

June Newsletter

Dear Wes Hosford Family!

Wow! How is it June already! It feels like we just got back from Christmas holidays! It was a great year... the concerts were awesome, the dance was a huge success, and we had great guest speakers at our assemblies! Now we have our Grade 6 Farewell and Sports Day to look forward to, as well as all the June field trips! Also, I can't wait to see our playground extension underway this July! There is already a sign posted on our playground fence...



Thank you to our School Council and Fundraising Society for the very successful Readathon, and all the other initiatives that meant we could make some technology, music, and sports equipment purchases, among others. We have the most amazing team of volunteers that I've ever had the pleasure of working with. You make our school extra special!

As summer vacation approaches, I can't stress enough the importance of reading with your children. Practice is so important! If you want a great summer read, yourself, try Malcom Gladwell's "Outliers: The Story of Success" where he explains his famous "10,000 hours of practice" rule. As well, you might consider a visit to our [Strathcona County Library](#) this summer.



Over the summer, please continue to collect your receipts from the Wye Road Save-On-Foods and Boston Pizza and bring them into the office in the fall. We get a percentage of the totals! Skip the Depot is also still running, so the cans and bottles from all your summer BBQs can help out the school. I wish all our families, and staff as well, a relaxing, safe summer vacation.

(Read to the very end for important Sports Day information!)

School Council and Fundraising Society News!

At our annual AGM on May 9th voting was done for our SC and FS executive positions. Please join me in saying a huge thank you to Kya Martin who has been donating her time for many years, and whose time will benefit Junior High next year.

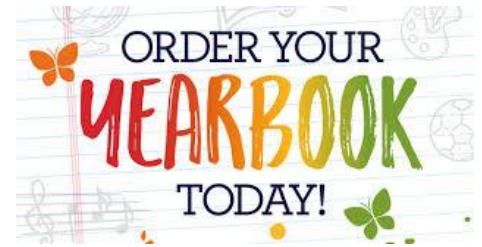
Our positions for the 24-25 school year include:

School Council Chair	Tawnia McQueen
School Council Vice Chair	Kilby Ritchie
Fundraising Chair	Chantelle Auclair and Loretta Campbell
Fundraising Vice Chair	Trenna Stott
Treasurer	Erin Ramme
Secretary for both	Amy Power

Thank you to these parents for volunteering their time and talents so that the whole school can benefit!

Yearbook

Our yearbook ordering page is now set up and accepting orders. Orders will be accepted until August 1, 2024. The cost is \$18.50 per book. Please go to ybpay.ca to order your 2023-24 Yearbook. Enter the Yearbook ID Code: 14371624



Student Transportation: 2024-25 Registration

Planning to use Student Transportation in the 2024-25 school year? If so, make sure your child is registered so Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) can plan routes and send your child a bus pass before the first day of school.

All students who indicated needing transportation services through the returning student or new student registration processes are now registered. Those families have also received tentative route schedules and invoices—fees are due June 30, 2024.

For those students who did not indicate needing transportation services during the registration process and want to now register, contact EIPS' Student Transportation office at 780-417-8151.

For more information about EIPS Student Transportation, visit www.eips.ca/transportation.



NOTE: Families can pay fees online using the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#). To pay in-person, visit the [EIPS Student Transportation building](#) during its office hours—Monday to Friday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. on school days and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on non-school days.

2023-24 EIPS Annual Feedback Survey: For Parents and Caregivers – Results now available

The results of the 2023-24 EIPS Annual Feedback Survey: For Parents and Caregivers are now available. In March, the Division conducted the annual survey, which helps EIPS gauge its progress toward meeting the goals and priorities outlined in its [Four-Year Education Plan](#). Families were asked a series of questions about their experiences with EIPS and the school their child attends, the overall performance of the Division, the quality of education being provided to students and areas for improvement.

Thank you to all families who took the time to share their feedback with the Division. Overall, the survey received close to 1,900 responses from parents and caregivers across EIPS. The Division, and schools, will now review the feedback in detail and use it to develop new strategies to serve students and the wider community better.

The full results are available online:

[2023-24 Parent and Caregiver Survey results: EIPS](#)

[2023-24 Parent and Caregiver Survey results: Wes Hosford 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.

June Spotlight: [EIPS Four-Year Education Plan: 2022-26 \(Year 3\)](#), which details the Division's priorities, goals and outcomes over a four-year period.

- Priority 1: To promote the growth and success of all students.
- Priority 2: To enhance high-quality learning and working environments.
- Priority 3: To enhance public education through effective engagement.

The plan also outlines the performance measures and strategies the Division will use to meet each priority, goal and outcome in the 2024-25 school year.

RELATED INFORMATION

[EIPS Annual Education Results Report 2022-23](#)

[EIPS Annual Education Results Report 2022-23: Overview](#)

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

Did You Know?

