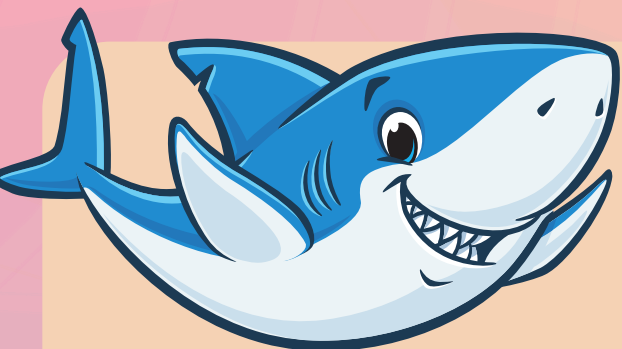


# Shark Bites

# NEWSLETTER



SouthPointe School

## Principal's Message

Dear SPS Families,

As we near spring break, I wanted to take a moment to share a few friendly reminders and express my thanks. If you haven't had a chance to review your child's Term 2 report card yet, you can find it on PowerSchool. We encourage you to take a look when you can. A heartfelt thank you to all the parents who attended Parent-Teacher interviews and the Book Fair. Your involvement means so much to us, and we truly appreciate your continued support. **A big THANK YOU** as well to all the parents & grandparents that helped make the Book Fair such a success! We could not have done it without you!

The Grade 7-9 Ski Trip was a huge success, and the students had a fantastic time. It was a great opportunity for them to enjoy the outdoors and bond with their classmates. Thank you Mr. Nyznyk for organizing the trip. Additionally, our dress-up days were a hit! On Monday, students had fun wearing green for St. Patrick's Day, and Thursday's Dress as Your Favorite Book Character Day brought out so much creativity. Thank you to everyone who participated!

Also, a quick reminder that the **Purdys fundraiser orders are due by March 30th**. Thank you for your participation and support in this effort. **Our incredible FASS team has been working tirelessly to fundraise, ensuring our students have access to more Chromebooks and the tools they need to succeed!**

Looking ahead, please note that when we return on March 31, we'll have early dismissal on April 2.

I hope everyone enjoys a relaxing and well-deserved spring break. We look forward to welcoming you all back on March 31! Warmly, Laurie Caines Principal

## NEXT WEEK



Monday (24)
Tuesday (25)
Wednesday (26)
Thursday (27)
Friday (28)

# SPRING BREAK

# MARCH

## Coming Up this Month

March 20	First Day of Spring
March 21	Deadline to Complete <u>EIPS Annual Feedback Survey</u>
March 21	No School (School Closure Day)
March 22-30	SPRING BREAK!
March 31	National Indigenous Languages Day
<b>March 31</b>	<b>Back to School After Spring Break</b>
April 2	Early Dismissal
April 7-11	<u>Education Week</u>
April 16	Pick Up of Purdy's Chocolate Orders
April 16	SPS Night of Music
April 17	Deadline to Order Hot Lunch
April 18	No School (Good Friday)
April 21	No School (Easter Monday)
April 22	<u>Earth Day</u>
April 23	Gr 1-3 and Mon/Wed Kindergarten Hot Lunch

