



# Shark Bites Weekly Update

Every Day, Every Student, A Success.



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

## Principal's Message

We are excited to have students and staff back in our building to start the year. Our students have settled in well and we have had a smooth startup. We would like to thank all staff, students and parents for their help and support as we navigate back-to-school routines.

We are hosting our Meet the Teacher evening on September 13 from 5:30 - 6:30 pm. This is a drop-in event that will allow students and parents to visit their classroom and introduce themselves to their child's teacher. We hope everyone can join us to say hello.

Thank you to all the junior high students that participated in volleyball tryouts. Our teams have been finalized and the students and coaches are excited for the start of the season. Elementary Choir for grades 4-6 will start on Tuesday. If your child is interested in participating in choir, please have them sign up with Ms. Basaraba.

Our first School Council and Fundraising Association for SouthPointe School meeting will be September 20 at 5:00 pm in the large flex space. We welcome all parents that are interested in joining us.

We would like to thank you for your positivity, support, and encouragement as we start our new school year. We feel lucky to be a part of the SouthPointe family.

Carol Brown, Principal

## WEEK AT A GLANCE

Monday, Sept. 11	Student Photos – Mon/Wed Kindergarten and Grades 1-4
Tuesday, Sept. 12	Student Photos – Tues/Thurs Kindergarten and Grades 5-9
Wednesday, Sept. 13	Meet the Staff, 5:30 – 6:30 pm
Thursday, Sept. 14	
Friday, Sept. 15	<a href="#">Pizza Lunch Junior High</a>

### Inside this Issue:

[Principal's Message](#)

[Week at a Glance](#)

[Coming Up](#)

[Parking](#)

[Drop Off/Pick Up](#)

[Bell Schedule](#)

[Picture Day](#)

[School Fees](#)

[SouthPointe Staff](#)

[Bus Apps](#)

[Bus Surveillance](#)

[Fundraising Update \(hot lunch\)](#)

[SchoolMessenger App](#)

[Sync School Calendar to your calendar](#)

## COMING UP LATER THIS MONTH

September 22	<a href="#">Terry Fox School Run Day</a>
September 27	Hot Lunch – Grade 1-3, Mon/Wed Kindergarten
September 28	Hot Lunch – Grade 4-6, Tues/Thur Kindergarten
September 29	<a href="#">ORANGE SHIRT DAY</a> Hot Lunch – Grade 7-9
September 30	National Day for Truth & Reconciliation

### **Parking**

Parents, when dropping off or picking up your children, please use the parent drop off located at the front of the school on Allard Way or along the street on SouthPointe Blvd. **Please DO NOT stop, park or allow your child to walk through the bus lanes at any time.** We also ask parents not to park in the accessible stalls at the front of the school or in the staff parking lot. Thank you for modeling safety and respect in this manner.

### **Drop Off and Pick Up**



All students should be using their designated doors to enter and exit the school at the beginning and end of the school day. If your child arrives after 8:15 a.m., please send them through the main entrance doors (located on Allard Way) as all other doors are locked after this time. They will have to come through the office to sign in before going to class.

Picking up your child early? Please let the teacher and the office know in advance. Once you are here, you can call the office at 780-998-2747 and we will send your child out or you can come into the main office. Thank you for continuing to sign in at the office if you are at the school for an appointment.

### **Bell Schedule**

School starts: 8:15 a.m.

Lunch: 11:13 - 11:53 a.m. (Early Out lunch: 11:24 a.m. – 12:07 p.m.)

Regular school ends: 2:51 p.m. (Early Out school ends: 1:51 p.m.)



PICTURE DAY IS

Monday September 11th, Tuesday September 12th, 2023

After Picture Day, order  
on [mylifetouch.ca](http://mylifetouch.ca)

DATE DE LA JOURNÉE DES PHOTOS

Après la journée photos,  
commandez au [mylifetouch.ca](http://mylifetouch.ca)

**Lifetouch**

<https://hpw.lifetouch.ca/accounts/482296/flyers/417496058>

### **Pay school fees online!**

School fee information for the 2023-24 school year will be posted on the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#) in late September. All fees are due within 30 days of being posted. To access your fee information, simply log in to the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#) and go to “Student Fees.” There you can view your fees and pay online using a credit card.

Don't forget to log in to the PowerSchool Parent Portal regularly throughout the year. Fees are often added to your child's account to cover the cost of certain school activities such as field trips, class projects, athletic-team fees and more. Additionally, junior high and senior high fees can change as courses are added and deleted.

