

January 10, 2024

Dear Wes Hosford Families,

We are glad to be back at school and we look forward to a fabulous 2024 with you and your children!

Kindergarten Registration Starts Soon!

Is your child turning five on or before Dec. 31, 2024? If so, it's almost time to register for kindergarten.

Kindergarten registration opens for the 2024-25 school year on Feb. 1, 2024.

To help families prepare, Elk Island Public Schools has put together an online [EIPS Kindergarten Tool kit](#) 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 Wes Hosford's kindergarten program is available at <https://www.weshosford.ca/>.



Inclement Weather

With the winter season well underway, we want to remind families 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 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 notification through both the Bus Status and the Ride 360 apps. Morning bus cancellations are posted on www.eips.ca by 6:30 a.m.

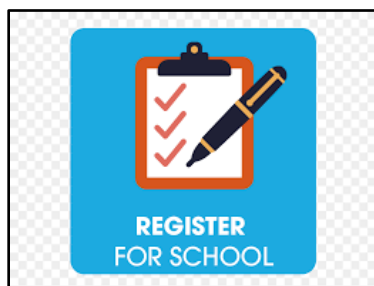


Decisions regarding bus cancellations are guided by EIPS' [Administrative Procedure 131: Inclement Weather](#), which states: "school bus service may be suspended ... when there is a forecast or current temperature of -40 C including wind chill, in one or more regions." Other reasons for suspending or delaying school bus services include adverse weather and poor road conditions.

When school bus services are suspended, schools remain open to students. EIPS believes families have the right and responsibility to make choices for their children based on what they feel is safest during times of inclement weather.

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

Returning Student Registration for 2024-25



Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) will once again conduct an online returning student registration process to confirm student registrations for the 2024-25 school year. Families of all current students—with the exception of graduating Grade 12 students—must complete the process to confirm the school their child plans to attend in the 2024-25 school year or advise the Division of their plans not to return to EIPS.

Additionally, students who want to attend a non-designated school need to make that request through the returning student registration process—acceptance is based on available space. The 2024-25 returning student registration takes place Feb. 8-21, 2024.

One contact for each current PALS to Grade 11 student will receive the Returning Student Registration Form link through Permission Click on February 8. The recipient is based on which contact has been identified as the one to receive forms as listed on the most recent registration form, Correction and Verification Form or Student Information Update submitted to the Division. To review the contacts listed for each student, refer to the Student Information Update available through the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#). Only one contact can be selected to receive forms. For more information, contact the school office at 780-464-1711.

Did you know?

The Education Act requires every public school division in the province to have a Board of Trustees. The Board is made up of elected representatives who are accountable to you, the families, and to the community members of a school division who have elected each trustee. For EIPS, the Board provides overall direction and leadership, accepting responsibility for the Division's policies and procedures. You can view all current policies and procedures on the EIPS website.

Cybersecurity Update: Important information for families

As part of EIPS' ongoing commitment to maintaining a secure and effective digital learning environment for students, the Division is implementing an important update to its cybersecurity protocols Jan. 19, 2024.

Enhanced Location-based Security for Student Accounts

Starting Jan. 19, 2024, access to student user accounts—used for platforms like PowerSchool, Brightspace and Google—will be limited to within Canada's geographical boundaries. This change is an essential step in strengthening our cyber defenses and ensuring the digital safety of students.



What Does This Mean for You and Your Child?

Location-limited Access: Your child's account will be accessible only when they're physically located in Canada. This includes all activities related to their schoolwork, such as submitting assignments, accessing study materials or sending EIPS account emails.

Seamless In-country Use: While in Canada, students will experience no change in how they access and use their accounts. The process remains as straightforward and user-friendly as always.

PowerSchool Access for Parents and Caregivers: This change will NOT impact parent and caregiver access to PowerSchool during periods of travel.

Why This Change?

The safety and privacy of students are paramount. This location-based access control is a proactive measure to prevent unauthorized access to students' accounts and protect sensitive information from potential cyber threats.

Questions? For more information, contact the school office at 780-464-1711.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in this matter. Together, we can ensure a secure and thriving digital learning environment for all students.

EIPS Annual Education Results Report 2022-23: Now available!

EIPS' Annual Education Results Report 2022-23 is now available online. The report details how EIPS is doing relative to Alberta Education's performance measures; how it's supporting students to achieve the best possible outcomes; and its successes, challenges and priority strategies moving forward. What shines through in this year's Annual Education Results Report are the myriad programs and initiatives taking shape throughout the Division to ensure high-quality education, support student growth and achievement, and develop learners with the skills and knowledge needed to help them succeed.

EIPS invites you to read through this year's Annual Education Results Report 2022-23. Celebrate our collective achievements and discover how EIPS fosters environments for all students to learn, grow and thrive—and why it matters.

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

Also available is a condensed version of the report: [AERR 2022-23: Overview](#)

RELATED INFORMATION

[EIPS Four-Year Education Plan: 2022-26](#)

[EIPS Three-Year Capital Plan: 2024-27](#)

Upcoming Events and Important Dates

- **January 8:** First day back to school and early dismissal
- **January 9:** Intramurals for grades 5&6
- **January 12:** Treat Day!
- **January 18:** secondary French immersion information session
- **January 18:** School Council and Fundraising Society Meetings at 6:30 in our Library or use the link on the WHF website and calendar to join virtually
- **January 19:** Hot Lunch!
- **January 22:** Popcorn Day!
- **January 31:** professional learning day (schools closed to students)
- **February 1:** [kindergarten](#) and [grades 1-12](#) new student registration opens for 2024-25
- **February 6 & 7:** Parent/Teacher Interviews
- **February 8:** [returning student registration](#) opens for 2024-25
- **February 8 & 9:** Teachers' Convention (schools closed to students)