



Dear FSE Families,

Our first couple of short weeks back at school have flown by and there are many preparations being made for upcoming school events and activities.

Unfortunately we had to postpone our in-person 'Meet the Teacher/Welcome Back BBQ' but rest assured we are adjusting our sails and working on a creative, safe version of this event to share with our families. Our 'Meet the Teacher' opportunity is going virtual via Google Meets on Wednesday, September 15 from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Each of our teachers will be posting an introduction and class tour, along with an opportunity to answer questions regarding classroom expectations. Please know the Google Meet is open to all families for the entire hour. Videos/ slideshows will be shared at the end of day Monday, September 13. Links for the Google Meet with your student's teacher will be shared in this email. Enjoy your time with your student's teacher.

As every parent/guardian is a member of our School Council you are invited to attend our first VIRTUAL School Council AGM meeting of the 2021-22 school year on Tuesday, September 14, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. School Council meetings are a great way to stay informed and share your feedback and one of the positives of a virtual meeting is that you don't have to leave the comfort of your own home. Here is the Zoom meeting information:

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82035715293?pwd=VIB1Ri9nL3luS1ZOSitNQ05LT1I5Zz09>

Meeting ID: 820 3571 5293

Passcode: Z2g06n

If you are unable to attend our next meeting and have questions, comments or feedback you'd like to share please reach out to the School Council (fseparentsociety@gmail.com) or myself.

Literacy & Numeracy

As part of Elk Island Public Schools' (EIPS) ongoing efforts to enhance the literacy and numeracy of students in all grade levels, FSE is once again administering the STAR 360 assessment to all learners in grade 1 to 6 and the Math Intervention/Programming Instrument (MIPI) assessment tools for students in grade 2 to 6 for in the 2020-21 school year. This is optional for grade 2 and 3 students as another Math assessment tool is being used for these grades. These assessment 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 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, students in grades 2 through 10 will complete the MIPI assessment, which is a mathematical screening tool used to inform teachers about a student's math skills. For students in grades 2 through 6 it takes approximately 20 minutes. (*Again, this is optional for grade 2 and 3 this year.) 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 are not 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 mathematical 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.

Transportation

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.

EIPS Operations Guidelines 2021-22

A friendly reminder we will be following the [Elk Island Public School \(EIPS\) Operations Guidelines for 2021-22](#). As information and expectations change so do our safety protocols and procedures so continue to regularly check this document to see the most current version of the EIPS Operations Guidelines for 2021-22 on the EIPS website as well as the [EIPS Frequently Asked Questions](#) document.

Mask Tips

Students should bring multiple masks with them daily. Students will be encouraged to change masks when they become dirty, wet or torn. In colder weather masks can easily become wet from breathing. A wet mask is harder to breathe through and is less efficient at preventing respiratory droplets from reaching others. If a reusable mask becomes wet, It should be put in a sealed

bag until it can be washed and a clean, dry mask should be put on. Masks should have at least three layers of fabric and fit properly—not too loose or too tight. Reusable masks should be washed daily. Neck gaiters, bandanas and masks with one-way valves are not suitable masks. For additional resources on proper mask use, visit the [AHS](#) or [CDC](#) websites.

As always, if you have any questions, please email me directly at shelby.labrecque@eips.ca or call 780-998-7771, during regular business hours.

Have a wonderful, safe weekend everyone!

Sincerely,

Shelby Labrecque, M. Ed.

Principal

Fort Saskatchewan Elementary School