



# Shark Bites Weekly Update

Every Day, Every Student, A Success.



southpointeschool.ca

## Principal's Message

A big thank you to our grade 6 families that were able to attend the Junior High Information Night on April 9. It was nice to see the enthusiasm from the students as they completed their scavenger hunts to learn about the courses and electives they will take next year.

Junior High Elective registrations continues, and Administration has been connecting with students that have not completed their elective forms to date and entering the selection into PowerSchool.

Elk Island Public Schools is hosting a Public Engagement Event on Fort Saskatchewan Accommodations on April 25 at 5:30pm at SouthPointe School.

EIPS is exploring how best to manage the challenges the Division faces in Fort Saskatchewan—in terms of the limited and ageing infrastructure, the region's growing population and anticipated capacity pressures. This is a great opportunity for our Fort families become more informed about how these issues impact our students. Please feel to join us.

*Carol Brown*  
Principal

## WEEK AT A GLANCE

Monday, Apr. 22	Spirit Day – Wear Blue & Green for Earth Day
Tuesday, Apr. 23	
Wednesday, Apr. 24	Hot Lunch – Gr. 1-3 & Mon/Wed Kindergarten Kindergarten Open House – 5:30pm
Thursday, Apr. 25	Hot Lunch – Gr. 4-6 & Tues/Thurs Kindergarten EIPS Public Engagement Event – 5:30pm
Friday, Apr. 26	Hot Lunch – Gr. 7-9

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## COMING UP

Wednesday, May 1	Early Dismissal
Wednesday, May 1	Night of Music
Friday, May 3	PD Day – No school for students
Wednesday, May 8	Spirit Day – Hats on for Mental Health

## Fundraising Association Update

### **Bottle Drive!**

Huge thanks to all the volunteers who helped deliver fliers, drove for bottle pick up or stood by the truck to help fill. Without you, we wouldn't have had success of raising **\$3300** for outdoor play equipment.

Also, a huge thank you to the **Fort Sask Fire Department** who helped load bottles into the truck for us.

### **HOT LUNCH**

April's Hot Lunch will be from **Boston Pizza**.

Order cutoff is **Friday, April 19 at 3:00pm**. Any orders not paid for at this time will be deleted.

**Wednesday, April 24** – Grades 1-3 & Mon/Wed Kindergarten

**Thursday, April 25** – Grades 4-6 & Tues/Thurs Kindergarten

**Friday, April 26** – Grades 7-9

**We will be looking for volunteers, please let Tracy know if you can help! 780-298-6295**

The Hot Lunch for the rest of the year is LIVE!

**\*\* Please ensure you double-check what month you are ordering for and that you complete your payment\*\***

In June we will be doing a Hot Dog Lunch again for all students.



\*\*Please remember if your child is away on their hot lunch day, plan to either pick it up from the school office or donate it. Unfortunately, if we are not aware, the lunch will be donated to another person, refunds will not be given. We ask that you please contact the school if your child is away.

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

### **FASS Secretary**

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

## **ONGOING FUNDRAISERS**

### **BOSTON PIZZA (all locations)**

- Collect your receipts and drop them off at the school
- Boston Pizza donates 5% back

### **FLIPGIVE**

- 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 [Grab your reader's attention with a great quote from the document or use this space to emphasize a key point. To place this text box anywhere on the page, just drag it.]

- **K2TQ9X** and start shopping!

\*\*\*\*\* Check out the new Counsellor's Corner on our school's website for upcoming community events and resources:  
<https://www.southpointeschool.ca/counsellors-corner>



## YEARBOOKS

Order your yearbook today at  
**ybpay.ca**

Scan to order  
today!



**Order Deadline:** April 26, 2024

**Yearbook ID Code:** 14214924

**School Name:** SouthPointe School

### Yearbook

**\$20**

- Sturdy softcover with protective coating
- All-colour pages that vibrantly capture your memories throughout the school year
- Durable saddle-stitched binding that keeps the yearbook intact through wear and tear

Prices include sales tax where applicable. When you pay by check, you authorize us to process the payment as a check transaction, or to use information from your check to make a one-time electronic fund transfer from your checking account. A service fee may be charged on returned checks. Post dated checks are not accepted. By completing and submitting this order form, you are agreeing to all of Lifetouch's terms and conditions located at [www.lifetouch.ca/terms-conditions](http://www.lifetouch.ca/terms-conditions) and to our privacy policy located at [www.lifetouch.ca/privacy](http://www.lifetouch.ca/privacy).