EIPS is collectively committed to ensuring all members of the school community are provided with welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environments that respect diversity and foster a sense of belonging.

Specifically, the Division believes that all individuals within EIPS have the right to learn in settings that promote equality of opportunity, dignity and respect regardless of race, age, ancestry, place of origin, colour, religious beliefs, gender, gender identity, gender expression, physical or mental disability, marital status, family status, socioeconomic status and sexual orientation. Learn more:

- [Board Policy 19: Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe Learning and Working Environments](#)
- [Administrative Procedure 170: Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe Learning and Working Environments for Staff](#)
- [Administrative Procedure 311: Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe Learning Environments for Students](#)

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 still 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.

Accessing User Accounts: Students Leaving EIPS

Is your child graduating from or leaving EIPS at the end of the school year? If so, they must ensure any information they want to retain from their school cloud accounts is downloaded onto a personal device before leaving.

- **Google account** – Students must download any wanted content before August 6—download files either individually or in bulk using [Google Takeout](#).
- **Microsoft account** – Students must download any wanted content from their OneDrive account before August 6.

After Aug. 6, 2024, EIPS will deactivate the account.

Updating Your Contact Information

Have you recently moved or has your contact information changed? Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) encourages families to review their information the Division has on file to ensure it's up to date. Using the *Student Information Update* available through the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#), families can review their information on file for each student—including addresses, phone numbers, email addresses, parent and guardian information, emergency contacts, medical details and other related information—and submit any updates needed.

NOTE: Only submit updates for the changes that have already taken place. If you're moving this summer, you'll submit the necessary updates through the Student Information Update after you've moved at the start of next school year. The form is open—for current-year updates—until June 14 at noon. It will reopen for families at the start of next school year.



REMINDER: 2023-24 School Fees

School fees for the 2023-24 school year are posted on the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#). All fees are due within 30 days of being posted. Throughout the year, fees are often added to cover the costs for various activities, such as field trips, extracurricular activities, and late, damaged or lost textbooks.

To access your fee information, simply log in to the PowerSchool Parent Portal and go to "Student Fees." There you can view fees and pay them online using a Mastercard or Visa credit or debit card. Make sure to monitor your child's account on an ongoing basis.

For more information about school fees, waivers and payment deadlines, visit eips.ca/schools/fees. And, if you have questions, think there is an error or need help creating a PowerSchool Parent Portal account, contact your child's school directly before the summer break.

NOTE: Pursuant to [Board Policy 23: School Fees](#) and [Administrative Procedure 505: School and Administrative Fees](#), EIPS will forward any unpaid 2023-24 fee amounts to a collection agency. To prevent this from happening, remember to pay your fees before Aug. 31, 2024.

Little Elk Island Adventure: Registration

Elk Island Public Schools is once again planning to run the Little Elk Island Adventure, a fun and informative program for first-time school bus riders.

Annually, Student Transportation offers the Little Elk Island Adventure to new riders and their parents. The program's aim: To help introduce families to busing so they feel comfortable and at ease before even starting school. Through a series of activities, riders learn about school bus safety, danger zones, tips on boarding and how to sit properly on the bus. After that, both the children and parents hop on the bus to practice what they've learned by venturing out on a short ride.



The Little Elk Island Adventure is for first-time school bus riders entering the 2024-25 school year. The tentative session dates and times are as follows:

Location	Date	Time
EIPS Central Services	August 12	5 p.m.
EIPS Central Services	August 12	6:30 p.m.
EIPS Central Services	August 14	5 p.m.
EIPS Central Services	August 16	2 p.m.
EIPS Central Services	August 16	5 p.m.
EIPS Central Services	August 19	2 p.m.
EIPS Central Services	August 19	5 p.m.
EIPS Central Services	August 20	5 p.m.
EIPS Central Services	August 20	6:30 p.m.
EIPS Central Services	August 21	5 p.m.

Location	Date	Time
EIPS Central Services	August 21	6:30 p.m.
EIPS Central Services	August 14	2 p.m.
<i>* Special Education session for PALS and Project Unit Funding students only.</i>		
SouthPointe School	August 13	5 p.m.
SouthPointe School	August 13	6:30 p.m.
<i>** SouthPointe School locations are for students attending schools in Fort Saskatchewan.</i>		
SouthPointe School	August 22	5 p.m.
<i>* Special Education session for PALS and Project Unit Funding students only.</i>		
A.L. Horton Elementary	August 15	5 p.m.
<i>*** The A.L. Horton Elementary location is for students attending schools in Vegreville and the surrounding area. This session is a combined session for regular busing students and Special Education students for PALS and Project Unit Funding students.</i>		

*EIPS Central Services is located at 683 Wye Rd., Sherwood Park
 SouthPointe School is located at 11 SouthPointe Blvd., Fort Saskatchewan
 A.L. Horton Elementary is located at 5037 48 Ave., Vegreville*

[Register Now](#)

Space is limited and pre-registration is required.

