



Dear FSE Families,

Welcome back to our Fort Elementary families. Welcome to our new Fort Elementary families! We are looking forward to a great year of learning! This new year brings with it changes for the safety of students and staff. Our staff wanted to say thank you for all you have done to prepare your student for a successful, and safe, re-entry to school!

Please be sure to review, and continue to check, the most current version of the [EIPS School Re-entry Plan](#), as well as the [Parent FAQ document](#). The government has also released a [Resource Guide for COVID-19 in Schools](#) document that may answer some of your questions.

Some important highlights for learning and safety are....

- Pre-screen **every morning** with the [COVID-19 Screening Questionnaire](#).
- Keep students at home if they have any symptoms.
- Send everything your child needs with them to school each day (masks, lunch, snacks, labelled water bottles etc.).

Entry and exit process

All students are to be dropped off and picked up at the front of the school. During arrival and departure, there will be **NO PLAYGROUND USE**. For older students, consider parking across the street where the crossing lights are located, students can then cross safely to meet you and our families and our younger students are able to have a closer pick up spot.

Parents and visitors may only enter the school if requested by staff and an appointment is booked. With this process, we are able to complete the screening, sign in and sanitize, as per AHS standards.

Out-of-School learning

If you have chosen out-of-school learning, teachers will be in touch with you during the week of September 8th. Units will be loaded into our Brightspace Learning Management System for parents and/or students to access materials.

School supplies for Metis children

The Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA) Children and Family Services Department is excited to deliver the Gear Up For School Program to Alberta Métis families with students entering Head Start, Kindergarten, Grade 1, and Grade 2 in September, 2020.

The Eligibility Criteria is...

- All eligible students must be entering Head Start, Kindergarten, Grade 1, or Grade 2 in September of 2020.
- All eligible families must be currently residing in Alberta.
- The parent/guardian or student must be a citizen of the MNA to qualify for this program (need to get registered? Please contact the MNA Registry Department at 780-455-2200).

If your family meets the eligibility criteria above, please request and complete the application form. The application will begin processing once all information is received by the MNA Children and Family Services Department. Applicants must be able to pick up school supplies from the regional office in the region in which they reside.

Enhancing literacy and numeracy

As part of Elk Island Public Schools' (EIPS) ongoing efforts to enhance the literacy and numeracy of students in all grade levels, the Division is once again administering the STAR 360 and Math Intervention/Programming Instrument (MIPI) assessment tools for all in-school learners in the 2020-21 school year. The tools focus on literacy and numeracy, are digitally based and offer an opportunity for students to demonstrate their learning. The goal: To provide timely information to teachers, help enhance classroom instruction and ensure student learning needs are identified.

At three points throughout the year, EIPS in-school students in grades 1 through 12 will complete the STAR 360 assessment, which evaluates reading comprehension. The assessment takes approximately 20 minutes and is administered on a digital device. At least once throughout the year, in-school students in grades 2 through 10 will complete

the MIPI assessment, which is a mathematic screening tool used to inform teachers about a student's math skills. For students in grades 7 through 10, the MIPI takes approximately 50 minutes, and for students in grades 2 through 6 it takes approximately 20 minutes. The results offer the teacher a clearer picture of a student's learning needs and help determine if subsequent instructional planning is required.

The scores of the assessments aren't used toward a student's grade, and there is no need to study ahead of time. The tools simply provide the teacher with information to better understand where each student is in terms of reading comprehension and mathematic ability. If, after analyzing the results, it's determined a student can benefit from extra support, the teacher will contact the family to discuss possible support strategies.

For more information about the Division's STAR 360 and MIPI assessment tools, contact EIPS Supports for Students at 780-464-3477.

Quick Facts: video surveillance

Did you know each EIPS bus is equipped with video surveillance? Video surveillance and equipment helps:

- 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 Act* (FOIP). The recordings assist the department with monitoring student and driver conduct and may be used as evidence in a disciplinary matter. For more information about the collection, use and disclosure of personal information, contact the EIPS FOIP Co-ordinator at 780-464-3477.

Update Your PowerSchool Information

The "Correction and Verification Form" is now available online through your PowerSchool Parent Portal. Families can use the form to access and update their child's information—including address, parent and guardian information, emergency contacts and any medical information. Reviewing and updating the form ensures the school has the most up-to-date information regarding your child. In particular, please pay close attention to all phone numbers, email addresses and emergency contact information. We will undoubtedly continue to have important information to communicate with families throughout this school year—whether your child is registered in in-school or out-of-school learning—and we want to ensure you receive this information. If you haven't already done so, we ask all Fort Saskatchewan Elementary

School families to review their child's PowerSchool information by Sept. 20, 2020. For more information about the PowerSchool Correction and Verification Form, contact the school directly.

FSE staff and School Council/Parent Group, would like to host a ZOOM meeting on Tuesday, September 15 at 6:30 p.m. An invitation will be sent out through your email!

Looking forward to learning with everyone!

Jacqui Holmes, Principal