



Shark Bites

Weekly Update

Every Day, Every Student, A Success.



Hello SouthPointe Families,

We are looking for feedback on fees for next year. We are asking parents to complete the survey that will be posted on our school website on February 21. This survey will be open until Monday, March 6, 2023. Your feedback is important and will help to inform fees for the 2023-24 school year.

Returning student registration is currently open. Please log on to the PowerSchool Parent Portal and indicate if your child will be returning for the 2023-24 school year. This information helps us with our planning for next year.

I hope families enjoy the Family Dance that is being hosted by School Council tonight, February 17 at 6:30 pm. Enjoy your long weekend!

Carol Brown
Principal

Week at a Glance

Monday, February 20	Family Day: NO SCHOOL
Tuesday, February 21	Grade 5 & 6 SYNC/Community Building, 12:30-2:40 pm
Wednesday, February 22	Pink Shirt Day Hot Lunch – Gr 1-3 & Mon/Wed ECS
Thursday, February 23	Hot Lunch – Gr 4-6 & Tues/Thurs ECS
Friday, February 24	Hat Day – bring a cash or food donation for the food bank Hot Lunch – Gr 7-9

Coming Up Later in the Month

February 27	Grade 7-9 Ski Trip to Sunridge
February 28	Grade 4-6 Ski Trip to Sunridge Returning Student Registration 2023-24 closes
March 1	Unique Hair Day Early Dismissal (end of day 1:51 p.m.)
March 3	Professional Learning Day: NO SCHOOL Alberta Education Assurance Survey Deadline



Math at Home

6 Ways to Support your Child's Mathematical Development – advice from Professor Jo Boaler



Grade 1-6 SouthPointe students have been challenged to participate in a FRIENDLY COMPETITION between

Ecole Parc Elementaire
Fort Saskatchewan Christian
SouthPointe School (grade 1-6)

From Feb 14-28, you are encouraged to bring a nonperishable food item for donation at the school.

Let's help refill the shelves of the local food bank and spread some love to those who need it most in our community!

Some suggestions for most needed items include:

- Jam (small jars)
- Canned Fruit
- Ready to Eat Soup
- Canned Beans n' Sauce
- 1 L Juice
- Kraft Dinner
- Coffee
- Flour
- Sugar

Junior High Canteen

We are pleased to announce that SouthPointe is opening a Canteen on February 21 for Junior High students! Initially the canteen will only open on Tuesdays. The Canteen will sell a variety of snack items such as veggies and dip, fresh fruit cups, crackers/cheese/meat, Sunchips, yogurt and granola, cookies, frozen yogurt, muffins, Ceasar salad, croissants, beef jerky, and a variety of drinks. Items range in price from \$1.00-\$6.00 and can be purchased using CASH ONLY.

Reset Room Open!

SouthPointe School is excited to be piloting a new space in the school to add to our support for students. The "Reset Room" is a new space in the school for students to access when they need a safe place to regulate their brains and bodies. The room is staffed by Miss Melnyk, a certificated teacher. Our goal is to create a safe place for our junior high students to regulate with adult support so they can return to the classroom ready to learn. All students in grades 7-9 can access the "Reset Room," if needed. The Reset Room will be operational until the end of June 2023.

Pink Shirt Day – February 22



On February 22 students are invited to wear pink shirts as a demonstration to stand up together against bullying. This year we are focusing on healthy relationships and kindness. Pink shirt day started because two grade nine boys decided that rather than watch someone be bullied for wearing a pink shirt, they would show kindness and stand in support of a bullied student by gathering hundreds of students to wear pink shirts. On Pink Shirt Day students across the school will participate in activities to spread kindness and decide how they can promote positive peer interactions. By wearing

pink shirts students are showing their pledge to spread kindness and engage in healthy relationships.

