February Newsletter

Sherwood Heights Junior High School

www.sherwoodheights.org

Semester 2 Begins

Semester 2 started on Wednesday, January 31st as a Day 1 on student schedules. An online report card may be accessed through the PowerSchool parent portal on Tuesday, February 6th. This will show final marks for all option courses completed from semester 1 and a progress report for all core and physical education classes. If you would prefer a paper copy of the report, please contact the office on or after Wednesday, February 7th.

Students are attending all semester 2 option courses. If you have not paid fees for option 2 courses, please login to your Acorn account in PowerSchool to clear any outstanding fees.

EIPS Launches New Pre-Enrolment Process (Includes our current students)

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) is launching a new pre-enrolment process to simplify the way it registers students for the upcoming year, collects information, and manages requests to attend a non-designated school. The pre-enrolment process allows the Division to verify all student information for every child prior to the start of the new school year.

Each spring, EIPS families will receive an email from the Division asking them to confirm their child's enrolment in a school for the upcoming year using a secure online preenrolment form. By logging in to PowerSchool, families can indicate which school their child plans to attend; apply to attend a non-designated school, if applicable; and update any required student information—such as phone numbers, addresses and emergency contacts. If circumstances change, families also have the ability to update their child's data throughout the year.

The pre-enrolment process for the 2018-19 school year takes place from March 1-15 of this year.

Upcoming Events

Feb 7 – Early Dismissal

Feb 8th & 9th- Teachers Convention All schools closed

Feb 16th – School Closure

Feb 19th – Family Day – No School

Feb 22nd- Rescheduled School Council 7:00 p.m.

Feb 28th- Pink Shirt Day

Registration Information 18/19

Please read the important information in the article to the left as it pertains to the requirement of all students attending Sherwood Heights to declare registration online for next school year.

We will be using an online registration process this year to select courses and options for our current grade 7 and 8 students.

We will share any information that our grade 9 students will require to register in their respective high schools when the information about registration is made available.

Teachers Convention- No school on Feb. 9th and 10th

Page 1 of 3

Applying to attend a non-designated school?

The new pre-enrolment process also eliminates the former Boundary Exemption Request Process. Now, returning students who want to apply to a non-designated school can do so through the pre-enrolment process by indicating on the form the school they want to attend. Acceptance is not guaranteed; rather, it's based on available space. Some EIPS schools have closed boundaries because of high enrolment numbers and will not accept non-designated students for the 2018-19 school year. These schools will be identified prior to the pre-enrolment process. All families who apply to attend a non-designated school will be contacted and advised of the outcome in April.

NOTE: Any requests to attend a non-designated school or out-of-boundary program for returning students in grades 1-12 must be completed during the two-week pre-enrolment process to be considered for the next school year. The only exception: Students who move into the Division from outside the geographic area, or another community within the Division, following the deadline.

For more information visit www.eips.ca.

High School Information Night

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) is hosting a High School Information Night on Feb. 27, 2018. Annually, the Division hosts the information session to help its students and families learn more about EIPS' senior high schools.

Students in grades 8-9 and their families are invited to attend this year's High School Information Night. At the session, attendees will learn about high school instruction, programming and course offerings; diploma requirements; extracurricular opportunities and much more. Representatives from EIPS and its senior high schools will also be on hand to answer any questions.

High School Information Night details:

Date:	Feb. 27, 2018
Time:	7:00 p.m.
Location:	The Agora, Strathcona County Community Centre
	401 Festival Ln., Sherwood Park

For more information contact the EIPS Administration Office at 464-3477.

Stay Connected: Subscribe to EIPS email news

Want to stay up-to-date on the latest news and events taking place at your school? Make sure to subscribe to Elk Island Public Schools' (EIPS) email distribution list. Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation (CASL) now requires the Division to have direct consent before engaging in electronic communication with its families. If you haven't yet subscribed, simply visit <u>www.eips.ca/contact/synrevoice</u>. Once subscribed you'll begin receiving Division- and school-related news—newsletters, information about upcoming events, parent- and community-engagement opportunities, important school-based updates and more.

Teachers Convention- No school on Feb. 9th and 10th

Page 2 of 3

NOTE: Even if you're not subscribed, you will continue to receive emails regarding emergency situations and financial matters. Those who received notifications about high school attendance will also continue to receive those messages.

EIPS appreciates your co-operation in ensuring its distribution lists are compliant with CASL and you continue to receive only the information you feel is important.

Measuring our Success: Complete the Accountability Pillar Survey

Once again, Alberta Education is conducting its Accountability Pillar Survey—an annual checkup on the province's education system. Every year, Alberta Education conducts the survey to gather information about the quality of education provided by Alberta schools and school authorities. The survey looks at various measures such as engagement levels, student wellness, student outcomes, and the classroom(s) and school climate.

Throughout the month of February, Grade 7 students and teachers at Sherwood Heights Junior High School are completing the survey online at the school. Student participation is voluntary and completely anonymous. Students are assigned a random username and password to ensure survey responses aren't linked to any individual student. The survey takes about 40 minutes to complete and is done within the school day during regular class time.

Additionally, parents and guardians of students in grades 4, 7, and 10 are also being surveyed—the province mailed the surveys in January. Again, the survey is anonymous and asks questions about experiences with your school. If you have a child in grades 4, 7 or 10, we highly encourage you to participate. The completed survey must be returned to Alberta Education by the end of February.

Results from the Accountability Survey are provided to Elk Island Public Schools each May. The Division then uses that data to inform its three-year education plans, its annual school education plans and strategies for continuous improvement. The results are also shared with EIPS families and school communities each fall in the Division's *Combined Education Plan and Annual Education Results Report.*

For more information about Alberta Education's Accountability Pillar Survey visit www.education.alberta.ca/accountability-pillar.

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Page 3 of 3