

# Shark Bites

# NEWSLETTER

SouthPointe School

## Principal's Message

As we welcome the month of May, we're enjoying a stretch of beautiful, warm weather—but as always in spring, we know the rain isn't far behind! Even though this week brings sunshine and heat, forecasts suggest we'll see some wet days ahead. Our field can become quite muddy, so it's a good time to ensure students have rubber boots, splash pants, and extra socks or clothes in their backpacks or lockers to help them stay dry and comfortable.

Our Grade 4-6 track team has been hard at work, training for the upcoming EIPS relay meet on May 8, and our Grade 6 badminton players are preparing for their tournament at Southpointe on May 6. We're so proud of their dedication and spirit!

Looking ahead, Provincial Achievement Tests (PATs) begin this month, with Grade 6 & 9 students writing Part A of their English Language Arts exam. Grade 6 writes on May 28 and Grade 9 on May 29. This will be a regular school day, with classes continuing after the exam. We encourage all students in Grade 6 and Junior High to begin reviewing for their final common exams and PATs, as we head into the final stretch of the school year.

Let's keep up the momentum and enjoy this season of growth, energy, and fresh starts!

Laurie Caines, Principal

## NEXT WEEK

Monday (5)	Gr 4-6 Track Practice @ 3:15PM-4:00PM @ Fort High
Tuesday (6)	Grade 6 & Jr High Band @ 3:00-3:45PM Choir @ Lunch Recess Grade 6 Badminton Tournament @ SPS @ 4:00PM
Wednesday (7)	Early Dismissal @ 1:45PM Growing Smiles Plant Fundraiser Orders Due
Thursday (8)	EIPS Div II Track Meet @ SAP @ 4:00PM 2025-2026 Kindergarten Information Night @ 5:30PM
Friday (9)	

# May

## Coming Up this Month

May 2	Professional Development Day (No School)
May 5-11	Mental Health Week
May 5	Bus Driver Appreciation Day
May 5	<u>Red Dress Day</u>
May 5	Div II Track Practice @ Fort High @ 3:15PM
May 6	Grade 6 Badminton Tournament @ SPS @ 4:00PM
May 7	Early Dismissal @ 1:46PM
May 7	Spring Plant Fundraiser Ordering Deadline at Noon
May 8	EIPS Div II Track Meet @ SAP @ 4:00PM
May 8	Kindergarten Information Night @ 5:30PM
May 10	<u>Bear Witness Day</u>
May 11	Yearbook Orders Due
May 14	Educational Assistant Appreciation Day
May 15	<u>Moose Hide Campaign Day</u>
May 19	Victoria Day (No School)



## 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*



**Our lost and found bin is overflowing with jackets, hoodies, water bottles, and more! If your child is missing anything, we encourage both students and parents to stop by and take a look. All unclaimed items will be donated at the end of the month, so now's the time to reclaim those long-lost belongings!**

## Note:

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

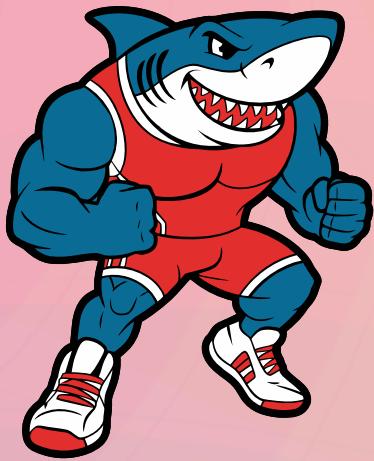
## May Hot Lunch

Grades 1-3 and Mon/Wed K	28 May
Grades 4-6 and Tues/Thur K	29 May
Grades 7-9	30 May

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







## SHARKS ATHLETICS

### **Monday (5)**

Gr 4-6 Track Practice @ 3:15-4:00PM @ Fort High

### **Tuesday (6)**

Grade 6 Badminton Tournament @ SPS @ 4:00PM

### **Wednesday (7)**

### **Thursday (8)**

EIPS Div II Track Meet @ SAP @ 4:00PM

### **Friday (9)**

*Elementary  
Track*

Elementary Track practice on Monday from 3:15-4:00PM at FORT HIGH. EIPS Gr 4-6 Track Meet will be on May 8 at SAP at 4:00PM. Athletes will need their own rides there and back.

*Grade 6  
Badminton*

Grade 6 Badminton Team will be having their tournament on May 6 at SPS at 4:00PM.