Contact our Help Center for assistance at [lifetouch.com/support-ca](http://lifetouch.com/support-ca).  
Select Yearbook Orders for assistance.

## **PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT:**

# **Help Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) plan and grow**

EIPS is exploring how best to manage the challenges the Division faces in Fort Saskatchewan—in terms of the limited and ageing infrastructure, the region’s growing population and anticipated capacity pressures. The goal: To ensure all Fort Saskatchewan learners receive a high-quality, student-centred education in 21st-century learning spaces—spaces that prepare students for life after high school, develop career opportunities and help build the community, all at the same time.

## **Latest Update:**

Join Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) as it hosts a community conversation with school families in Fort Saskatchewan on April 25.

Make sure to attend to learn about some of the challenges the Division faces in Fort Saskatchewan and how it plans to address these—specifically, in terms of the limited and ageing infrastructure, the region’s growing population and anticipated capacity challenges. Plus, gain insight about strategies moving forward, ask questions, share your concerns and find out how you can help.

### **Community Conversation: Details**

*Date:* April 25, 2024

*Time:* 5:30 p.m.—doors open at 5:15 p.m.

*Location:* SouthPointe School; 11 SouthPointe Blvd.; Fort Saskatchewan, AB

\*childcare provided

### **Format**

The Division will begin with a brief presentation, followed by a panel discussion and a question-and-answer period. EIPS will speak on the conditions of some of its schools, the limitations of older buildings, capital plan priorities and the work it has undertaken on the collegiate model—designed to provide students with high-demand employment training and skills in their community. The goal: To ensure all Fort Saskatchewan learners receive a high-quality, student-centred education in 21st-century learning

spaces—spaces that prepare students for life after high school, develop career opportunities and help build the community, all at the same time.

**Can't make the conversation?** That's OK. Following the meeting, EIPS will post a recap online and how to contact the Division for more information.

[subscribe for updates](#)



### **Spring Food Drive**

Beginning with Earth Day, **Monday, April 22** and continuing through to **Friday, May 3**, Southpointe School will be collecting Food Bank donations. In addition to school days, we are collecting donations during the **Night of Music**, (6:00pm Wednesday, May 1). We will have bins set up at the gym doors. We gratefully accept any toy, non-perishable food, or personal care items you generously donate.

**Your generosity is appreciated!**

## **Pre-kindergarten Programming at EIPS**

Is there a preschooler in your life experiencing developmental delays or challenges with speech-language or motor-skill development—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 2020 or 2021, 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](http://eips.ca).

## **Get ready for Kindergarten!**

Do you have a child registered in kindergarten next year? If so, make sure to attend SouthPointe School's upcoming Kindergarten Information Night on Wednesday April 24 from 5:30-6:30 pm.

- Short presentation on what to expect for Kindergarten
- meet the teachers
- see the classroom
- gain insight on play-based learning
- see what a typical day looks like



## **Kindergarten Information Night 2024:**

*Date:* April 24, 2024

*Time:* 5:30 pm

*Location:* SouthPointe School

To make the transition to school as smooth as possible, Elk Island Public Schools has put together an online toolkit for families. This includes information about registration, important dates, programming options, what to expect, eligibility, finding your designated school, transportation and more. [Kindergarten | Elk Island Public Schools | EIPS](#)

Additional information about SouthPointe School's kindergarten program is available on the school [website](#).

### **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.

## **PARENT CORNER**

Executive function and self-regulation are the skills that children need to learn in order to be successful in many areas. Imagine your brain is like a busy airport and executive function is the air traffic control tower that helps planes take off and land safely. Without executive function, students may struggle with things like decoding words or organizing their ideas when writing. While we're not born with executive function skills, our brains are ready to learn these skills. Some are modeled to us and we pick them up. Others need more explicit instruction and practice. [Check out this article](#) for some great activities that help children from infancy to adolescence develop their executive function skills.





## **Make the most of your summer with** **EIPS Summer School**

With more than 40 senior high courses, students can earn credits, upgrade marks, lighten their workloads or finish needed prerequisites.

### **4-WEEK SESSIONS**

**JULY 2-26**

### **2-WEEK SESSIONS**

**JULY 2-12 & JULY 15-26**

Bev Facey Community High  
8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

### **Courses include:**

- Core Senior High Courses
- CALM
- Physical Education
- Work Experience & RAP
- Land-Based Learning
- Aboriginal Studies
- Workplace Safety
- First Aid

*Plus, online complementary courses*



**Registration opens March 15**

**[eipsnextstep.ca/summer-school](http://eipsnextstep.ca/summer-school)**

## Do more this summer!

**EIPS Summer School: Register opens MARCH 15, 2024**

**July 2-26**

Registration for EIPS Summer School is now open. The program, organized through Next Step, offers more than 40 senior high courses. Students can earn credits, upgrade marks, lighten workloads or finish pre-requisite courses.

