

Shark Bites NEWSLETTER

SouthPointe School

Principal's Message

It's hard to believe we're already heading into the final week of school! Time has truly flown by, and it's been a wonderful whirlwind of learning, growth, and connection.

Students in Grades 6–9 have been wrapping up their exams, and we're proud of the effort they've shown in finishing the year strong. A special shout-out goes to our Grade 9 students, who will be celebrating their farewell with a fun-filled day at West Edmonton Mall Waterpark early next week. We wish them all the very best as they move on to high school—an exciting new chapter awaits, and we can't wait to hear about all the great things they'll do!

For our elementary families, we're excited to invite you to our Talent Show on Monday, June 23 at 12:15 PM. It's always a highlight to see the creativity and confidence of our young performers. We hope to see many of you there!

A reminder that the **last day of school for all students is Wednesday, June 25**. Report cards will be available through the Parent Portal at 3:00 PM that afternoon.

As this school year comes to a close, I want to take a moment to reflect on what a meaningful first year this has been for me as principal. It has truly been an amazing experience getting to know our students, working alongside such a dedicated staff, and partnering with our wonderful families. Thank you for making this year so special. Next week will be our final Shark Bites newsletter of the school year, where we'll be sharing information about staffing for next year as well as details about our Meet the Teacher event in August.

Wishing you all a fantastic weekend!

Laurie Caines, Principal

NEXT WEEK

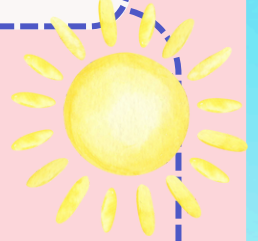


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|----------------|--|
| Monday (23) | FREE Coffee & Treats for Parents @ 7:30AM KAH Year End Celebration @ 1:00PM Elementary Talent Show @ 12:15PM Grade 6 Fort Heritage Field Trip |
| Tuesday (24) | KBH Year End Celebration @ 1:00PM Grade 9 Trip to West Edmonton Mall Waterpark Grade 6 Field Trip to Harbour Pool |
| Wednesday (25) | Report Cards Online @ 3:00PM LAST DAY OF SCHOOL! |
| Thursday (26) | |
| Friday (27) | |

June

Coming Up this Month

| | |
|-----------|--|
| June 21 | National Indigenous Peoples Day |
| June 23 | FREE McDonald's Coffee & Treats for Parents @ 7:30AM |
| June 23 | Grade 6 Fort Heritage Field Trip |
| June 23 | School Talent Show @ 12:15PM |
| June 23 | KA Henderson Year End Celebration @ 1:00PM |
| June 24 | Grade 9 Farewell @ WEM Waterpark |
| June 24 | Grade 6 Field Trip to Harbour Pool |
| June 24 | KB Henderson Year End Celebration @ 1:00PM |
| June 25 | Last Day of School |
| June 25 | Report Cards Online |
| June 26 | Last Instructional Day for Staff |
| July 1 | Canada Day |
| August 26 | Professional Learning Day |
| August 28 | FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL! |



School Start & End Times

8:10AM - School Begins

11:08AM to 11:48AM - Lunch

2:46PM - School Dismissed

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



LOST & FOUND FAREWELL

Lunch kits, hoodies, jackets—oh my!

Water bottles stacked to the sky!

Sneakers, pants, and mystery gear—

All still hanging out right here.

But school is ending, and here's the deal:

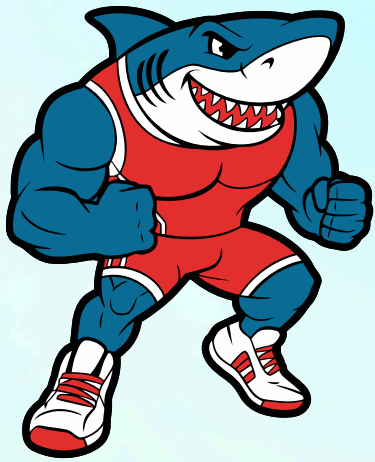
Next week, donations become real!

So check the pile, don't delay—

Your lost stuff might walk away!

Note:

We kindly ask all parents and guardians to log in to their PowerSchool Parent Portal to check for any outstanding school or transportation fees. You can sign in [here](#).



