



www.pinestreet.ca

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Pine Street Report



Administration

Principal: Jeff Huculak

Assistant Principal: Shelby Hines

JANUARY 2019 "A TRADITION OF PRIDE AND EXCELLENCE"

From the Principal's Desk...

Happy New Year! It's hard to believe that we are already half-way through January. Students are off to a great start, as they settle back into school routines. I hope all of you had a restful break and had the opportunity to spend some quality time with family and friends.

The purpose of this newsletter is to make you aware of some staffing changes at Pine Street School as well as to provide you with important information about events happening within both the school and Division. First, I want to take this opportunity to thank all of our students and staff for their effort with our annual Christmas concerts. Our kindergarten – grade 3 concert wowed us with "A Place in the Christmas Choir" and our grade 4-6 students put us in the Christmas mood with "It's Snow Problem". Our students did a marvelous job! Thank you to all staff and parent volunteers who helped out. The concert was a perfect way to get us all into the Christmas spirit and close out 2018!



I am also pleased to announce that the Pine Street school community came together and donated plenty of items for A Safe Place, which is a women's shelter in Sherwood Park. In addition, our school collected 408.5 pounds of food, along with \$133.90 in donations in support of the Strathcona Christmas Bureau. Way to go Pine Street!

With regards to staffing, our Superintendent – Mark Liguori, has asked me to be the Principal of Lakeland Ridge School effective January 28, 2019. Mr. Marshall, who is the current principal at Lakeland Ridge, has accepted a position at Central Office. Mr. Liguori has also asked that Mrs. Hines serve as the "Acting For" Principal at Pine Street until the end of the school year. Over the next two weeks, I will be working with Mrs. Hines to ensure there is a smooth transition. I am confident that Mrs. Hines will do a terrific job! The process of selecting an Assistant Principal to take over for Mrs. Hines has begun. Once we have more information, we will let you know.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of the parents, staff and students at Pine Street who have made me feel very welcome over the last year and a half. While my time at Pine Street has been short, I am very proud of all our accomplishments that we have made collectively during this time. While I am looking forward to going to Lakeland Ridge School, I will certainly miss everyone at Pine Street!

Please read the remainder of this newsletter as there is a lot of things happening in both our school and district. You will find much of this information in this newsletter, including important information on how to register your child for next year, as there have been a few changes.

I encourage parents to visit the school website and check their child's eTeacher pages regularly for the most up to date information.

For more information, please visit the school website at: <http://pinestreet.ca>

Sincerely,
Jeff Huculak M.Ed.
Principal

NEW Pine Street School Logo

In September, we indicated that we would be revisiting our logo and would be making some changes. We are pleased to announce that we have come up with a new school logo. We will be having a school assembly on Friday, January 18 at 1:00 pm to unveil our *NEW* school logo to students. The assembly will be about 20 minutes in length. As always, parents are welcome to attend. We don't want to spoil the surprise, so you'll have to wait until then to see our new logo...



DATES TO REMEMBER

Jan 15 School Council Meeting at 6:30 PM
Jan 22 Swim Lessons KB & 4W
Jan 23 Grade 2's to Wizard of Oz at Sal
Jan 23 Math Night at 6:30
Jan 24 Swim Lessons 3B, 1K and KA
Jan 25 Harriers Invitational Relay 4:45 PM
Jan 29 Swim Lessons KB & 4W



Pine Street School Education Results and School Education Plan

Educational planning is an essential part of ensuring all students have opportunities to acquire the knowledge, skills and attitudes they need to be responsible citizens in an ever-changing world. Our Annual Education Results Report and the Four-Year Education Plan are now available on our website. Together, they report on both Provincial Achievement Results and Accountability Pillar Survey results from the previous school year and outline strategies and plans for the next four years to improve student achievement and ensure all students experience success.

Pine Street students performed extremely well on our Provincial Achievement tests. In addition, our Accountability Pillar results were excellent. We continue to reflect on our results and make changes as necessary. I encourage you to visit our website to read the full Results Report and our new Four-Year Education Plan. As outlined on our Four-Year Education Plan, Pine Street's three school goals are:

School Goal 1: More students will achieve a minimum of one year's growth in literacy.

School Goal 2: More students will achieve a minimum of one year's growth in numeracy.