# Final Exam SCHEDULE

## Grade 6 PATs

May 28 - ELA Part A  
June 12 - ELA Part B  
June 13 - Math Pat A  
June 17 - Math Part B  
June 18 - Social

## Grade 7 & 8 Common Exams

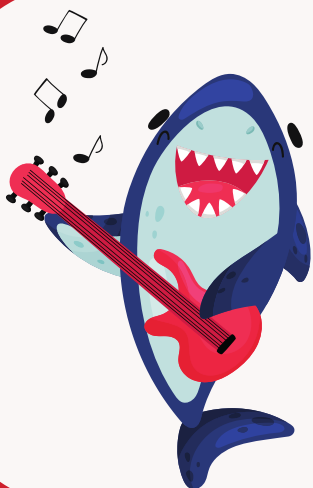
May 26 - ELA Part A  
June 17 - Math Part A  
June 18 - ELA Part B  
June 19 - Science  
June 23 - Social  
June 24 - Math Part B

## Grade 9 PATs

May 29 - ELA Part A  
June 12 - ELA Part B  
June 13 - Math Part A  
June 17 - Math Part B  
June 18 - Social  
June 19 - Science

**“Believe you can and you’re halfway there.”**

**Theodore Roosevelt**



# 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

## *You're Invited to our* **BAND CONCERT**

Join us for a spectacular evening of music as the SouthPointe School Band teams up with the Fort Saskatchewan High School Band and the Fort Saskatchewan Community Band for a community concert you won't want to miss!

**Thursday, May 22**

**6:30 PM**

@ Fort Saskatchewan High School Gym (10002 97 Ave)

Enjoy performances by each band and experience the grand finale—a powerful massed band piece featuring all three groups playing together! Come celebrate the talent, collaboration, and spirit of our musical community.

**Admission is free – bring your friends and family!**

### Blessing Bags—Delivered with Heart!

Our school community came together in an incredible way, creating and delivering nearly 200 Blessing Bags to local organizations including the RCMP, Families First, The City of Fort Saskatchewan, The Nourishment Centre, BGC, and The Bridge.

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed—your generosity truly made a difference in our community!



# Counsellor's Corner...

## Mental Health Week May 5-11

**Mental Health Week 2025**

**TUESDAY MAY 06**

**Be Kind, Embrace Your Mind**

Join the Canadian Mental Health Association for a free 1.5-hour workshop on building and maintaining positive mental health. Learn how to recognize challenges, explore tools for support, and discover ways to care for yourself and others on the path to wellness.

West Rivers Edge Pavilion  
(River Valley Drive)  
10:00 - 11:30 am  
**MUST REGISTER**  
bit.ly/MHW\_May6  
Free up to 30 people

**FCSS** Family & Community Support Services  
CITY OF FORT SASKATCHEWAN

**CITY OF FORT SASKATCHEWAN**

Mental Health Week 2025, observed from May 5th to May 11th, embraces the theme "Unmasking Mental Health". This theme highlights the challenges faced by individuals living with mental health or substance use issues, who often feel compelled to hide behind a "mask" to shield themselves from stigma and judgment. The campaign encourages people to look beyond the surface and recognize the whole person, fostering deeper connections and understanding. By embracing honesty and vulnerability, we can create a ripple effect of courage and compassion across communities.

Courtesy :

<https://www.fortsask.ca/en/living-here/family-and-community-services.aspx>

**Mental Health Week 2025**

**SUNDAY MAY 11**

**Movie: The Secret Life of Pets**

Fort Cinema  
(9922 - 100 Street)  
10:30 am  
**FREE TICKETS** bit.ly/MHW\_May11

**FCSS** Family & Community Support Services  
CITY OF FORT SASKATCHEWAN

**CITY OF FORT SASKATCHEWAN**

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to Mr. Frimpong any time at [kofi.frimpong@eips.ca](mailto:kofi.frimpong@eips.ca)



# What's Happening AROUND SOUTHPOINTE...



## Springtime Animal Awareness

With spring in full swing, nature is waking up—and so are the wild animals around our neighborhoods and schoolyards! While it's exciting to spot baby bunnies, curious frogs, slithery snakes, and our very bold Canada geese, it's important to remember:

**look, don't touch!**

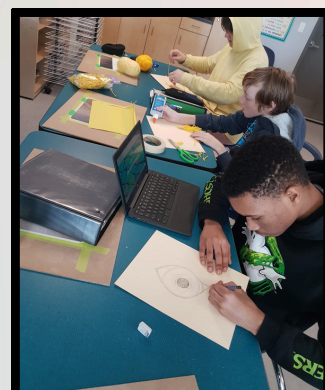
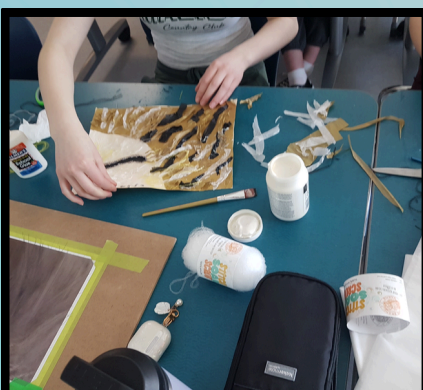
A few reminders for our students and families:

- Canada Geese may look silly waddling around, but they're fiercely protective—especially during nesting season. Give them plenty of space and never chase or approach them.
- Baby rabbits might seem abandoned, but mom is likely nearby. Don't touch or move them—human scent can cause stress or harm.
- Snakes, frogs, and other wildlife are important parts of our local ecosystem. Observe them from a distance and avoid picking them up or disturbing their habitat.

