



FORT SASKATCHEWAN

• ELEMENTARY •

Dear FSE Families,

School Council & Parent Society

Thank you to everyone who attended our first School Council & Parent Society meeting! We are looking forward to collaborating to make this the best school year for our students!

Our heartfelt thanks go out to everyone who donated to our Terry Fox Run fundraiser. \$240 was donated to this amazing cause on behalf of Fort Saskatchewan Elementary School!

Want to support our Christmas concert fundraiser? It's not too late! Dieleman orders are due by **October 11! *Thank you so much for your support!***

October Save the date! Elk Island Public Schools invites you to our **Community Engagement Night** at Fort Saskatchewan High School on **Thursday, October 6** from **5:00 - 7:30 p.m.** Please join us for a **hamburger** or **hot dog**, followed by an informative tradeshow style tour and information sessions showcasing the many resources our schools and community have to offer our children and families. ***I heard a rumor that there may be a face painter and a balloon animal artist there! Hope to see you there!***

Save the Date!



Connect the Fort!

EIPS Community Engagement Night & BBQ

Thursday, October 6 from 5:00 to 7:30
Fort Saskatchewan High School
Families from all grades are welcome!

Please join us for a BBQ and to explore our information booths and presentations to learn about the many school and community resources Fort Saskatchewan has to offer!

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 Early Literacy and Star Reading assessment tools in the 2022-23 school year. The Division's also launching a new assessment, called Star Math. These 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 identify student learning needs.

Three times a year, EIPS students in Grade 1 complete the Star Early Literacy assessment and students in grades 2-12 complete the Star Reading assessment. Both assessments are administered electronically and take about 20 minutes. Students in grades 2 through 10 also complete the Star Math, a mathematic screening tool. It, too, is administered electronically and takes about 30 minutes for students to complete. The results offer teachers a clearer picture of a student's learning needs and help determine if subsequent instructional planning is required. *NOTE:* Semester students, complete the Star Math twice, at the start and end of the course.

In addition to the Star assessments, Alberta Education now mandates all students in grades 1-3 complete additional literacy and numeracy assessments. Students in Grade 2 and Grade 3 completed these provincial assessments in September. Grade 1 students will complete the assessments in January 2023. EIPS also administers the assessments to all Grade 4 students to gauge learning loss from the pandemic, which the Division is now analyzing.

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 and MIPI assessment tools, contact EIPS Supports for Students at 780-464-3477.

Introducing Permission Click

EIPS has begun migrating school and Division forms to the online Permission Click platform. Many families will have already received one or more forms within the

new system. Permission Click makes the form submission process for families simple and straightforward. Forms are also easily accessible and fillable from your mobile device. Families will generally receive forms in one of two ways—sent as a link within a SchoolMessenger email or in a direct email from Permission Click sent to the first parent or guardian on record in PowerSchool. Be sure to add notifications@permissionclick.com to your safe sender list to ensure required forms aren't mistakenly directed to your junk mail folder.

Read In Week 2022 taking place October 3-7

Read In Week returns on October 3. This year's theme: "Choose Your Own Adventure." Through various activities, students will spend the week learning tips on choosing the right book; the art of storytelling; and how stories have the power to teach lessons, broaden perspectives and foster empathy. Some of the activities planned for Read In Week include:

- Guest readers
- Buddy reading
- Dress as your favorite adventure or book character

Read In Week is a division wide initiative held annually to encourage a lifelong love of reading and to enhance literacy awareness among students, staff, families, and community members. Fort Saskatchewan Elementary invites all families to participate in Read In Week by reading yourself, with your child or with someone in the community.

Don't forget to share what you've learned. Throughout the week, you can post your own stories about Read In Week using the hashtag [#eipsreads](#).

For more information visit readin.ca.

Celebrating World Teachers' Day: October 5

October 5 is World Teachers' Day! Launched in 1994 by the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), World Teachers' Day is celebrated annually around the world as a way to recognize teachers and the integral role they play in providing quality education to students. On October 5, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) encourages all of its students, parents and community members to show their appreciation for their teachers and the positive impact they make on our lives.

EIPS extends its heartfelt thank you to all Division teachers for their dedication, hard work and commitment in guiding and educating students through their kindergarten to Grade 12 years.

School Bus Safety Week: October 16 - 22

Schools throughout Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) are celebrating School Bus Safety Week October 16-22. The theme: 'Make the World Green, Ride Yellow,' which focuses on transportation choice and the environment. Throughout the week, various activities are planned, including information sessions, bus-safety lesson plans and bus-evacuation drills.

In addition, students are participating in the Alberta Student Transportation Advisory Council's provincewide poster contest, open to students in kindergarten to Grade 6. Each winner—one from each grade level—whose poster best illustrates the theme, 'Make the World Green, Ride Yellow,' will receive a \$25 gift card, a framed original of their poster, an engraved plaque and \$100 for their classroom.

As part of School Bus Safety Week, Fort Saskatchewan Elementary reminds students and families all Division school buses are equipped with a bus-pass scanner, GPS technology, the Child Check-Mate system and surveillance equipment, which allows Student Transportation to better monitor and manage its more than 170 buses. Families and students also have access to the Traversa Ride 360 app, a mobile tool to help determine the location of a bus, projected arrival times and when a child is scanned onto a bus.

For more information visit EIPS Student Transportation or contact 780-417-8151.

Caregiver Education Sessions

Alberta Health Services hosts a variety of virtual caregiver information sessions throughout the year focused on ways to support students' mental health. The sessions are free and geared toward parents, caregivers, teachers, and community members who want to learn more about challenges impacting children and adolescents. Session topics include anxiety, ADHD, depression, self-harm, technology, teens and teaching leadership skills, communication, resiliency and more

Visit [Caregiver Education](#) to see the monthly caregiver sessions.

Pay School Fees Online!

School fee information for the 2022-23 school year is now posted on the PowerSchool Parent Portal. 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 them online.

Don't forget to also 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 various school activities such as field trips, class projects, extracurricular activities fees and more.

If circumstances exist where you are unable to pay your fees, you can apply to have certain [fees waived](#) by submitting an [Application for a Waiver of Fees](#). The application deadline is Dec. 15, 2022.

For more information about school fees, waivers and payment deadlines, visit www.eips.ca/schools/fees

Looking ahead in October...

October 3 to 7 ~ Read In Week

October 5 ~ Early Dismissal @ 2:05 p.m.

October 6 ~ Community Engagement Night 5:00 to 7:30 p.m.

October 7 ~ No School ~ Professional Learning Day

October 10 ~ No School ~ Happy Thanksgiving!

October 11 ~ Last day to order from the Dieleman catalogue to raise money for our Christmas concert

October 11 ~ Booking site opens to schedule Parent/Teacher Conferences

October 19 ~ 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. Student/Parent/Teacher Conferences

October 20 ~ 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. Student/Parent/Teacher Conferences

October 24 to 31 ~ FSE Food Bank Drive

October 25 ~ ECS-B picture retakes if needed

October 26 ~ ECS-A and grade 1 to 6 picture retakes if needed

October 28 ~ Grade 6 students' immunization (parent consent required)

October 28 ~ Family Dance

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

As we move into the fall season, I hope everyone finds time this weekend to enjoy the moderate temperatures outside with family and friends.

Sincerely,

Shelby Labrecque, M. Ed.

Principal

Fort Saskatchewan Elementary School