SHARKS ATHLETICS

Monday (23)

Tuesday (24)

Wednesday (25)

THURSDAY (26)

FRIDAY (27)



**YOU
GOT
THIS!**

Final Exam SCHEDULE

Grade 6 PATs

CONGRATS!
6

**Grade 7 & 8
Common Exams**

June 23 - Social

June 24 - Math Part B

**You've got this
Grade 7 and 8's!**

Grade 9 PATs



MUSIC

SPS
TALENT
SHOW

Get ready to shine!
Our annual School
Talent Show is
happening on
**Monday, June 23 at
12:15 PM!**

2024-25 EIPS Annual Feedback Surveys: For Parents and Caregivers and For Students – Results Now Available

The results of the 2024-25 EIPS Annual Feedback Surveys: For Parents and Caregivers and For Students are now available. In March, the Division conducted the annual surveys, which help EIPS gauge its progress toward meeting the goals and priorities outlined in its Four-Year Education Plan. Families and grades 9 and 12 students were asked a series of questions about their experiences with EIPS and their school, the overall performance of the Division, the quality of education being provided to students and areas for improvement.

Thank you to all families and students who took the time to share their feedback with the Division. Overall, the surveys received close to 2,400 responses from parents and caregivers and close to 2,000 responses from grades 9 and 12 students across EIPS. The Division, and schools, will now review the feedback in detail and use it to develop new strategies to serve students and the wider community better.

**The full results are available online: 2024-25 Parent, Caregiver and Student Survey results: EIPS
2024-25 Parent, Caregiver and Student Survey results: SouthPointe School**

DID YOU KNOW?

When schools are closed during the summer, many EIPS staff are still hard at work. School staff create lesson plans, engage in professional development and take part in other activities to help enhance student success. Several staff will also support EIPS Summer School. Additionally, Central Services staff work through the break to prepare for the upcoming school year, from staff recruitment to school repairs and more. In mid-August, school staff return to their schools to get ready to welcome students back to class.

Counsellor's Corner...

Happy Indigenous Peoples Day



(Image courtesy of <https://www.emmanuelchildcare.ca/blog/2023/6/21/happy-indigenous-peoples-day>)

National Indigenous Peoples Day is celebrated in Canada every June 21 to honor the heritage, cultures, and contributions of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples. The date was chosen because it coincides with the summer solstice, which holds deep cultural and spiritual significance for many Indigenous communities. National Indigenous Peoples Day takes place on the summer solstice, the longest day of the year. For generations, many First Nations, Inuit, and Métis communities have celebrated their cultures, languages, and traditions at this time of year. Originally declared National Aboriginal Day in 1996, the name was changed to National Indigenous Peoples Day in 2017 to better reflect the diversity of Indigenous groups in Canada. The day is marked by celebrations, cultural events, and educational activities across the country, including powwows, traditional feasts, music, and storytelling. We encourage all members of our community to take the time to engage with Indigenous cultural celebrations, be willing to learn, be willing to stand up for positive change, as well as reflect on the issues faced by Indigenous communities.

(Courtesy of <https://www.rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1100100013718/1708446948967>)


If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to Mr. Frimpong any time at kofi.frimpong@eips.ca

*Egg Hatching
Moon*
June

Click [HERE](#) for EIPS' First Nation, Metis, Inuit June Newsletter.

JUNE IS NATIONAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLES MONTH

Throughout June, our school is recognizing National Indigenous Peoples Month—a time to honor the cultures, traditions, and contributions of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples. Elk Island Public Schools has prepared a variety of activities and resources to support learning and reflection. To learn more about how our district is observing this important month, visit [HERE](#)



National Indigenous History Month



This month, some of our classes took a creative journey into the past by designing and building moccasins using rocks and other materials. Inspired by traditional Indigenous footwear, this hands-on activity combined lessons in history, Indigenous culture, and artistic expression. Students explored how people once used the resources around them to craft everyday items—while putting their own creative twist on each unique moccasin model. The results were imaginative, gorgeous, and truly one-of-a-kind!



National Aboriginal Day (now National Indigenous Peoples Day) was announced in 1996 by then Governor General of Canada, Roméo LeBlanc, through the Proclamation Declaring June 21 of Each Year as National Aboriginal Day. This was the result of consultations and statements of support for such a day made by various Indigenous groups:

- in 1982, the National Indian Brotherhood (now the Assembly of First Nations) called for the creation of National Aboriginal Solidarity Day
- in 1995, the Sacred Assembly, a national conference of Indigenous and non-Indigenous people chaired by Elijah Harper, called for a national holiday to celebrate the contributions of Indigenous Peoples
- also in 1995, the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples recommended the designation of a National First Peoples Day

On June 21, 2017, the Prime Minister issued a statement announcing the intention to rename this day National Indigenous Peoples Day.

