February Newsletter

Sherwood Heights Junior High School

www.sherwoodheights.org

Let's Talk About: School Boundaries

Planning is now underway to establish the attendance boundaries for the new K-6 school in the Davidson Creek area. The new boundaries will affect both elementary schools and junior high schools in the northeast quadrant of Sherwood Park.

To ensure the new attendance boundaries meet the needs of the community, EIPS is holding two public information sessions. At the sessions, community members will have the opportunity to view the purposed attendance areas, ask questions and share comments.

Public Information Sessions:

Date: February 8 and February 16

Time: 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. **Location:** Lakeland Ridge *free child care provided.

Unable to attend the public information sessions? The purposed boundaries and a comment form are also available, as of February 8,

at www.eips.ca/schools/newschoolsandmodernizations/sherwoodpark.

Upcoming Events

Feb. 9th & 10th - Teacher's Convention - All schools closed

Feb. 17th - Professional Learning Day - All schools closed

Feb. 20th - Family Day - All schools closed

Feb. 22nd - Pink Shirt Day - Ryan Laird presentation in the afternoon

Mar. 3rd - Professional Learning Day - All schools closed

Mar. 13th - Progress reports available in PowerSchool at 4:00pm

Mar. 14th and 16th - Parent Teacher Interviews 5:00-7:30pm

Mar. 24th - April 2nd - Spring Break

Accountability Pillar Surveys

The annual parent surveys for students in grades 4, 7, and 10 have been mailed out, and our parents have been receiving them this week. Thank you in advance for your feedback and participation in the survey. This is valuable data for our school and district and we appreciate your time and consideration to complete. If you are a parent of a student in grade 7 and do not receive the survey by February 10th, please contact the school.

Teacher's Convention

A reminder that our Teacher's Convention is scheduled for February 9th and 10th. All schools are closed.

Boundary Exemption Request Process: Now open

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) boundary exemption request process for the 2017–2018 school year is now open.

EIPS students—in kindergarten to Grade 12—wanting to attend a non-designated school in the upcoming school year can now apply to do so. All interested families must fill out a Boundary Exemption Request Form and submit it directly to their requested school. The application deadline is April 7, 2017. Boundary exemption requests received after April 7, 2017 will be declined. There is no late or secondary process.

The <u>Boundary Exemption Request Form</u> and additional information about the boundary exemption request process, schools with closed boundaries and frequently asked questions can be found by visiting <u>www.eips.ca/schools/boundaries/boundary-exemption-request-process</u>. Final decisions will be made by April 12, 2017.

Changes to Sharing Information via Email

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) appreciates the opportunity to stay connected with parents and one of the ways it does so is through email. However, federal law—Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation (CASL)—requires that the Division must be given direct consent to continue to email its families, because occasionally, emails may contain what could be "commercial content."

On February 15, you will receive a message from the Division that will give you the option to either subscribe or unsubscribe from school- and Division-generated emails. The same message is being sent to every email address you have provided to the Division. To remain on EIPS' distribution list, you will have to make a choice as to whether or not you wish to continue receiving email for each of those addresses.

If you unsubscribe, or do not respond, you will no longer receive school- and Division-generated emails such as school newsletters, information about upcoming school and Division events, parent and community engagement opportunities and others. That's because these messages may contain advertising or promotional content from time to time—for example, school fundraisers; lunch programs; field trips; the sale of yearbooks; purchasing of student photos, books, graduation, school productions or dance tickets; athletic events with an entry fee; options for purchasing third-party supplies or products or similar events and offers—and will therefore no longer be sent out.

NOTE: Even if you unsubscribe, you will continue to receive emails regarding emergency situations and financial matters. Those who received notifications about high school attendance will also still receive those messages. We appreciate your co-operation in ensuring the Division's distribution lists are compliant with the CASL requirements and you continue to receive only the information you feel is important.

Public Meetings - Ministik School

As you may be aware, in December, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) Board of Trustees approved the motion to consider the possible closure of Ministik School.

To ensure a fair and transparent process and that a decision be made in the best interests of both students and the Division, a public-meeting process is being undertaken as outlined in the province's *School Act* "Alberta Regulation 238/1997: Closure of Schools Regulation."

A comprehensive information package is being provided to all Ministik School families. The package is also available online at www.eips.ca/schools/ministik-school.

Two public meetings are being held which will offer insight and information regarding the school's possible closure. Parents, guardians and community members will have the opportunity learn about what is being considered, ask questions and offer feedback.

Meeting details:

Date: February 7 and February 15

Time: 6:30 p.m. (doors open at 6 p.m.) *Location:* Ministik School gymnasium

Address: 21246 Highway 14, Sherwood Park, AB.

*child care provided

More information about the meeting and related updates are available at www.eips.ca.