Fundraising Association Update

March Hot Lunch

March hot lunch will be on March 20, 21, and 22. The hot lunch will be from Boston Pizza and ordering is now open. Orders can be placed online through hotlunches.net. ***This site uses PayPal. You can link credit card or your bank card for payments or choose to pay as a guest only. The deadline to order is March 10 at 3:00pm. **All unpaid orders will be cancelled.**

The fundraising association needs a volunteer to be a part of the board as a secretary. If you are interested, please email president.fass@gmail.com.

❖ Ongoing Fundraisers



PET FRIENDLY, SAFE ON GRASS AND CONCRETE!!

There are still a few buckets of Bear Tracks Ice Melter available. Please email president.fass@gmail.com to purchase. \$30.00 per bucket.

COBS (Fort Saskatchewan location only):

- Just mention Southpointe School when you are making a purchase.
- Cobs gives back 5% of what we spend! Last 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!)
- Just download the app, use the code K2TQ9X and start shopping!



Division News

Download the SchoolMessenger App

Southpointe School and the Division use the SchoolMessenger platform to communicate with families—through both phone and email. Be sure to add communications@eips.ca and general.sps@eips.ca to your safe sender list to avoid having important messages funneled into your junk mail folder.

The easiest way to stay connected is to download the SchoolMessenger app. Get the latest updates from both the Division and your child's school direct to your mobile device and enable push notifications to never miss a message. Families can also check back on past messages—for up to 30 days—directly in the app rather than searching to find an old message buried in their inbox. Download the SchoolMessenger app from the [App Store](#) or [Google Play](#) today.

Kindergarten Registration for 2023-24 is Now Open!

Is your child turning five on or before Dec. 31, 2023? If so, it's now time to register for kindergarten. To register, simply complete the online registration form at eips.ca/kindergarten.



To help families prepare, Elk Island Public Schools has put together an online [EIPS Kindergarten Tool kit](#) to make the transition as smooth as possible. The kit includes information on registration, important dates, programming options, what to expect, eligibility, how to find your designated school, transportation and more.

Complete your Returning Student Registration: February 1-28

Elk Island Public Schools' (EIPS) [returning student registration](#) process is now open. All current students, except Grade 12, must complete the online Returning Student Registration Form to confirm their enrolment in a school for the upcoming 2023-24 school year. Additionally, students who want to attend a non-designated school need to make that request through the returning student registration process—acceptance is based on available space.

All current EIPS students are required to complete the form by Feb. 28, 2023.

To access the Returning Student Registration Form, simply log in to the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#).

If you don't have a PowerSchool Parent Portal account, you do need to set one up. For help see: [Create a PowerSchool Parent Portal account](#)

For more information contact the school directly at (780) 998-2747.

RELATED INFORMATION:

[Returning Student Registration Process](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[EIPS School Boundary Maps](#)

[Closed Boundaries 2023-24](#)

[Find my designated school](#)

[Applying to a non-designated school](#)

Measuring Success: Complete this year's Alberta Education Assurance Survey

Once again, Alberta Education is surveying teachers, students and families through its annual Alberta Education Assurance (AEA) Survey. The survey acts as an annual check-up on the province's education system. Every year, Alberta Education conducts the survey to gather information about the quality of education provided by Alberta schools and school authorities. The survey looks at various measures such as education quality, citizenship, family involvement, engagement levels, school climate and student wellness.

The AEA survey is sent to

- Small schools (fewer than 120 students in grades 4-12)—based on jurisdiction requests for more reportable survey data at the school level, the survey is expanded to include all students in grades 4 and above and their parents and guardians.
- Large schools (120 or more students in grades 4-12)—only students in grades 4, 7 and 10 and their parents and guardians are included in the survey. These grades are considered to be a reasonably representative sample of students.

Throughout February, Grade 4 & 7 students at SouthPointe School are completing the survey online at the school. Student participation is voluntary and completely anonymous. Students are assigned a random username and password to ensure survey responses aren't linked to any individual student. The survey doesn't take long to complete and is done within the school day during regular class time.

Additionally, parents and guardians of students in these grades are also asked to take a survey, either online or by mail. Alberta Education will send families information about the survey directly. As with the student and teacher survey, it's anonymous and asks questions about your school experiences. If you have a child in these grades, we encourage you to participate. The survey deadline is March 3, 2023.