School Goal 3: More parents will be engaged partners in their child's education.

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Literacy (Goal 1)

We have made a huge investment in literacy over the last year and a half. We purchased new literacy resources for our teachers as well as numerous "high interest" leveled reading books for students in an effort to help support reading and writing in our school. This year, teachers have incorporated Reader's Workshop in their classes. Our EIPS literacy consultant has been working with teachers and has been in classes modeling lessons and providing feedback. Pine Street also joined the Wee Read network and already have a number of parents and volunteers coming into our school on a weekly basis to read to our students. Be sure to check out our *Little FreeB Bookshelf* located across from our courtyard. Students are welcome to take a book home if they would like. It's just another way we are promoting literacy at Pine Street.

Numeracy (Goal 2)

We have made a concerted effort to focus on numeracy and are very excited about what we have planned for this year. Our EIPS numeracy consultant has been working with teachers and has also been modeling lessons and providing feedback. This work will continue throughout the year. Pine Street School is proud to be hosting our first ever *Math Night* on Wednesday, January 23 from 6:00pm – 7:30pm. (Information about our Math Night can be found later in this newsletter.) In addition, Pine Street School is also planning on creating some short numeracy videos that will assist parents by providing them with strategies to assist their children.

Parents as Partners (Goal 3)

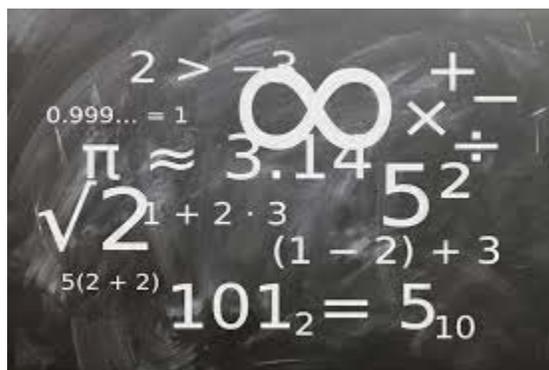
Pine Street School is fortunate to have such a committed group of parents who go above and beyond to support school initiatives and do whatever they can to enhance the educational experiences for our students. School Council, Volunteer Parent Society, Helping Hands and Wee Read Volunteers are just few ways that parents get involved with our school. Thank you to all of our parents and volunteers who help out at school. We appreciate your support!

Math Night

Pine Street School is pleased to announce that we will be hosting our first ever Math Night on Wednesday, January 23 from 6:00pm – 7:30pm in the school gym. Parents along with their children in kindergarten through grade six are invited to join us for this fun event.

John Felling from Box Cars and One-Eyed Jacks Inc. will be leading a Math Night at Pine Street School that evening. John will introduce parents and children to a wide variety of math games from the award winning Box Cars and One-Eyed Jacks series. Using cards, dice or dominoes, families will review and strengthen basic math concepts. John will provide proven ideas and strategies for learning operations, fact fluency strategies and place value. Playing together builds success and self-esteem for students while making it easy for parents to provide support and encouragement in the home setting.

There is no cost to attend, but we ask that students RSVP if they and their parents are planning to attend our Math Night. We ask that people register for this event so we can ensure we have enough handouts for everyone. Following the Math Night, parents may choose to purchase a math game to take home. Pine Street families will get a reduced price. Math games range in price from \$5 to \$10. There is no obligation to purchase anything. Information about our Math Night, along with how to RSVP, was sent home with students last week. The deadline to register for this event is January 18.



Sherwood Park Crusaders Game

The Sherwood Park Crusaders hosted both Pine Street & Brentwood Elementary students as their special guests on Friday, January 11. The Crusaders battled hard and beat the Calgary Mustangs by a score of 4–3. Thank you to the Sherwood Park Crusaders for visiting our school last week and for dropping off free tickets. Everyone who attended the game had a great night!



Updates to Pine Street

Over the past year and a half, we have been working hard to make improvements at Pine Street School. With the help of the Pine Street School community we were able to redesign and renovate our school library. We now have a very bright and welcoming learning space. Some of the other changes include investing in additional literacy and numeracy resources, purchasing new technology, installing a new sound system and projector in our gym, adding two water bottle filling stations and replacing the boot racks in our division one area. Over the Christmas break, we had our lights replaced in the hallways on the both the lower level (PALS & ECS area) and upstairs (near the library and grade 1-2 classes). We will also be changing out the lights in the division one boot room shortly. We have had many staff and students mention that the school seems much brighter and welcoming.