### **Courses include:**

Open to EIPS students entering grades 10 to 12 next fall, and students in their Grade 12 year.

- English Language Arts 10-1, 20-1, 20-2, 30-1 and 30-2
- Social Studies 10-1, 20-1, 20-2, 30-1 and 30-2
- Mathematics 10-3, 10C, 20-1, 20-2, 20-3, 30-1 and 30-2
- Science 10, 14, 24 and 30
- Biology 20 and 30
- Chemistry 20 and 30
- Physics 20 and 30
- Physical Education 10
- Traditional Land-based Learning 25
- Aboriginal Studies 10, 20, and 30
- Career and Life Management (CALM 20)
- Foundations in Industry Workplace Safety
- Work Experience and RAP

*Plus, choose from a variety of complementary courses—offered online.*

Learn more about [EIPS Summer School 2024](#)—including 2024 course offerings, registration, important dates and more.

### **Did you know?**

Alberta Reserves are accumulated surplus funds that may be designated to a school, department or priority. The Board of Trustees approves the transfer of funds to and from reserves and has a yearly plan on how those reserves are used—to the benefit of students. EIPS identifies high-demand areas and uses its operating reserves for initiatives like student learning, new curriculum work, consultant support, mental health initiatives, technology upgrades, public-health best practices and other one-time projects. Operating reserves are also used to furnish and equip new schools and classrooms. With its capital reserves, EIPS replaces ageing equipment, purchases technology, modernizes and expands student learning spaces, and funds emergent capital needs.

Learn more:

- [Board Policy 2: Role of Board](#)
- [Administrative Procedure 501: Financial Management](#)



# NIGHT OF MUSIC

WEDNESDAY MAY 1  
6:00 PM  
SOUTHPOINTE GYM

*featuring*  
Junior High Band  
Grade 6 Band  
Elementary Choir  
Hand Chime Ensemble  
Recorder Ensemble

JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF MUSICAL PERFORMANCES

SouthPointe School is hosting a Night of Music on Wednesday, May 1 at 6:00 pm. The concert will happen in the Gym. This will be a concert for all students who have been involved in extracurricular music including band, choir, hand chimes, and recorders. Students have been working hard at recesses, lunches, and after school to prepare several musical selections. There is no limit to seating so please come out to support music at SouthPointe. If you have any questions, please reach out to Ms. Yule ([maureen.yule@eips.ca](mailto:maureen.yule@eips.ca))

**Ms. Maureen Yule**

Music Teacher  
SouthPointe School

## **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, opportunities for growth and how it's supporting students to achieve the best possible outcomes. Read through this year's [EIPS Annual Education Results Report 2022-23](#) and discover how EIPS fosters learning environments for all students to learn, grow and thrive—and why it matters.

### **April Spotlight: enhancing public education through effective engagement**

- [Rules of Engagement](#): Using a collaborative approach to improve student achievement and success
- [Driving change](#): Strengthening public education through Board advocacy

## **RELATED INFORMATION**

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

[EIPS Three-Year Capital Plan: 2024-27](#)

## **A big *THANK YOU* to EIPS Volunteers**

National Volunteer Week takes place April 14-20. On behalf of the Board of Trustees at Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS), I want to extend my most heartfelt thanks to all EIPS volunteers. Every time you've contributed, whether it was helping on a class field trip or planning a school event for families to enjoy, you were there at a moment when we needed you. Students needed you, staff needed you, the community needed you—and you answered the call. These are moments that matter and are ones that make a difference in a student's experience at their school.

So, thank you again for being there. Without you, EIPS would not be what it is today, and schools wouldn't be able to do all the wonderful things they do. This National Volunteer Week, I encourage everyone to celebrate the hundreds of volunteers and thousands of hours put into supporting student growth and achievement at schools across the Division.