If you're unable to pay your school fees, you can apply to have certain [fees waived](#) by submitting an [Application for a Waiver of Fees](#). The application deadline is Dec. 15, 2023.

For more information about school fees, waivers and payment deadlines visit [eips.ca](#). Alternatively, contact Mrs. Chantelle Grieve, Business Manager, at SouthPointe School, at (780) 998-2747.

## 2023-24 SouthPointe Staff

### Certificated Staff

<b>ECS</b>	Mrs. Henderson, Ms. Salkeld
<b>Grade 1</b>	Ms. Foster, Mrs. Jefferis, Ms. Sheridan, Miss Yuill
<b>Grade 2</b>	Mrs. Booker, Ms. Hartwick, Mrs. Lechelt
<b>Grade 3</b>	Mrs. Beasley, Ms. Germaine, Ms. Oram
<b>Grade 4</b>	Mr. Davis, Mrs. Lee
<b>Grade 4/5</b>	Mrs. Das
<b>Grade 5</b>	Mrs. Bossert, Mr. Epp
<b>Grade 6</b>	Mr. Henderson, Mrs. Percy
<b>Grade 7/8/9</b>	Mrs. Estey, Ms. Lichak, Ms. Louma, Ms. McKee, Mr. Moorhouse, Mr. Nyznyk, Mrs. Strachan, Mr. Sudyk
<b>Reset Room Teacher</b>	Miss Melnyk
<b>Music</b>	Ms. Basaraba
<b>School Counsellor</b>	Mrs. Arnason
<b>Principal</b>	Ms. Brown
<b>Assistant Principal</b>	Mrs. Caines

### Classified Staff

#### **Educational Assistants:**

<b>ECS</b>	Mrs. Butler, Mrs. Scott
<b>Grade 1</b>	Mrs. Zielinski
<b>Grade 2</b>	Mrs. Dyck
<b>Grade 3</b>	Mrs. Hammel
<b>Grade 4</b>	Mrs. Pitters
<b>Grade 6</b>	Mrs. Kenny
<b>Grade 7</b>	Mrs. Dykstra, Mrs. Elmore
<b>Grade 8</b>	Mrs. Hamilton, Mrs. Huren, Mrs. Pitters
<b>Librarian</b>	Miss Gauchier
<b>Business Manager</b>	Mrs. Grieve
<b>Secretary/Registrar</b>	Mrs. Barker
<b>Secretary</b>	Mrs. Boychuk

## Download these bus apps for a successful ride!

Have a child taking the bus this school year? Download the following apps to stay up to date with all the busing information you'll need throughout the year.



### *Bus Status*

A new version of the Bus Status app is available: Bus Status 4. The app provides the same features and functionality as before, but faster and more reliable for users. Families who previously used the Bus Status 3 app will need to download the new version from the App Store or Google Play. You won't be able to update directly from one version to the next. New users can download Bus Status 4 directly now.

Through the Bus Status app, families can access information about buses that are running late or cancelled throughout the year. Simply save your child's bus routes as favourites and turn on push notifications to stay up to date.

Refer to the [Bus Status: Frequently Asked Questions](#) for more information about the update, and plan to download the new version now.

### *Ride 360*

The Traversa Ride 360 website and app enable parents and students to access their own secure data for bus stop location, route and pickup time. With Division buses equipped with GPS hardware, Ride 360 uses GPS geolocation to let users know when to expect their bus each day. Parents and students log in with their own information to access their specific routing information and details.

Ride 360 will be updated in the coming year. Families are encouraged to download the current Ride 360 app from the [App Store](#) or [Google Play](#) for the start of the school year and set up their account. When the update takes place, login information will seamlessly roll over to the updated app.

Refer to [additional instructions and the tutorial video](#) on the Division website for more details about setting up your Ride 360 profile.

## **Video surveillance on buses**

Did you know each EIPS bus is equipped with video surveillance?

Video surveillance and equipment help:

- ensure the safety of all students, drivers and property; and
- discourage destructive acts.

On a regular basis, EIPS Student Transportation reviews the video recordings, in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act*. The recordings assist the department with monitoring student and driver conduct and may be used as evidence in a disciplinary matter.