# April



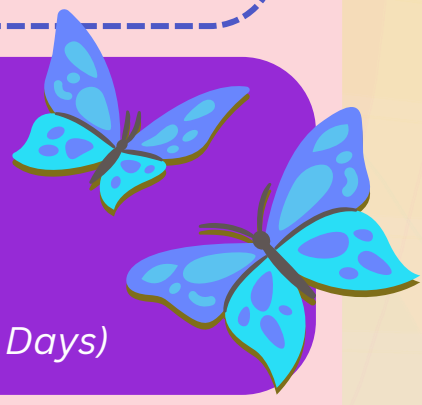
## School Start & End Times

8:10AM - School Begins

11:08AM to 11:48AM - Lunch

2:46PM - School Dismissed

*(1:46PM - School Dismissed on Early Dismissal Days)*

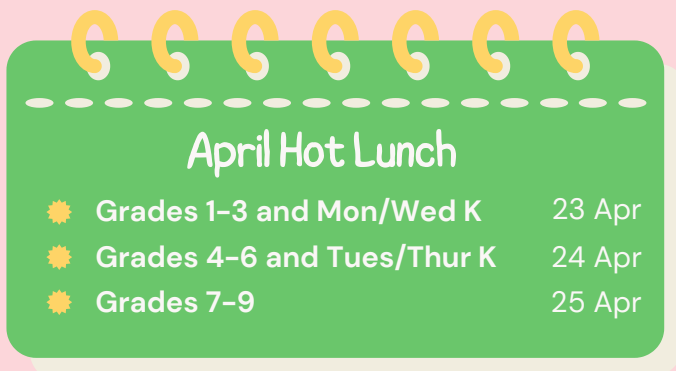


# DID YOU KNOW?

EIPS prepares a budget in the spring based on projected enrolment, funding, estimated costs and Board of Trustees budget priorities. Before the Division can finalize its budget for the next school year, we need to wait for the provincial government to provide the funding manual for school authorities and EIPS' funding profile. This year's funding manual is expected to be released in early April and the funding profile should be available mid-March. EIPS plans to publish its spring budget in May. [Learn more](#)

## Note:

April (BPs) & May (Tim's & Papa John's) Hot Lunch online ordering is now open



### April Hot Lunch

- Grades 1-3 and Mon/Wed K 23 Apr
- Grades 4-6 and Tues/Thur K 24 Apr
- Grades 7-9 25 Apr

To order next month's hot lunch, go to <https://spschool.hotlunches.net/admin/>



**SPS Staff played  
against our Jr  
Boys & Girls and  
Sr Boys & Girls  
Basketball Teams  
last Friday**

## SHARKS ATHLETICS

**Monday (24)**

**Tuesday (25)**

**Wednesday (26)**

**THURSDAY (27)**

**FRIDAY (28)**



**In a thrilling display of questionable athleticism and impressive determination, the staff basketball team took on our Jr Girls, Jr Boys and Sr Girls teams—and came out victorious!**

**However, the glory run came to a screeching halt when they faced the Sr Boys team. Despite their best efforts, the staff fell short even with calling in for back up from EIPS Central Staff. The Sr Boys walked away with the “W”, better luck next year Staff!**

# JUMP ROPE FOR HEART

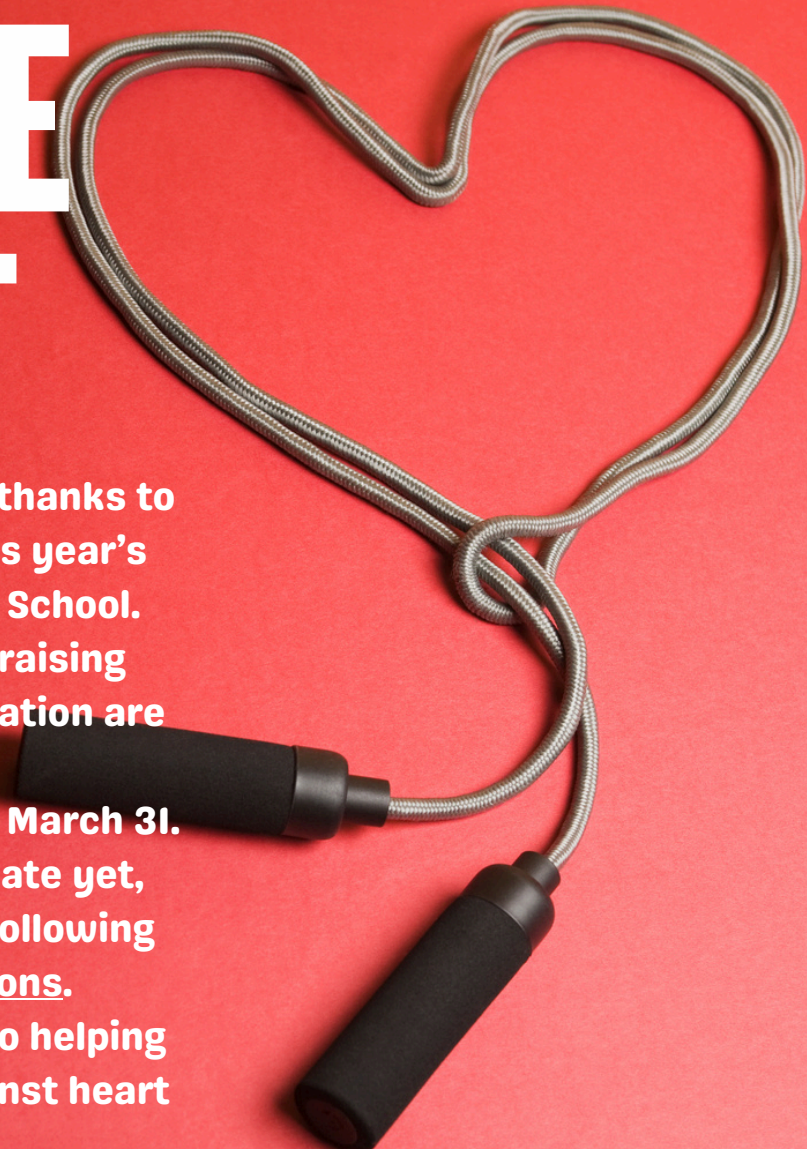
**We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who has participated in this year's Jump Rope for Heart at SouthPointe School.**