Cathy Allen  
Chair, EIPS Board of Trustees

# Grandparents who Parent Support Group

Connect with other grandparents who are raising their grandchildren

Meetings are 4th Monday of the Month  
6:30 - 8:00pm  
@BGC Fort Saskatchewan



## Meeting Dates:

January 22, 2024

February 26, 2024

March 25, 2024

April 22, 2024

May 27, 2024

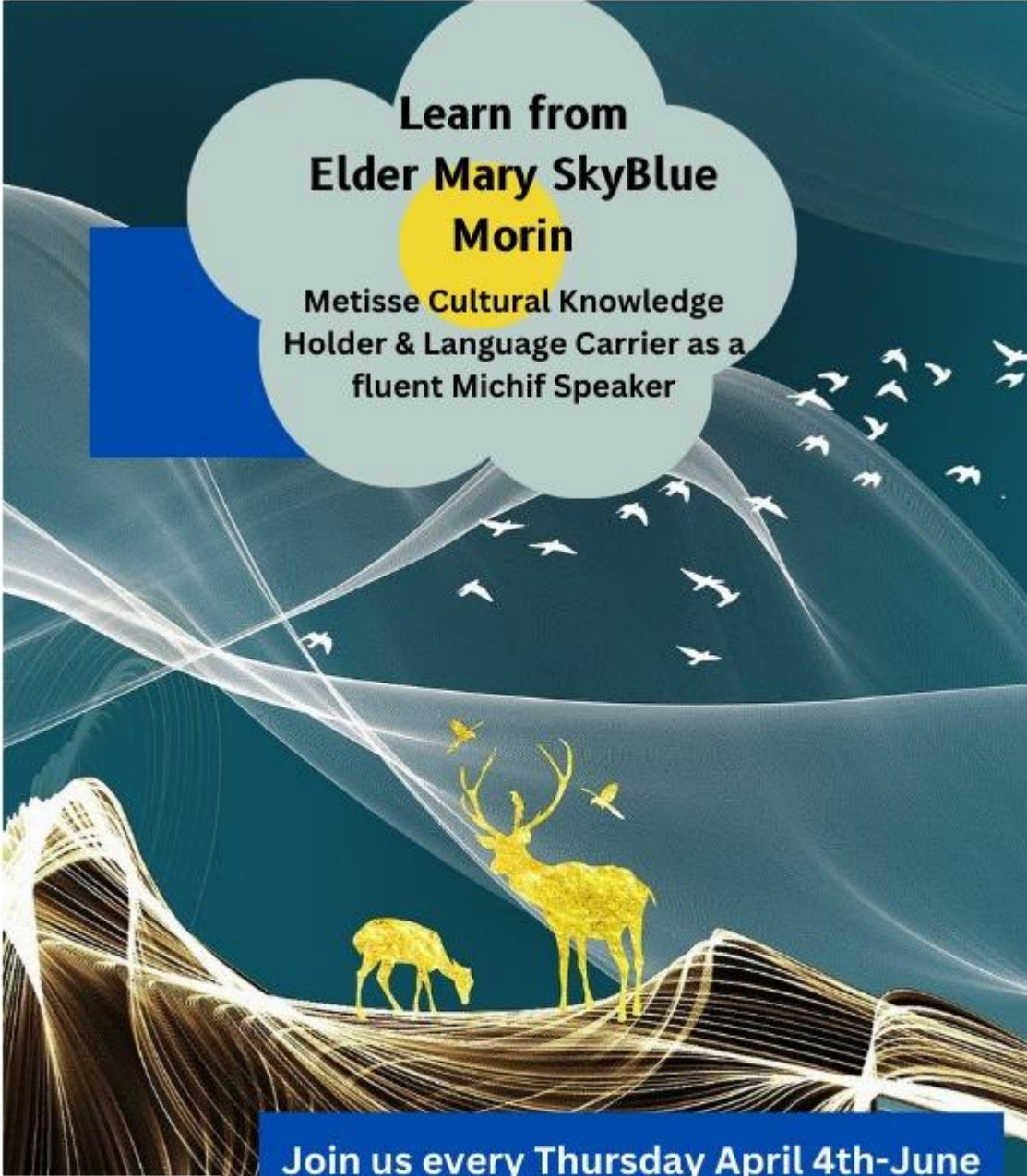
June 17, 2024

To register for Childcare or  
for more info call 780-992-0103  
ext. 303



Elk Island Public Schools is offering students, families and teachers the opportunity to learn Northern Michif from Elder Mary SkyBlue Morin. Attached is the poster with more information. Everyone is welcome to learn and practice together, no experience necessary. Classes will be held on Thursdays from 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm.

Here is the [link to the form](#) for registration.



**Learn from  
Elder Mary SkyBlue  
Morin**

**Metisse Cultural Knowledge  
Holder & Language Carrier as a  
fluent Michif Speaker**

**Join us every Thursday April 4th-June  
13th**

**Online 6 pm-7:30 pm**

**Registration form:  
<https://forms.office.com/r/bkRa8PVjbZ>**



Elk Island  
Public Schools