Results from the AEA Survey are provided to Elk Island Public Schools each spring. The Division then uses the data to inform its four-year education plan, school education plans and strategies for continuous improvement. Each fall, the results are also shared with EIPS families and school communities in the Division's *Annual Education Results Report*.

RELATED INFORMATION

[AEA Survey: Parent letter](#)

[AEA Survey: Methodology for rate calculation](#)

[Assurance and Accountability: Alberta's K-12 education system](#)

Watch for Thin Ice

Remember, be aware of thin ice this time of year. Depending on changing temperatures, ice can form and melt to varying degrees on outdoor bodies of water. Try to remind your child about the dangers of thin ice, obey all posted signs, take proper care and remain a safe distance from the ice.

For more information about ice safety, visit the [Canadian Red Cross](#).

Did you know?

The colour of ice may be an indication of its strength. Clear blue ice is the strongest. White opaque is half as strong as blue ice. And, grey ice is unsafe—greyness indicates the presence of water.

Community Resources

The Great Disconnect uncovers why, in a world seemingly more connected than ever before, people are feeling more and more socially isolated – and the true cost this has on our lives and communities. Watch wellness expert Tamer Soliman as he journeys through North America to meet with local citizens, community activists, and leading authorities on social, economic, and urban planning to discover the true factors that have profound and lasting impacts, not only on our health, but the health of the communities in which we live. This timely documentary invites us to reflect on the relationships we have with those around us and raises the question: is it possible to overcome our modern culture of disconnectedness and rediscover how truly essential we are to one other?

Since its official launch, the film has screened across Canada through multiple municipalities, and has been shown in ten countries across Europe. It has also been featured in over twelve independent film festivals, and in October 2020, the documentary won the award for Best Feature Film at the prominent Better Cities Film Festival.

FCSS proudly presents

THE GREAT DISCONNECT














Join us for a free screening of this award-winning documentary that investigates why, in a seemingly connected world, so many are left feeling disconnected

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23
DOORS AT 6:00 PM
1 HOUR SHOW AT 7:00 PM
NO COST-TICKETS REQUIRED



DOW CENTENNIAL CENTRE | SHELL THEATRE
8700 84 ST
FORT SASKATCHEWAN

Tickets can be found at:
ticketpro.ca or call 780-992-6400

Watch the trailer [here](#)

Free tickets can be obtained by visiting [Ticketpro](#), calling 780-992-6400 or in person at the Dow Centennial Centre and City Hall front desk.

February 2023

The Bridge Wellness Hub for Youth



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		 1 Yoga Night! Nurse Clinic 4:30-8 pm Psychologists 5:30-7 pm	 2 Crafts With Mitch Behavioural Health Consultant 5-8 pm Youth Outreach Worker 2-8 pm	3
6	7	 8 Wax Seals with Sam Nurse Clinic 4:30-8 pm Psychologists 3:45-6:45 pm	 9 Dungeons & Dragons Behavioural Health Consultant 5-8 pm Youth Outreach Worker 2-8 pm	10
13	14	 15 Karaoke Night! Nurse Clinic 4:30-8 pm Psychologists 3:45-6:45 pm	 16 Sticker Making Behavioural Health Consultant 5-8 pm Youth Outreach Worker 2-8 pm	17
20	21	 22 Bowling! Nurse Clinic 4:30-8 pm Psychologists 3:45-6:45 pm	 23 Dungeons & Dragons Behavioural Health Consultant 5-8 pm Youth Outreach Worker 2-8 pm	 24 Rainbow Alliance 6-8 pm
27	28			

Contact Information

Any questions please call the hub at 780.589.0224 or email us at info@thebridgewhy.com.

Ages 11+ All Welcome

Youth nights are completely free to all youth ages 11-24.

Hours of Operation

We are open 2-8 pm on Wednesday and Thursday. We provide supper and snacks.