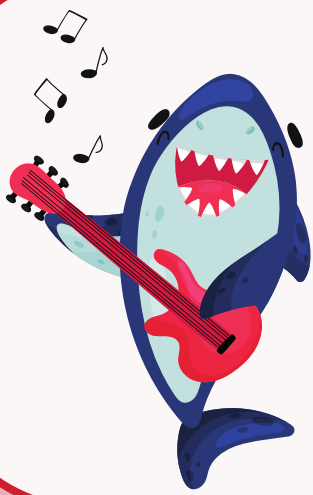
**Your enthusiasm and generosity in raising funds for the Heart and Stroke Foundation are truly appreciated.**

**We are accepting donations online until March 31.**

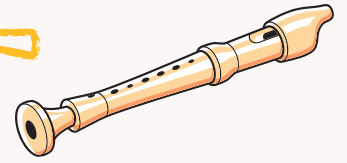
**If you haven't had the chance to donate yet, you can still contribute through the following link: [Jump Rope for Heart Donations](#).**

**Thank you again for your dedication to helping us make a difference in the fight against heart disease and stroke!**





# MUSIC



Gr 4-6 Recorder Club on Mondays & Wednesdays at First Recess

Gr 4-6 Choir on Tuesdays at Lunch Recess

Gr. 6 Hand Chime Club on Thursdays at Lunch Recess

Gr. 6 & Jr High Band on Tuesdays from 3:00-3:45PM

Night of

# MUSIC

April 16 @ 6:00PM



SouthPointe School's annual Night of Music will be held on Wednesday, April 16 at 6:00pm in the SouthPointe Gym. This will be the wrap up performance for extracurricular groups and feature performances by the SouthPointe Choir, Hand Chimes, Recorders, and Bands.

## GRADE 6 BAND

The Grade 6 music classes have been hard at work learning new instruments since January. These instruments include flute, clarinet, trumpet, trombone, euphonium, and tuba. Starting on Monday, March 10, an after-school group will start up for any students wanting to participate in the **Spring Night of Music** on their band instrument.

**Practices will be as follows:**

Tuesday, April 1 from 3:00-3:45

Tuesday, April 8 from 3:00-3:45

Tuesday, April 15 from 3:00-3:45

# Community Building...

The students in 5B and our Grade 6 Community Building Club have gained valuable insights into the realities of poverty, the importance of budgeting, and how we can all contribute to making a positive impact. They've learned that there are many ways we can come together as a community, and that it's just as important to be open to receiving help as it is to give it.

Thank you for being a part of this journey with us and for fostering community spirit! We encourage you to continue supporting this initiative with your classroom families.

Your contributions truly make a difference, and together, we can spread kindness and offer support to those in need. We appreciate your ongoing support!

Make  
Your  
Mark!



Thanks  
for your  
help!