Accountability Pillar Survey

As an annual check-up on the education system, the Accountability Pillar provides an opportunity for Alberta Education and school authorities to ensure that we are equipping students for success.

The Accountability Pillar uses a set of 16 indicators. Data on these indicators consists of surveys of students, parents and teachers on various aspects of education quality, student outcomes such as dropout and high school completion rates, and provincial assessments of student learning.

From January to the end of February, Alberta Education will be conducting the annual Accountability Pillar Survey.

In January, parents of students in grades 4, 7 and 10 will receive a survey from Alberta Education.

In February, students in grades 4, 7 and 10 and all teachers will be completing their surveys online at school.

Starting this year, all parents/guardians who receive the Accountability Pillar Parent survey will have the option to complete the survey either online or on paper. The online version of the survey is available in English and French. Your participation in the survey helps provide important information on the quality of education your child is receiving at Pine Street. We are very proud of Pine Street School and we encourage all parents with students in grade four at Pine Street to complete the survey once they receive it in the mail.

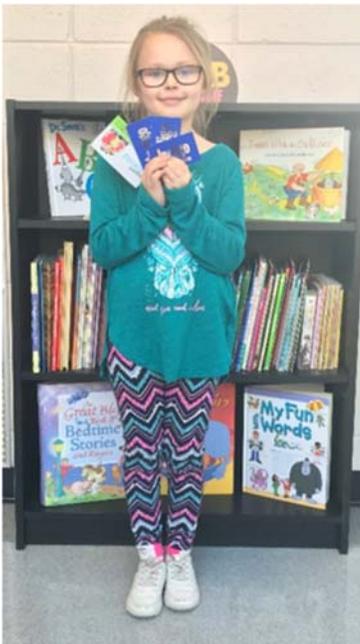
Survey results will be available to school authorities in May, and will be reported publicly as part of their 4-Year Education Plans and Annual Education Results Reports.

All surveys are anonymous and ask questions about experiences with your school. In addition to English and French, the parent survey is available in Chinese, Punjabi, Arabic, Blackfoot, Dene, Cree, Korean, Spanish, Tagalog and Urdu.

Bottle Drive

As you know, Pine Street held a Bottle Drive on January 5. Together, we were able to raise \$1241.25 for our school. Thank you to the numerous parents who helped out throughout the day. Special thanks to Darrell Bradley for contacting the bottle depot company and organizing the event. Mr. Bradley had several student helpers including Gian, Leela, Paige, Jaide, Harper, Cassie, and Madi who helped load the truck throughout the day.

Every student who dropped off bottles received an entry to win a prize. Our two winners were: Jaide from Mrs. Re-meika's class and Nash from Mrs. Gagnon's class. Jaide received a \$30 Indigo Gift card and a free family admission pass to a County of Strathcona attraction, while Nash received a \$40 Mastermind gift card and a family pass as well. Congratulations to Jaide and Nash. Thank you to everyone who helped make our Bottle Drive a success. Great work Pine Street!



Kindergarten Registration Starts Soon!

Is your child turning five on or before Dec. 31, 2019? If so, it's almost time to register for kindergarten. Kindergarten registration opens for the 2019-20 school year on **Feb. 1, 2019**. Details are available at www.eips.ca/registration/kindergarten.

To help families prepare, Elk Island Public Schools has put together an online toolkit—available at www.eips.ca/kindergarten—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 kindergarten can be found on our school website at www.pinestreet.ca

Returning Student Registration for 2019-20

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) will once again conduct an online returning student registration process to confirm student registrations for the 2019-20 school year. Families of all returning students will need to complete this process to confirm the school their children will attend for the 2019-20 school year, and to request to attend a non-designated school, if applicable. Returning student registration will take place at the same time as all registrations for the 2019-20 school year: **Feb. 1-28, 2019**. Access to the Returning Student Registration Form is provided through the PowerSchool Parent Portal. If you don't have a PowerSchool Parent Portal account, you will need to set one up **before Feb. 1, 2019**.

