



Shark Bites

Weekly Update

Every Day, Every Student, A Success.



Hello SouthPointe families,

It was another busy week at SPS. A big thank you to our Parent Council for organizing the family dance that happened on February 17. We had approximately 500 people attend, and it was great to see the support of our school community and everyone having such a wonderful time.

Returning Student Registration closes on February 28. If you have not already logged onto the Parent Portal and indicated if your child/children are returning next year, please take an opportunity to complete this. If you need assistance with completing registration for the upcoming school year please contact Mrs. Barker, Mrs. Warwa or Mrs. Wasylynchuk in the front office and they will be happy to help you. This information helps us to determine the number of classes we will need for next year.

The Assurance Survey, sent to parents from the Alberta Government, will be arriving electronically for parents that have children in grade 4 and 7. Please take the time to complete this survey online as the information gathered through this survey helps us in our planning for the upcoming school year. It gives parents an opportunity to share with us things we are doing well and provides information on where we can continue to grow.

We currently are in preparation to determine fees for next year and would like to hear from parents. Please take some time to complete a short survey located on our website. We will share proposed fees for the 2023-24 school year at our March Parent Council meeting.

The weather looks like it is going to warm up over the weekend. We are looking forward to students being able to participate in outdoor recesses next week.

Carol Brown
Principal

Week at a Glance

Monday, February 27	Junior High Ski Trip
Tuesday, February 28	Grade 4 - 6 Ski Trip Returning Student 2023-24 Registration Closes Junior High Canteen open
Wednesday, March 1	Unique Hair Day Early Dismissal (end of day 1:51pm)
Thursday, March 2	Fort Music Festival
Friday, March 3	No School – Professional Learning Day

Coming Up Later in the Month

March 15	FASS & School Council Meeting @ 5:00 pm
March 17	Alberta Education Assurance Survey Deadline
March 10	Hot Lunch Ordering Deadline @ 3:00 pm
March 17	Term 2 Report Cards Published
March 20	Hot Lunch Grade 1-3 & Mon/Wed Kindergarten
March 21	Hot Lunch Grade 4-6 & Tues/Thurs Kindergarten Grade 5 & 6 SYNC/Community Building, 12:30 pm
March 22	Hot Lunch Junior High
March 23	Hat Day
Mar 24–Apr 2	Spring Break – Schools closed to staff and students
April 3	Classes Resume



Thank you to Parent Council!

Parent Council generously supplied our staff with scones and pizza on Wednesday this week! Thank you for the hard work all members of Parent Council contribute to our school.

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 has opened a canteen 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, Caesar salad, croissants, beef jerky, and a variety of drinks. Items range in price from \$1.00-\$5.00 and can be purchased using CASH ONLY.

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.**

April hot lunch will be April 26, 27, and 28. The hot lunch will be from the Brewhouse. The deadline to order is April 21 at 3:00pm.

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 online. 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 has been extended to March 17, 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—greyiness indicates the presence of water.