## SYNC



Spending  
time with our  
seniors



# What's Happening AROUND SOUTHPOINTE...

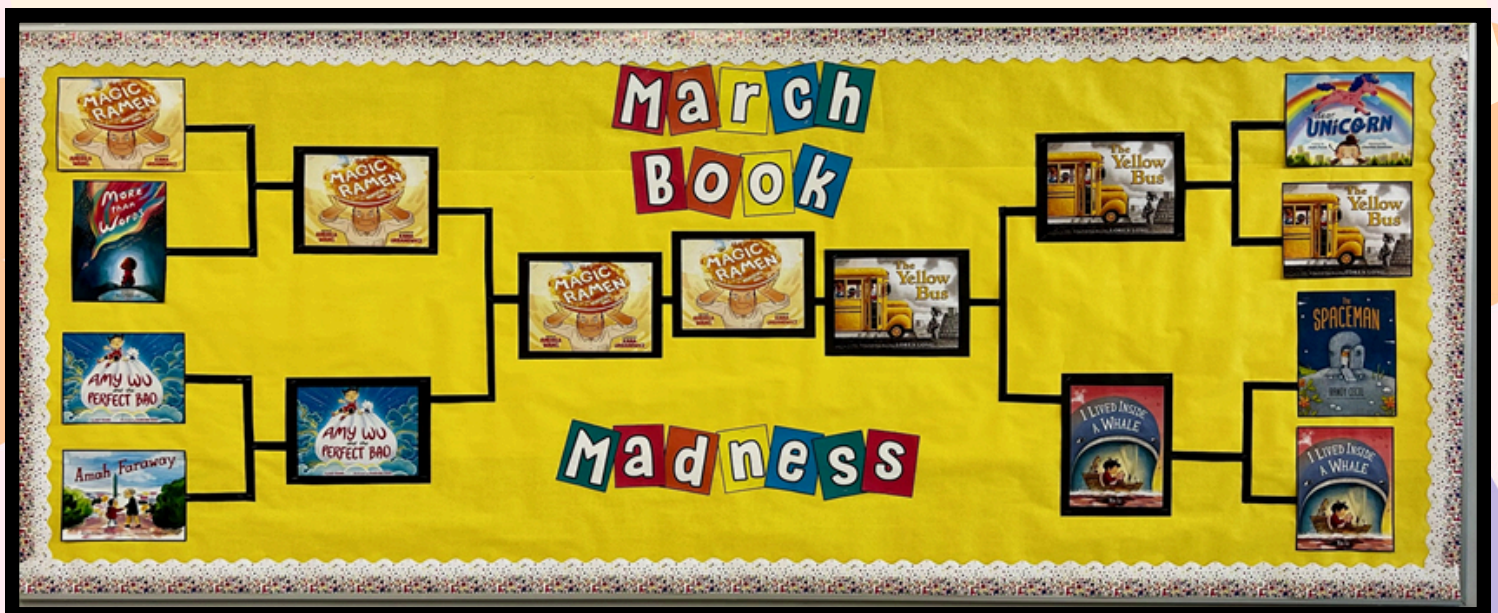
## *Thank You...*

so much to all our parents and grandparents that helped out in the Book Fair this week. Ms. Gauchier so appreciated you giving of your time and energy to support our kids and our library!



and to all of our families that generously gifted books and items on our Teacher's Wishlist's. You have helped fill our classrooms with exciting new books, learning tools, and resources that will inspire and engage students for years to come.

*The winner of our March Book Madness is:*



# What's Happening AROUND SOUTHPOINTE...

SouthPointe School YEARBOOK

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

Order Deadline: <b>May 11, 2025</b>	Price: <b>\$20.00</b>	Yearbook ID Code: <b>14214925</b>
--	--------------------------	--------------------------------------

Don't miss out!  
Order your yearbook today!



Scan the QR code or visit:  
<https://ybpay.lifetouch.ca/>  
To purchase your copy.



## YEARBOOK

Hey, families! The school year is almost over, and it's time to grab your very own yearbook! It's full of fun photos and special memories from the year. Yearbooks are only \$20 each. Be sure to order before **May 11** - don't miss out on this cool keepsake!



Click [Here](#) for EIPS'  
First Nation Metis  
Inuit Newsletter



ᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ  
niskipîsim  
March

# FASS/School Council Info

## PURDY'S FUNDRAISER

Want to know the most DELICIOUS way to support us? Order Purdy's chocolates from our fundraiser! This year, we're hoping to raise \$3000 for 40 Chromebooks and a charging cart to enhance our students' learning and we need YOUR help!

What you'll need to order:

1. Our campaign number: 79800
2. Go to our fundraising website: [CLICK HERE](#)
3. Click "Join Campaign"
4. Shop, shop, shop away!



Thank you EVERYONE for your support. Even if you can't buy chocolates from us, it would mean the world if you could share this fundraiser link to everyone you know! Happy chocolating!

(Pick-up date will Be April 16, 2025 see website for more details)

**Mark your calendars! Our next School Council Meeting is APRIL 23 at 5:00PM in the Large Flex Space.**

## HOT LUNCH

### **Hot Lunch is OPEN for April & May!**

To order hot lunches, we use the [spschool.hotlunches.net](https://spschool.hotlunches.net) website.

**Deadline to order for APRIL is coming up on April 17th at NOON.**

**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 **before 10:30AM** and let them know. No refunds will be given if a student is absent on the day of their hot lunch.

**Once the deadline has passed orders cannot be changed or cancelled.**

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

**REMINDER:**  
**Please still send**  
**SNACKS on Hot**  
**Lunch Day**

#### Hot Lunch Volunteer Opportunity:

We're looking for volunteers to assist with our hot lunch program! As a thank-you, each volunteer will receive a \$5 discount on one child's hot lunch account for their help.


