

PINE STREET SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



JANUARY 2020

"A TRADITION OF PRIDE & EXCELLENCE"

Administration

Acting Principal:
Shelby Hines

**Acting Assistant
Principal:**
Kerri Remeika

From the Principal's Desk...

Welcome back and Happy New Year! It is my sincere hope that everyone had a safe, happy and healthy holiday break spent with friends and family. I certainly did, but I must admit I am looking forward to getting back into familiar home and school routines.

Thank you again to our staff and students for all the time and effort that they put into our Christmas concert. Christmas doesn't officially start for me until I hear children perform at our concert and they each did an excellent job in kicking the season off. I hope everyone had a chance to check out the beautiful and heartwarming pictures that were taken at this event by Jason from [Infinite Eye Photography](#). Thank you for donating your time to create these amazing keepsakes for us to purchase! January 15 is the last day to order photos.

DATES TO REMEMBER

**Jan. 14 School Council Meeting
6:30 p.m.**

**Jan. 18 Bottle Drive
10 a.m.—1 p.m.**

**Jan. 22 Hot Lunch
(Pasta Pantry)**

**Jan. 23 Math Games
Night 6:30 p.m.**

**Jan. 24 Track Race at
Kinsmen Field House**

**Jan. 27 Gr. 4 Field
Trip to Michael Phair
School**

**Jan. 28 Swim Lessons
begin for Mrs.
Forbes & Mrs. Wood-
beck**

**Jan. 30 Last day to
order hot lunch for
Feb. 4**

**Jan. 30 Swim Lessons
start for Mrs.
Bochek, Mrs. Kavalin-
as and Mrs. Magnan**

In December we also partnered with the Strathcona Christmas Bureau to collect food and hygiene products. Thank you, Pine Street, for your kindness and dedication to being good community citizens and caring for our friends and neighbours.

We continue to focus on our [School Education Plan](#) goals:

1. More students will achieve a minimum of one year's growth in literacy.
2. More students will achieve a minimum of one year's growth in numeracy.
3. More parents/caregivers will be engaged in their child's education.

You may have noticed that we have posted these goals throughout our school. One of the reasons we chose to do so is to ensure we stay focused on these goals as we move through our daily activities. Goal one has been the motivation for staff to continue using the Lucy Calkin's Reader's Workshop resources which were purchased last year, as well as the additional fiction and non-fiction writing resources that we recently added to our collection. In keeping with goal two, we invited our Elk Island Public Schools numeracy consultant, Alexandra Candler, to work with staff for two days so far this year and we are looking forward to having her back for our Pine Street Family Math Game Night on January 23 from 6:30–7:30 p.m. As well, we purchased a numeracy EQUALS kit to support kindergarten to grade six students who may be struggling with learning and building upon various mathematical skills. We all know one excellent strategy in supporting student learning and success is for home and school to work in partnership which is exactly what goal three speaks to. Therefore, we continue to encourage our families to play an active role in our school community by acting in partnership with us. What does this look like? It includes actions such as signing your child's agenda each day, attending parent/student/teacher conferences, letting staff know when your child will be absent, reading with your child as part of a classroom Home Reading program... it all contributes to sending students the message that we care about them and are working together to help them grow and learn. I want to take this opportunity to sincerely thank all our families for your continued dedication and commitment to working together for our precious children.

Sincerely,
Shelby Hines, M. Ed.
Acting Principal

Calling all families....Have your voice heard!

Under Alberta Education's new School Fee Regulation, schools must consult with families prior to setting school fees for the upcoming school year. At Pine Street Elementary we will continue this practice again this year.

Our next School Council meeting will be taking place on January 14, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. During that time, I will be sharing information about our current fee structure, posing specific questions about priorities, and asking you to provide feedback as we plan for the 2020-21 school year. While many of these activities and services enhance students' educational experiences, we want to ensure these fees aren't cost prohibitive for our families.

Specifically, we will be asking for input on the following:

- Optional activities and associated fees - i.e. Do you want more/less activities?
- Noon hour supervision - i.e. Do you want more/less noon hour supervision?
- Field trips and associated fees - i.e. Do you want more/less field trips?
- Extracurricular activities -i.e. Do you want more/less extracurricular activities?
- Non-curricular travel -i.e. Do you want non-curricular travel?