What's Happening AROUND SOUTHPOINTE...

GRADE 9

FAREWELL

JUNE 24

GET READY TO MAKE A SPLASH!

OUR GRADE 9 FAREWELL IS
HAPPENING AT WEST EDMONTON
MALL WATERPARK ON JUNE 24!

AFTER A STUDENT VOTE, THE
RESULTS ARE IN—AND WEM
WATERPARK WAS THE CLEAR
FAVORITE.

IT'S SURE TO BE A DAY FULL OF
WAVES, LAUGHTER, AND
UNFORGETTABLE MEMORIES AS WE
CELEBRATE THE END OF JUNIOR HIGH
IN THE MOST EXCITING WAY
POSSIBLE!.

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.

June Spotlight: [EIPS Four-Year Education Plan: 2022-26 \(Year 4\)](#), which details the Division's priorities, goals and outcomes over a four-year period.

- Priority 1: To promote the growth and success of all students.
- Priority 2: To enhance high-quality learning and working environments.
- Priority 3: To enhance public education through effective engagement.

The plan also outlines the performance measures, key insights and strategies the Division will use to meet each priority, goal and outcome in the 2025-26 school year.

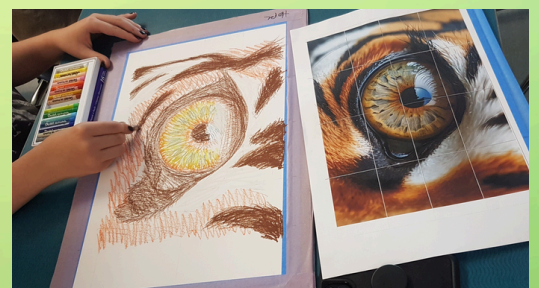
RELATED INFORMATION

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

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

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

What's Happening AROUND SOUTHPOINTE...



Ms. Louma's talented Graphic Art 9 students zoomed in on the wild world of animal eyes, using oil pastels to capture stunning textures, colors, and details. These vibrant close-ups are a bold reminder that art—and nature—is all about perspective!

FASS/School Council Info

ONE YEAR, BIG IMPACT - JOIN US AT SOUTHPOINTE

We're looking for new parent volunteers to help make SouthPointe a vibrant place for students next year—as many current Council and FASS members have graduating kids.

All positions are for just one school year and include roles like:

School Council: Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary

FASS: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Hot Lunch & Donation Coordinators

You'll be part of a supportive team that helps keep programs like hot lunch and special events running. Without volunteers, some of these may not continue.

Interested?

✉ FASS: president.fass@gmail.com

✉ Council: southpointeschool.schoolcouncil@gmail.com

Get involved—just one year makes a big difference!

Free Coffee & Treats at Drop-Off!

Kick off your Monday right! On June 23 starting at 7:30 AM, McDonald's is generously providing free coffee and treats during drop-off—served with a smile by our amazing parent volunteers. Huge thanks to FASS and School Council for organizing this sweet start to the day!



School Supply Lists Now Available!

School supply lists for next year are now posted on our school website!

For your convenience, you can also order supplies directly from www.write-on.ca — a quick and easy option with home delivery.

📅 Order deadline: August 1

Get a head start and check it off your summer to-do list!



News from EIPS

Accessing User Accounts: Students Leaving EIPS

Is your child graduating from or leaving EIPS at the end of the school year? If so, they must ensure any information they want to retain from their school cloud accounts is downloaded onto a personal device before leaving.

- Google account – Students must download any wanted content before August 6—download files either individually or in bulk using [Google Takeout](#).
- Microsoft account – Students must download any wanted content from their OneDrive account before August 6.

After Aug. 6, 2025, EIPS will deactivate the account.

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](#).

Notification Emails from your PowerSchool Parent Portal

Through the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#), parents and guardians can subscribe to receive email updates from the school and about their child, as well as the frequency for receiving the updates. These PowerSchool notifications are separate from the emails you receive from the Division and your child's school sent through SchoolMessenger.

