed orders cannot be changed or cancelled.**

Should you have any comments, suggestions, or questions you can reach out via email at [spschoolhotlunch@gmail.com](mailto:spschoolhotlunch@gmail.com).

**REMINDER:**  
Please still send  
**SNACKS on Hot  
Lunch Day**

## Hot Lunch Volunteer Opportunity:

We're looking for volunteers to assist with our hot lunch program! As a thank-you, each volunteer will receive a \$5 discount on one child's hot lunch account for their help.

If you are able to volunteer, please email [spschoolhotlunch@gmail.com](mailto:spschoolhotlunch@gmail.com).



# News from EIPS



## *Explore Collegiate Pathways*

In 2025-26, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) will be expanding its Collegiate Pathways programming to provide more opportunities for more students across the Division. Opportunities are available for students entering or returning to Grade 12 in the fall. For students entering grades 10 or 11 next year, the available information will help with course planning throughout senior high.

[Learn more about Collegiate Pathways](#)

[Planning for Grade 12](#)

[Course planning for grades 10 and 11](#)

## **Pre-Kindergarten Programming at EIPS**

Is there a preschooler in your life experiencing identified developmental delays or challenges with speech-language—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 five of its elementary school locations. Applications are now open 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 2021 or 2022, who could benefit from pre-kindergarten programming or want to book an assessment, fill out the [PALS Program Request Form](#) or call 780-417-8219. For more information, visit [eips.ca](http://eips.ca).

### **A big THANK YOU to EIPS Volunteers**

National Volunteer Week takes place April 27 to May 4. On behalf of the Board of Trustees at Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS), I want to say a giant thank you to all EIPS volunteers. This year's theme is Volunteers Make Waves, and that's certainly true in our Division. No matter whether you've chaperoned a field trip, helped out at a hot lunch day or provided support in a classroom—every time you've stepped in a school—you've made a ripple effect that washes over your community. These waves of positivity, hard work and dedication build up and make a momentous impact on a student's experience at school.

So, thank you again for being a part of our ocean at EIPS. The waves you've made—and will continue to create—all contribute to our collective goals of ensuring learning and working environments sustain student learning and amplifying the importance of public education in our province. This

National Volunteer Week, I encourage everyone to celebrate the hundreds of volunteers and thousands of hours put into supporting student growth and achievement at schools across the Division. Cathy Allen Chair, EIPS Board of Trustees



# News from EIPS



Every year, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) publishes an Annual Education Results Report, which outlines the Division's Four-Year Education Plan, growth opportunities, and how it supports students in achieving the best possible outcomes. Read through this year's [EIPS Annual Education Results Report 2023-24](#) and discover how EIPS fosters learning environments for all students to learn, grow and thrive—and why it matters.

March Spotlight: Student Growth and Success

- [Early Learning](#): Ensuring early learners reach developmental milestones
- [Culture of Literacy](#): Dive deep into the data and learn how students are developing strong literacy skills
- [Math Matters](#): Enhancing reasoning, understanding and achievement through numeracy-rich classrooms
- [Boosting Educational Outcomes](#): How EIPS supports the growth and achievement of self-identified First Nations, Métis or Inuit students.
- [Beyond High School](#): Supports and strategies that are creating real-life career pathways for learners

## RELATED INFORMATION

[EIPS Four-Year Education Plan: 2022-26](#)

[EIPS Three-Year Capital Plan: 2025-28](#)



## CAREGIVER MATH SESSION

MATH LOOKS DIFFERENT NOW!

Are you struggling to support your student with math at home?

Join Wes Hosford Elementary as **Betty Morris** from **The Learning Consortium** breaks it down for us.

- ✓ 45 Minute Session per Division
- ✓ Choose to attend DIV 1, DIV 2 or Both
- ✓ Highlights of New Math Curriculum
- ✓ Strategies for Math Learning at Home
- ✓ Suggested Manipulatives and Games

**THURSDAY**  
**17**  
**APRIL**

**6:30 PM** DIV 1 (K - Gr. 3)  
**7:30 PM** DIV 2 (Gr. 4 - 6)

**WES HOSFORD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
207 Granada Blvd. Sherwood Park, AB.



## Make the most of your summer with EIPS Summer School

With more than 40 senior high courses, students can earn credits, upgrade marks, lighten their workloads or finish needed prerequisites.