If you are able to volunteer, please email [spschoolhotlunch@gmail.com](mailto:spschoolhotlunch@gmail.com).



# What's Happening

AROUND SOUTHPOINTE...

## FASS/School Council Info



Have  
Your  
Say

Join Our School Fundraising Association – Have a Say in How Funds Are Used!

Want to be part of the decisions that impact our school? Join the FASS! The membership is free and comes with no obligations—as a member, you'll be able to vote on financial decisions, access meeting records, and help shape fundraising efforts. Your input makes a difference, and meetings are a great way to stay informed and share your ideas. Sign up today: [HERE!](#)

The FASS is planning a **BOTTLE DRIVE** for later in April. Start saving your bottles, and we'll provide more details as the date approaches.

These fundraisers will help support the purchase of **40 Chromebooks** and a charging cart for our students, which will greatly enhance their learning experience.

APRIL



For Chromebooks  
for our students



### [Growing Smiles Spring Plant Fundraiser](#)

The Growing Smiles Spring Plant Fundraiser offers a beautiful selection of hanging baskets, patio planters, vibrant flowers, herbs, and vegetables—perfect for brightening up your home and garden. **Order now** to support our school and get high-quality plants just in time for spring!

### [Fundraising Association for SouthPointe School](#)

Order Deadline: May 7 at 12 PM    Pickup Date: May 22 @  
SPS

# News from EIPS



## **Explore Collegiate Pathways**

In 2025-26, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) will be expanding its Collegiate Pathways programming to provide more opportunities for more students across the Division.

Opportunities are available for students entering or returning to Grade 12 in the fall. For students entering grades 10 or 11 next year, the available information will help with course planning throughout senior high.

[Learn more about Collegiate Pathways](#)

[Planning for Grade 12](#)

[Course planning for grades 10 and 11](#)

## **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](http://eips.ca).

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

National Volunteer Week takes place April 27 to May 4. On behalf of the Board of Trustees at Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS), I want to say a giant thank you to all EIPS volunteers. This year's theme is Volunteers Make Waves, and that's certainly true in our Division. No matter whether you've chaperoned a field trip, helped out at a hot lunch day or provided support in a classroom—every time you've stepped in a school—you've made a ripple effect that washes over your community. These waves of positivity, hard work and dedication build up and make a momentous impact on a student's experience at school.

So, thank you again for being a part of our ocean at EIPS. The waves you've made—and will continue to create—all contribute to our collective goals of ensuring learning and working environments sustain student learning and amplifying the importance of public education in our province. 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

# News from EIPS



Every year, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) publishes an Annual Education Results Report, which outlines the Division's Four-Year Education Plan, growth opportunities, and how it supports students in achieving the best possible outcomes. Read through this year's [EIPS Annual Education Results Report 2023-24](#) and discover how EIPS fosters learning environments for all students to learn, grow and thrive —and why it matters.

March Spotlight: Student Growth and Success

- [Early Learning](#): Ensuring early learners reach developmental milestones
- [Culture of Literacy](#): Dive deep into the data and learn how students are developing strong literacy skills
- [Math Matters](#): Enhancing reasoning, understanding and achievement through numeracy-rich classrooms
- [Boosting Educational Outcomes](#): How EIPS supports the growth and achievement of self-identified First Nations, Métis or Inuit students.
- [Beyond High School](#): Supports and strategies that are creating real-life career pathways for learners

RELATED INFORMATION

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

[EIPS Three-Year Capital Plan: 2025-28](#)

## Kindergarten Registration

**\*NOW OPEN\***

Is your child turning five on or before Dec. 31, 2025? If so, it's now time to register for kindergarten. To register, simply complete the online registration form at [eips.ca/kindergarten](https://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.

Additional information regarding SouthPointe's kindergarten program is available at <https://www.southpointeschool.ca/>



# News from EIPS



## 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.

**Bev Facey Community High**  
99 Colwill Blvd, Sherwood Park

### **4-WEEK SESSIONS**

**JULY 7-31** 8:30 AM to 1 PM

### **2-WEEK SESSIONS**

**JULY 7-18** 8:30 AM to 1 PM

**JULY 21-31** 8:30 AM to 1:30 PM

### **Courses include:**

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

*Plus, online options for English and Social Studies, as well as other complementary courses*



**Registration opens March 17**  
[eipsnextstep.ca/summer-school](https://eipsnextstep.ca/summer-school)