To create a PowerSchool Parent Portal account: Go to <https://powerschool.eips.ca/public/>.

1. Click the button labelled, "Create Account."
2. Enter the parent or guardian information. Each account must have a unique email address and username only one parent account is required regardless of the number of children you have attending EIPS schools.
3. Create a username and password of your choice—you'll need both the username and password to log in to your PowerSchool Parent Portal.
4. You must have an Access ID and Access Password for each student that is added to your account. **Contact your child's school to obtain this information** or if you need assistance.
5. Press "Enter."

Inclement Weather

With the winter season well underway, we want to remind parents to dress children appropriately for the weather when getting ready for school or the bus. The weather often changes unexpectedly throughout the day, so please select suitable outerwear and ensure your child is prepared for changing conditions. If inclement weather conditions occur, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) will advise parents of any bus cancellations using various communications tools including: automated-telephone messages, alerts posted on www.eips.ca and school websites, Twitter, Facebook, local radio stations, and on Verstrans My Stop.

Decisions regarding bus cancellations are guided by EIPS administrative procedures that states: "school bus service may be suspended when...Environment Canada reports a temperature of -40 C." Other reasons for suspending or delaying school bus services include adverse weather and poor road condition.

When school bus services are suspended, schools will remain open to students. EIPS believes parents have the right and responsibility to make choices for their children based on their beliefs and perceptions of safety during times of inclement weather.

For more information, contact EIPS Student Transportation at 780-417-8151.



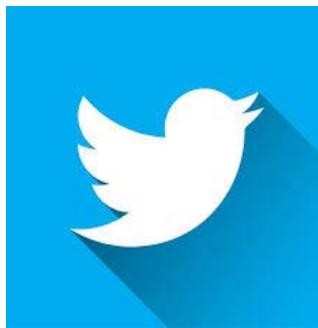
Another way to stay connected: Follow EIPS on Twitter and Facebook

With 42 schools and close to 17,150 students there's a wealth of events, activities and stories taking place across the Division every day. You can find these stories and more by following Elk Island Public Schools on both [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). Each use the combination of news articles, videos and photographs that showcase the latest news, updates, events and alerts taking place across the Division.

Plus, if you're a member of an EIPS school community and want to share in the storytelling, simply tag the Division using the hashtag #EIPS.

Stay in the loop, follow EIPS on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)

NOTE: The Division Facebook and Twitter accounts are managed by EIPS Communications Services. The account is updated and monitored intermittently during regular office hours from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday. The Division welcomes feedback and ideas from followers but does ask everyone interacting on the EIPS Facebook page to be respectful. Personal attacks and offensive language will not be allowed and may be deleted.



Pine Street School Partners with some Local Businesses

Cobs of Wye Road

We are proud to partner with COBS on Wye Road this year. Calvin is the owner of COBS on Wye Road and he approached our Volunteer Parent Society in the fall to ask if we would be interested in a fundraising opportunity. We feel it is important to have a mix of community events, active fundraisers, and passive fundraisers and thought that COBS would be a good fit for us. How does it work? When you make a purchase at the COBS Wye Road location, before you order, mention you are with Pine Street School and they will donate 5% of the value of your order to us! Please tell your friends and family too, every bit helps.

Save-On Foods on Wye Road

Shortly before Christmas, Rane, the Store Manager at Save-On Foods on Wye Road offered us a fundraising opportunity similar to other passive fundraisers in which we participate. He is new to Sherwood Park and in an effort to connect with the community around the store, he has provided us the opportunity to bring in receipts from the Wye Road Save-On Foods and they will donate 5% of the value of your groceries back to the school! How does this one work? It is a bit different from other fundraisers, but it's pretty easy too! Shop at Save-On Foods on Wye Road; Save your receipts; Send them to the school ATTENTION: PINE STREET VOLUNTEER PARENTS SOCIETY. We will collect the receipts and submit them to Rane and he will issue us a cheque for 5% of the value! Not too bad for something we all need anyway! Thank you for your participation in this fundraiser.

Boston Pizza

Do you ever eat at Boston Pizza? Is so, please ask your server for an extra copy of your receipt and drop it off at Pine Street School. We will pass the receipts on to the Pine Street Volunteer Parents Society. We receive 5% back from purchases.