EIPS buses are also equipped with [Tyler Drive tablets](#). The goal: To enhance safety, improve communication, increase efficiency and provide oversight. These tablets allow bus drivers to stay on time with turn-by-turn route directions and show student pictures and information when bus drivers get to stop locations. To ensure students get where they need to go, there are now two distinct audible tones when students scan their bus pass boarding or leaving the bus. One tone indicates they're getting on the correct bus or at the correct stop, and the other tone indicates they're on the incorrect bus or leaving at the incorrect stop. By using live information, Tyler Drive tablets provide more accuracy than paper schedules.

For more information about the collection, use and disclosure of personal information, contact the EIPS FOIP Co-ordinator at 780-464-3477.

## **Fundraising Association Update**

### **Hot lunches are back!**

This month is Boston Pizza, and the hot lunch days are as follows:

- Wednesday, September 27 - Grades 1 to 3 and Mon/Wed Kindergarten
- Thursday, September 28 - Grades 4 to 6 and Tues/Thurs Kindergarten
- Friday, September 29 - Grades 7 to 9



To order hot lunches, we use the [spschool.hotlunches.net](http://spschool.hotlunches.net) website. Parents must create an account and add their children. All parents must go in and select their child's new teacher for this year. To pay for your order the website uses PayPal. There is an option to check out as a guest through PayPal if you do not have an account; doing so this way will not save your credit card information. For those who do not have credit cards there is an option to pay via cash; please bring your printed receipt along with the exact amount to the office prior to the end of school on the last day for orders. 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 and let them know. You can either pick up their lunch from the office at your convenience before the end of the school day or you can anonymously donate it to another student. No refunds will be given if a student is absent on the day of their hot lunch.

If you need to cancel or change an order, you must do so before the deadline. A refund will be processed as a credit on your account to be used for future hot lunch orders. Once the deadline has passed orders cannot be changed or cancelled.

Hot lunch orders for September will close on Friday, September 22 at 3:00pm. Please ensure you have ordered and paid before the cut off.

Should you have any comments, suggestions, or questions you can reach out via email at [spschoolhotlunchadmin@gmail.com](mailto:spschoolhotlunchadmin@gmail.com).

### **PIZZA LUNCH**

Pizza lunch is back for Junior High. The first one is next Friday, September 15!

- ❖ One slice is \$2.00 or a combo of 2 slices and a drink for \$5.00.

### **BEAR TRACKS**

We will be doing bear tracks again this year as a fundraiser. Hoping to have the buckets come October so keep your eyes peeled for future updates.

### **BOTTLE DRIVE**

We will be doing a bottle drive again coming up! A date will be announced soon. Please keep any bottles you'd like to donate. We will be looking for volunteers to help hand out flyers and drive around to pick up bottles.

### **FASS Secretary**

We are looking for a volunteer to join the FASS team come October! If interested, please contact Laelia at [president.fass@gmail.com](mailto:president.fass@gmail.com). This is a great way to get involved with the school.

## **ONGOING FUNDRAISERS**

### **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

- Perfect timing to start Christmas shopping!
- For online shopping! (Old Navy, Indigo, Canadian Tire, Walmart, Home Depot, Starbucks and more!)
- You can even get/reload your gift cards here!
- Just download the app, use the code **K2TQ9X** and start shopping!

### Download the SchoolMessenger App

SouthPointe School and the Division use the SchoolMessenger platform for communicating with families—through both phone and email. Be sure to add [communications@eips.ca](mailto:communications@eips.ca) and [general.sps@eips.ca](mailto:general.sps@eips.ca) to your safe sender list to avoid having important messages funneled into your junk mail folder.

You can directly manage your phone and email subscription preferences through [SchoolMessenger](#). Simply log in to your account—or create one if you don't already have one—and select the message types you'd like to receive to each phone number and email address on file.

The easiest way to stay connected is to download the SchoolMessenger app. Get the latest updates 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 your inbox. Download the SchoolMessenger app from the [App Store](#) or [Google Play](#) today.

### Sync the School Calendar to your calendar.

Did you know you can sync the school calendar to your own calendar? You can. Simply, visit [southpointeschool.ca/about/calendar](https://southpointeschool.ca/about/calendar) and click on the applicable subscription option:

- Download to iCal
- Add to Google Calendar
- Subscribe to Calendar

*NOTE:* Options are located above the calendar.

Once you click on the desired subscription option, follow the instructions. Within seconds, your calendar will contain all SouthPointe's important dates including holidays, school-closures days, planned activities, events and more.