Understandably not all families will be available to attend the meeting, however it is still important we get as much input from our school community as possible. Please forward your thoughts through email to shelby.hines@eips.ca or by calling me directly at the school at 780-467-2246. Following the meeting, materials will be shared on our website (pinestreet.ca) for your review, and an email address provided so you can submit a written response. School administration will use feedback provided to help determine fees for 2020-21, which will then be shared at the February School Council meeting, posted to our website and shared via link through email.

We welcome and look forward to your feedback!



Inclement Weather

With the winter season here, we want to remind families to dress children appropriately for the weather when getting ready for school. 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) advises families of any bus cancellations using various communications tools—automated-telephone messages, alerts posted on www.eips.ca and school websites, Twitter, Facebook, local radio stations and on Versatrans My Stop. Morning bus cancellations are posted on www.eips.ca by 6:30 a.m.

Decisions regarding bus cancellations are guided by EIPS Administrative Procedures 131 that states, "school bus service may be suspended...when Environment Canada reports a temperature of -40 C which includes wind chill." Other reasons for suspending or delaying school bus services include adverse weather and poor road conditions. When school bus services are suspended, schools remain open to students. EIPS believes that families 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.



Community Partners

Boston Pizza

Do you ever eat at any Boston Pizza location? If so, please ask your server for an extra copy of your receipt and send it to school with your child to hand in at our school office. The Pine Street Volunteer Parent Society will submit these which then means Boston Pizza will donate 5% of purchases back to the school. Thank you for your support!



Cobs on Wye Road

Thank you to Calvin, the owner of Cobs on Wye Road, who has kindly offered a wonderful fundraising opportunity for us that is SO simple. Just mention you are with Pine Street Elementary School *before* you place your order and they will donate 5% of the value of your order to us. Be sure to tell all your friends and family too, as every little bit helps!



Save –On Foods on Wye Road

SAVE YOUR RECEIPTS! We are so grateful to Rane, the Store Manager at the Save-On Foods on Wye Road, who has generously offered to donate 5% of the value of any grocery purchases back to the school. All you need to do is shop at the Save-On Foods on Wye Road and save your receipts. Then send all those receipts to school with your child labelled ATTENTION: PINE STREET VOLUNTEER PARENT SOCIETY. Your support of our fundraising efforts is greatly appreciated!



Caregiver Education Series

The Division, in partnership with Alberta Health Services and Elk Island Catholic Schools, is hosting a series of caregiver information sessions 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.

This year, session topics include anxiety, ADHD, depression, self-harm, technology, teens and teaching leadership skills, and more.

Thursday, April 16, 2020 Time: 6-7:30 p.m. Location: F.R. Haythorne Junior High 300 Colwill Blvd.
Topic: **Technology and the Teenage Brain: Parents & Teens (Gr. 7-12) to attend together**

Thursday, May 7, 2020 Time: 6-7:30 p.m. Location: Elk Island Catholic Schools Central Learning Services
310 Broadview Road Topic: **More than just a bad day: understanding depression and self-injury**

To register go to cyfcaregivereducation.ca/caregiver-education.

Sometimes life is complicated!

Solutions Navigators support individuals and families through life's challenges. They can help with:

Housing Options - Finances & subsidies - Parenting - Relationships - Forms & applications - More

For information about this free service, visit

strathcona.ca or call 780-464-8439.





Kindergarten Registration Starts Soon!

Is your child turning five on or before December 31, 2020? If so, it's almost time to register for kindergarten. Kindergarten registration opens for the 2020-21 school year on February 1, 2020. Details are available at <https://www.eips.ca/programs-services/kindergarten>.

Returning Student Registration

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) will once again be conducting an online returning student registration process to confirm student registrations for the 2020-21 school year. All families with returning students will need to complete this process to confirm their children will attend an EIPS school for the 2020-21 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 2020-21 school year: **February 1–29, 2020**. 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 prior to February 1, 2020.

To create a PowerSchool Parent Portal account, go to:

<https://www.eips.ca/schools/powerschool/parent-portal>.

1. Click the "Create Account" button.
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 our school office at 780-467-2246 to obtain this information. Click "Enter".

Other ways to stay connected Follow EIPS on Twitter and Facebook



With 43 schools and close to 17,400 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 uses the combination of news articles, videos and photographs that show-cases 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 #EIPS. Stay in the loop, follow EIPS on Facebook and Twitter.

NOTE: Communications Services manages the Division's Facebook and Twitter accounts. 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 are not permitted and will be deleted.

Follow Pine Street Elementary School on Twitter : <https://twitter.com/PNESchool>

Check out the Pine Street Elementary School Website: <https://www.pinestreet.ca/>