More information about busing for kindergarten children is available at:
eips.ca/transportation/kindergarten-busing-faq.

Tools for School

Wes Hosford School has once again partnered with the United Way for the [2024-25 Tools for School](#) campaign. Annually, Tools for School provides backpacks and school supplies to students in kindergarten through Grade 12 whose families have limited resources. If you're a parent or know a parent who needs access to the program, contact the school directly. Staff will discretely provide the backpack to the child at the beginning of the 2024-25 school year.

Alternatively, if you'd like to donate to the program, you can pick up a few extra supplies when you're out shopping for back to school in August. Drop-off boxes are located at the EIPS Central Services office, many [Staples locations](#) and various businesses in the community. Any supplies donated within the community are invested back into the region.

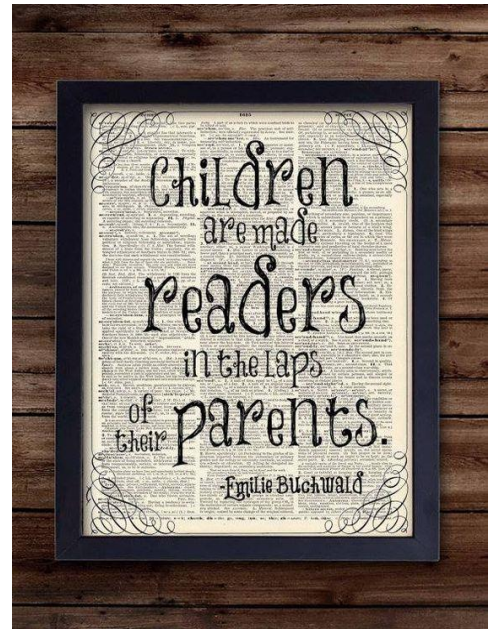
For more information about Tools for School, contact EIPS Central Services at 780-464-3477.

[Tools for School Requests: 2024-25 Family Orders](#)



Upcoming events and important dates:

- **June:** National Indigenous History Month
- **June 3 – 7:** Pride Week
- **June 5:** Early Dismissal
- **June 6:** Grade 6 Farewell
- **June 7:** Treat Day!
- **June 11:** Last day to volunteer for Sports Day!
- **June 13:** School Council's Volunteer Appreciation
 - 7:00 at Wye Road Boston Pizza
 - All WHF parents/caregivers are welcome
- **June 14:** Hot Lunch Day!
- **June 18:** Popcorn Day!
- **June 19:** Gr6 Social Studies PAT
- **June 20:** Gr 6 Science PAT
- **June 21:** [National Indigenous Peoples Day](#)
- **June 24:** Hot Lunch!
- **June 25:** Sports Day and Family Picnic
- **June 26:** Last instructional day



We are excited to inform you that Tuesday, June 25 will be Wes Hosford's Sports Day!

Scroll Down for important SPORTS DAY information!



Sports Day!
June 25, 2024

Safety:

- Flip flops, sandals, boots or crocs pose a safety risk in most events, therefore, running shoes are recommended.
- Please ensure that your child is dressed appropriately for the weather as the majority of the events will be taking place outside. We will not be canceling our Sports Day unless we are experiencing extreme weather.
- If you would like your child to be wearing sunscreen and bug spray, we kindly ask that you send your child to school with those items already applied, and with extra in their backpacks. A hat is also recommended.

General Information:

- Students will be traveling to each activity as a class.
- The activities will commence at 10:20 a.m. and will be completed by 2:20 p.m. At 2:20 p.m. we will be meeting to end the day with friendly Tug-of-War competitions.
- At the end of the day students will receive a frozen treat courtesy of our Fundraising Society.
- Students will be dismissed at 3:10 p.m. as usual.

Parent Volunteers:

- Come join the fun this Sports Day! Our volunteers will be assigned an event to facilitate and will be supplied with their event rules and equipment.
- Please [click this link to volunteer](#). Deadline for volunteering is June 11.

Family Picnic:

- Wes Hosford family members are welcome to pack a picnic lunch and join their child(ren) for lunch around our school grounds. We recommend bringing something from home or ordering ahead of time as long lines at local food establishments can delay the family fun.
- At **12:00 p.m.** you may pick up your child outside at their regular entry doors and find a spot in the playground/field and enjoy a picnic. Students will be expected to **return to their classrooms by 1:02 p.m.** for attendance before resuming activities.
- If your child is in Grades 1 to 3 and you're unable to make it to the picnic, please let their teacher know. This way we can buddy the students with a friend.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact your child's teacher.

We hope to see you there!

Your Wes Hosford Sports Day Committee