**Let's enjoy the wonders of spring safely and respectfully—for the animals and for ourselves!**



Our Graphic Art 9 class completed a vibrant collaborative mural, combining their creativity and teamwork to design a piece that brightens our school space! Well done!





# What's Happening AROUND SOUTHPOINTE...

SouthPointe School YEARBOOK

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

Order Deadline: <b>May 11, 2025</b>	Price: <b>\$20.00</b>	Yearbook ID Code: <b>14214925</b>
--	--------------------------	--------------------------------------

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.



## EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANT APPRECIATION DAY IS MAY 14!

**ON MAY 14, WE RECOGNIZE THE DEDICATION, HARD WORK AND COMPASSION OF EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANTS IN OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY AND ACROSS ELK ISLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS.**

**EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANTS PLAY AN INTEGRAL ROLE IN EDUCATION, FROM ONE-ON-ONE STUDENT SUPPORT TO LARGER CLASSROOM DYNAMICS. THANK YOU TO ALL OUR EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANTS —YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF STUDENTS EVERY DAY, AND WE ARE SO GRATEFUL TO HAVE EACH ONE OF YOU IN OUR SCHOOL.**

**THIS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANT APPRECIATION DAY AND BEYOND, WE ENCOURAGE STUDENTS, FAMILIES AND STAFF TO TAKE A MOMENT TO TELL AN EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANT HOW THEY'VE IMPACTED YOU AND TO SHARE YOUR APPRECIATION WITH THEM.**

# FASS/School Council Info

PATIO  
PLANTER



10-PACK  
WAVE PETUNIA



## Spring is Blooming - Support Our School!

The Growing Smiles Spring Plant Fundraiser is underway! Brighten up your home and garden with beautiful hanging baskets, lush patio planters, vibrant flowers, fresh herbs, and garden veggies—all while supporting the Fundraising Association for SouthPointe School.



Order Deadline: May 7 at 12 PM



Pickup Date: May 22 @ SouthPointe School



Order here: [fasps.growingsmilesfundraising.com/home](https://fasps.growingsmilesfundraising.com/home)

Thank you for helping our school grow—literally and figuratively! 🌸

**Mark your calendars! Our next School Council Meeting is MAY 21 at 5:00PM 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](#)

## THANK YOU!

### **Bus Driver Appreciation Day is May 5**

Join us on May 5 as we recognize and thank our school bus operators for keeping the safety of our students their first priority. We encourage you, and your children, to take a moment to say thanks to our bus operators—who go above and beyond to provide safe and timely transportation to our students.

**On behalf of SouthPointe, THANK YOU to all of our school bus operators for a job well done.**



## ***DID YOU KNOW?***

Each school has a School Education Plan on its website. Annually, these plans are updated for the next school year to reflect schools' goals, strategies and measures—all based on priorities found in the EIPS Four-Year Education Plan. School administration update their plans after reviewing school-specific results from the EIPS Annual Feedback Survey and consulting with staff, families and school councils in April. A School Education Plan helps a school community focus on what's most important in its own specific context from year to year. To view your child's School Education Plan, visit your school's website and find the relevant home page block.

# News from EIPS



## EIPS Annual Education Results Report

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.



April Spotlight: Enhancing public education through effective engagement

·[Rules of engagement](#): Using a collaborative approach to improve student achievement and success

·[Driving change](#): Strengthening public education through Board advocacy

## RELATED INFORMATION

[Annual Education Results Report 2023-24: Overview](#)

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

[EIPS Three-Year Capital Plan: 2026-29](#)

## Diploma Exam Prep

[Registration](#) is now open for the upcoming Diploma Exam Prep courses to help students prepare for their exams in June. The material presented is based on a 12-hour schedule over one weekend. Courses will run from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. each day with a half-hour break for lunch and will take place at Salisbury Composite High in Sherwood Park. Students can only register for one review course each weekend.

### **May 31 to June 1 or June 7-8**

English Language Arts 30-1

Social Studies 30-1

### **June 14-15**

Mathematics 30-1, 30-2

Biology 30

June 21

Science 30

### **June 21-22**

Chemistry 30

Physics 30

Intermediate First Aid

The cost is \$125 per course, or \$75 for Science 30 and \$105 for Intermediate First Aid. Space is limited. Register early! Current EIPS families will register and pay for Diploma Exam Prep courses through their existing [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#) account.



# News from EIPS

## 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: 5:30-6:30PM



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](#).





**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)