In June, Elk Island Public Schools is updating the domain configuration where these PowerSchool emails come from to support more cost effective and efficient modernization of technology within the Division. As the updates take place, notifications may come from one or the other email address. By June 13, when the update is complete, messages from the PowerSchool Parent Portal will come from only the new email address:

Current email sender: powerschool@eips.ca

New email sender: DoNotReply@powerschool.mail.eips.ca

We encourage you to add this new email address to your safe-sender list to avoid missing any updates you're subscribed to. At any time, if you'd like to update your subscription settings within PowerSchool, simply log in to the [Parent Portal](#) and click the "Email Notifications" tab in the left-hand menu.

News from EIPS



REMINDER: 2024-25 School Fees

School fees for the 2024-25 school year are posted on the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#). All fees are due within 30 days of being posted. Throughout the year, fees are often added to cover the costs for various activities, such as field trips, extracurricular activities, and late, damaged or lost textbooks.

To access your fee information, simply log in to the PowerSchool Parent Portal and go to “Student Fees.” There you can view fees and pay them online using a Mastercard or Visa credit or debit card. Make sure to monitor your child’s account on an ongoing basis.

For more information about school fees, waivers and payment deadlines, visit eips.ca/schools/fees. And, if you have questions, think there’s an error or need help creating a PowerSchool Parent Portal account, contact your child’s school directly before the summer break.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Pursuant to [Board Policy 23: School Fees and Administrative Procedure 505: School and Administrative Fees](#), EIPS will forward any unpaid 2024-25 fee amounts to a collection agency. To prevent this from happening, remember to pay your fees before Aug. 31, 2025.



Student Transportation: 2025-26 Registration

Planning to use [Student Transportation](#) in the 2025-26 school year? If so, make sure your child is registered so Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) can plan routes and send your child a bus pass before the first day of school.

All students who indicated needing transportation services through the returning student or new student registration processes are now registered. Those families have also received tentative route schedules and invoices—fees are due June 30, 2025.

For those students who did not indicate needing transportation services during the registration process and want to now register, complete a Busing Setup form through the [Transportation Service Desk](#).

NOTE: Families can pay fees online using the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#). To pay in-person, visit the [EIPS Student Transportation building](#) during its office hours—Monday to Friday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. on school days and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on school closure days.

Community News

Has your child had their annual eye exam? It's important to do before they start school!

Eye See...Eye Learn™

is a program that provides kindergarten-aged students with a comprehensive eye exam from an optometrist. There is Alberta Health coverage towards your child's eye exams up to age 19. **If required, kindergarten-aged students also receive a free pair of eyeglasses.**



How kindergarten-aged students participate

Step 1 Parents can find a participating optometrist at optometrists.ab.ca. Click on Find an Optometrist and **Eye See...Eye Learn™**, then enter your postal code to find a doctor close to you. **Call and book an appointment.**

Step 2 See your optometrist for the eye exam. Have your health card ready. There is **Alberta Health coverage towards your child's eye exams up to age 19.**

Step 3 If required, kindergarten-aged students will **receive a free pair of eyeglasses**. Ask to see the frame selection available. The optometrist will order your glasses for you.

***Free glasses are covered by a one year manufacturer's warranty.**

Eye exam coverage

There is Alberta Health coverage towards your child's eye exams up to age 19. It's a painless, non-invasive process that could change their lives!

Did you know?

- 80% of learning is visual.
- 1 in 4 school-aged children has a vision problem.
- An eye exam detects health problems such as crossed eyes or lazy eye.
- Children with vision problems are often misdiagnosed as having learning or behavioural disabilities.
- The earlier an eye health or visual problem is identified, the more likely it can be corrected.
- Children often don't know they have a vision problem, as they believe what they are seeing is normal.
- It is not uncommon for parents to believe they would know if their child has a vision problem, because these issues can be hard to spot particularly if there is a problem in only one of the eyes.

Who can participate?

Eye See...Eye Learn™ is available to all **kindergarten-aged students** in Alberta. It's important to address eye health and vision problems before children begin school.

Children are eligible from August until they begin grade one.



What is an optometrist?

Your optometrist (doctor of optometry) is a primary source for all your vision, eye health and eyewear needs. They have the knowledge, tools and equipment necessary to diagnose, treat, prescribe medications or refer to a specialist, if needed.