

Shark Bites NEWSLETTER

SouthPointe School

Principal's Message

As we close out another amazing school year, we want to thank you for your ongoing support, partnership, and involvement. It's been a year full of growth, learning, and community, and we're incredibly proud of all our students, staff, and families.

A few important reminders as we head into summer:

- Report cards will be live and accessible online as of today (Wednesday) at 4:00 PM.
- Meet the Teacher will take place on Wednesday, August 27th in the afternoon. We encourage all families to attend—this is a great opportunity to connect with teachers, calm any nerves and bring in their school supplies. Details will be posted on our website by August 22nd.
- The first day of school is Thursday, August 28th, and the school day will begin promptly at 8:05 AM.
- **NEW for next year: There will be early dismissal EVERY Wednesday—students will be dismissed one hour early** to allow time for staff planning and collaboration.

Thank you for being such a vital part of our school community. We wish you and your family a fun, safe, and restful summer, and we look forward to seeing everyone again in August!

Laurie Caines, Principal

AUGUST

Monday (25)	Office is Open
Tuesday (26)	Office is Open
Wednesday (27)	Office is Open Meet the Teacher in the Afternoon
Thursday (28)	FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL!
Friday (29)	



June

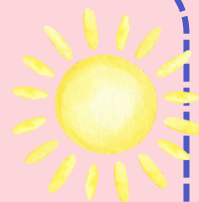
Coming Up this Month

June 25 Report Cards Online
June 26 Last Instructional Day for Staff

July 1 Canada Day

August 1 Deadline to Order School Supplies Online
August 26 Professional Learning Day
August 27 Meet the Teacher
August 28 FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL!

September 1 Labour Day (No School)
September 3 Early Dismissal
September 4 First Day of Kindergarten Busing
September 10 Early Dismissal



August

September

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 Write-On – 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!

ORDER NOW

FOR ONLINE ORDERS:

- Go to www.write-on.ca
- Click on “PARENTS – Order Here”
- School Name: SouthPointe School – FORT SASKATCHEWAN
- Choose your grade and place your order.
- Complete your order by clicking ‘PLACE ORDER’
- You will receive an automatic email confirmation to confirm your order has been received





School Start & End Times for 2025-26

Due to recent changes related to early dismissal every Wednesday and transportation needs, our start and end times have changed for the upcoming school year.

School will start at 8:05AM and end at 2:50PM each day.

- Outdoor supervision will begin at 7:50AM.
 - School doors open at 8:00AM.
 - Afternoon supervision ends at 3:00PM, so we kindly ask that students are picked up by that time.
- Please see below for our 2025-26 Bell Schedule.



South Pointe School
Bell Schedule
2025/2026

WEDNESDAY

Regular Day		
	7:50 AM	Outside supervision begins.
	8:00 AM	Students may enter the school.
Period 1	8:05 - 9:00	
Period 2	9:00 - 9:55	
AM Break	9:55 - 10:10	
Period 3	10:12 - 11:07	
Lunch	11:07 - 11:47	
Period 4	11:49 - 12:44	
Period 5	12:44 - 1:39	
PM Break	1:39 - 1:54	
Period 6	1:56 - 2:50	
Dismissal	2:50pm	Supervision until 3:00 pm

Early Dismissal Day		
	7:50 AM	Outside supervision begins.
	8:00 AM	Students may enter the school.
Period 1	8:05 - 8:50	
Period 2	8:50 - 9:35	
AM Break	9:35 - 9:50	
Period 3	9:52 - 10:37	
Period 4	10:37 - 11:22	
Lunch	11:22 - 12:02	
Period 5	12:04 - 12:49	
PM Break	12:49 - 1:04	
Period 6	1:06 - 1:50	
Dismissal	1:50pm	Supervision until 2:00 pm.

SPS TALENT SHOW

Congratulations to all the incredible students who performed in our annual EPS Talent Show—your creativity, courage, and talent made it an unforgettable event! A big thank you to all the family members who came out to cheer them on and support our amazing performers!



Counsellor's Corner...

THANK YOU

As this school year comes to a close, I want to take a moment to express my deep gratitude to the incredible students, families, and staff of our school community. From day one, I've felt welcomed and supported, and it's been an absolute joy to be part of this amazing place.

Thank you for trusting me, sharing your stories, and allowing me to walk alongside you this year. I'm so excited to return next year and continue growing together. Wishing you all a restful and joyful summer!

-Mr. Frimpong

What's Happening AROUND SOUTHPOINTE...



1S enjoyed a great afternoon at the spray park last week for their field trip.

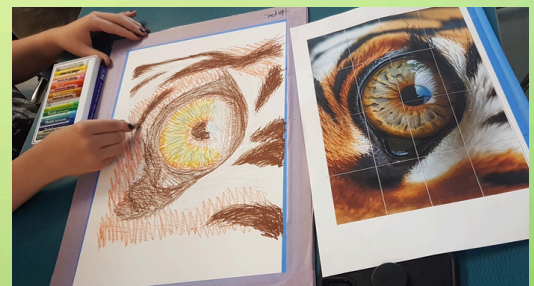
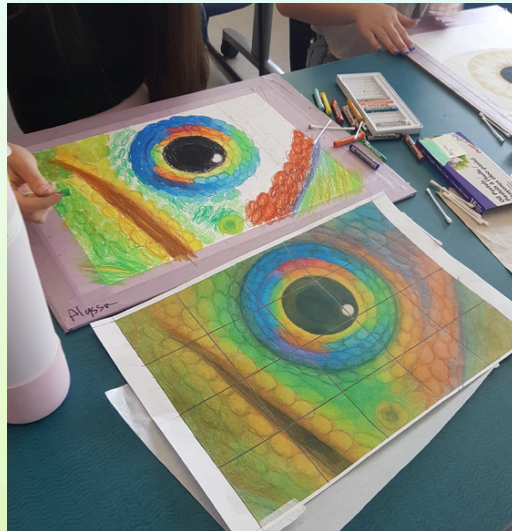


SYNC



Pictured above is Dyanna Retzlaff from Royal LePage Noralta, a longtime SYNC supporter. This year, she donated birdhouses for us to paint—a thoughtful gift that brought joy to everyone involved!

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!

THANK YOU to McDonald's & FASS/School Council!

On June 23, our FASS/School Council organized
FREE Coffee & Cookies at morning drop-off
for parents and caregivers to enjoy.
McDonald's generously provided all the coffee
and cookies along with a special appearance
by Grimace!



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.

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.