**Bev Facey Community High**  
99 Colwill Blvd, Sherwood Park

**4-WEEK SESSIONS**  
**JULY 7-31** 8:30 AM to 1 PM

**2-WEEK SESSIONS**  
**JULY 7-18** 8:30 AM to 1 PM  
**JULY 21-31** 8:30 AM to 1:30 PM

**Courses include:**

- Core Senior High Courses
- CALM
- Physical Education
- Land-Based Learning
- Work Experience & RAP
- Workplace Safety

*Plus, online options for English and Social Studies, as well as other complementary courses*

**Registration opens March 17**  
[eipsnextstep.ca/summer-school](https://eipsnextstep.ca/summer-school)

# News from EIPS



## DID YOU KNOW?

EIPS prepares a budget in the spring based on projected enrolment, funding, estimated costs and Board of Trustees budget priorities. Before the Division can finalize its budget for the next school year, we need to wait for the provincial government to provide the funding manual for school authorities and EIPS' funding profile. This year's funding manual is expected to be released in early April and the funding profile should be available mid-March. EIPS plans to publish its spring budget in May. [Learn more](#)

## Get Ready for Kindergarten...

Do you have a child registered in kindergarten next year?  
If so, make sure to attend SouthPointe's upcoming Kindergarten Information Night on May 8<sup>th</sup>. You'll get to:

- tour the school;
- meet the teachers;
- gain insight on play-based learning; and
- see what a typical day looks like



### Kindergarten Information Night 2025

Date: May 8<sup>th</sup>

Time: 5:30-6:30 PM

NOTE TIME  
CHANGE!



Location: SouthPointe School in the Large Flex Space

To make the transition to school as smooth as possible, Elk Island Public Schools has put together a toolkit for families. The kit includes information about registration, important dates, programming options, what to expect, eligibility, finding your designated school, transportation and more.

Additional information about SouthPointe's kindergarten program is available on the [school website](#).



## NAVIGATING THE SHIFT:

APRIL 2025

10  
THU

**SO, NOW YOU HAVE A JUNIOR HIGH STUDENT IN YOUR HOUSE**  
WIN FERGUSON ELEMENTARY 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM

The shift from elementary to junior high is a challenging time, this session is aimed at providing caregivers with ways to support your student with new peer groups, an increased workload, and identity exploration. Learn ways to support your child's independence and help them to make healthy decisions. Learn ways to keep open communication, healthy coping strategies, and learn about resources to help them navigate this transition successfully.

22  
TUES

**SAFFRON PRESENTS: CYBERWORLD**  
FORT SASKATCHEWAN HIGH 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM  
This training is designed for caregivers to learn about the fast-changing world of online safety and its potential dangers. The session will cover safety tips for current social media platforms and gaming sites and discuss the world of online sexual exploitation.

23  
WED

**ANXIETY Q & A SESSION**  
VIRTUAL 7:00 PM - 7:45 PM  
Join Dr. Caroline online where she is available to answer questions you may have around anxiety. This session is open to all and timely if you have signed up for the Anxiety Pre-recorded Session.

★ TO REGISTER: [WWW.FORTSASK.CA/FCSSWORKSHOPS](http://WWW.FORTSASK.CA/FCSSWORKSHOPS)

## NAVIGATING THE SHIFT:

APRIL 2025

28  
MON

**CHILDHOOD ADHD: FROM STRUGGLING TO THRIVING**  
VIRTUAL 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Join this lunch and learn to learn ways to support your child with ADHD as they move from Elementary to Junior High

28  
MON

**SAFFRON PRESENTS: FOUNDATIONS OF CONNECTION**  
DOW CENTENNIAL CENTRE; LIONS PRIDE 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

This training provides parents with strategies for communicating with children and youth at different developmental stages to encourage healthy relationships and build on trust and open communication. The goal is to help every caregiver act as a trusted adult for the children and youth in their lives.

★ TO REGISTER: [WWW.FORTSASK.CA/FCSSWORKSHOPS](http://WWW.FORTSASK.CA/FCSSWORKSHOPS)

# FAST TRACK YOUR CAREER DURING HIGH SCHOOL

Looking to know more about career-focused education programming? The Career Pathways team at Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) is hosting a Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP) and Collegiate Pathways information session. All students in grades 9-12 and their families are invited to attend one of these sessions to learn more about the programs. For those unable to attend, a recap of the session will be available on [eips.ca](http://eips.ca).

### Event Details:

Date: April 22, 2025

Time: 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Ardrossan Junior Senior High

53129 Range Road 222, Ardrossan

Date: April 29, 2025

Time: 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Fort Saskatchewan High  
10002 97 Ave., Fort Saskatchewan

