



December 4, 2020



# WESTBORO ELEMENTARY

*Weekly Newsletter*

## WESTBORO CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Dear Westboro Families,

This year our Christmas concert is going to look a little different. Each class is going to prepare some type of performance or display. We will be videotaping these performances and displays and putting them all together in one Christmas concert video. This Christmas concert will be shared with families before the Christmas break. We are also going to invite our at home families to submit a picture of themselves or some artwork with a Christmas message that will be incorporated into the video with the rest of their class. We are hopeful that this will bring some Christmas cheer to our families as we continue to do things a little different as we navigate our way through this pandemic. On behalf of the staff of Westboro Elementary, I would like to wish each and every one of you a very safe and happy Christmas. It is my sincere hope and prayer that we will all have the very best of new years.



## BRAVO WESTBORO WARRIORS!

TOGETHER, WE RAISED OVER \$1000 FOR LOCAL FAMILIES IN NEED DURING OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS GIVING CAMPAIGN. I WANTED TO TAKE A MOMENT TO THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR KINDNESS, GENEROSITY AND AMAZING GIFT TO OTHERS. I AM THANKFUL TO BE A PART OF OUR WESTBORO FAMILY AND AM SO EXCITED THAT WE WERE ABLE TO MAKE THINGS A LITTLE EASIER FOR MANY PEOPLE.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND MANY BLESSINGS TO ALL OF YOU!

STACEY BOUWERS



We have had some very busy elves lately here at Westboro! We are beyond grateful for our thoughtful school community for your kinds words and for bringing us some Christmas cheer!

**THANK YOU!**

*From all the staff at Westboro*

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## **BRIGHTSPACE INFORMATION SESSIONS**

EIPS hosted two information sessions for parents on how to navigate Brightspace. The sessions were recorded and are available for families to view here: [Information Session: Navigating Brightspace](#).

The video link is also located on the EIPS website along with other information regarding Temporary Online Learning at <https://www.eips.ca/school-re-entry-planning/temporary-online-learning>.

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## **CHANGES TO IN-SCHOOL LEARNING: OVERVIEW AND TIMELINE**

As noted in an email last week, the province declared a state of public health emergency and announced several new measures to slow the spread of COVID-19—some of which impact Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) and in-school learners. Attached is a brief update regarding the provincial-mandated measures and an outline of what to expect while in effect.

[CHANGES TO IN-SCHOOL LEARNING: OVERVIEW AND TIMELINE](#)

## CAREGIVER EDUCATION SERIES

Alberta Health Services is hosting a series of virtual 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. Session topics include anxiety, ADHD, depression, self-harm, technology, teens and teaching leadership skills, communication, resiliency, and more. Click [here](#) to view the **December 2020 Newsletter**

## SCHOOL AND TRANSPORTATION FEE WAIVER APPLICATIONS: DEADLINE EXTENDED

Elk Island Public Schools recognizes the global pandemic has put a strain on some families' finances and available income can change quickly in the current situation. As such, the Division has extended the deadline for requesting a waiver of your 2020–21 school and transportation fees. If you encounter circumstances where you're unable to pay your fees, you can apply to have fees waived by submitting an [Application for a Waiver of Fees](#). Because of the pandemic, the new deadline is Feb. 15, 2021—if you're new to EIPS, the deadline is the latter of Feb. 15, 2021, or 45 days after registration. Each quarter—or trimester, as applicable—you'll receive an email notification letting you know fees are posted on the PowerSchool Parent Portal. To access your fee information, go to "Student Fees" on PowerSchool. There you can view your fees and pay online using Visa, MasterCard or INTERAC Online—when available from your financial institution. All fees are due within 14 days of being posted. **NOTE:** School Fees apply to in-school learners only. For more information about school fees, transportation fees, waivers and payment deadlines, visit [eips.ca](#) or [westboroelementary.ca](#). Alternatively, contact the school at 780-467-7751.

## NO CHILD WITHOUT: FREE MEDICALERT FOR STUDENTS

In our ongoing effort to provide safe and caring schools for our students, Westboro Elementary is registered in the Canadian MedicAlert Foundation's No Child Without program. The program is a national initiative that provides no-cost MedicAlert services to children—between the ages four and 14 years—who have chronic health conditions. The goal is twofold: to help children with severe allergies, medical conditions or special needs and to assist schools with medical-emergency plans for students. Once a child is registered, the school is provided with advice on a medical-emergency plan for that student and given a list of medications, allergies and medical conditions the student has. If your child has a serious medical condition or allergy and could benefit from MedicAlert services, contact the school office at 780-467-7751. To learn more about the No Child Without program, visit [www.nochildwithout.ca](#).

# Strathcona County Information

## NEW OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE AT BROADMOOR PUBLIC GOLF COURSE

Strathcona County invites the community to enjoy new cross-country ski tracks, snowshoeing, walking and tobogganing fun at the Broadmoor Public Golf Course this winter season. Ready for mid-December (weather dependent), cross-country skiing at the golf course will be a FREE winter activity available for all to enjoy. There will be three loops of tracks, groomed three times a week, set throughout the course. Skiers will require their own equipment, as equipment rentals will not be available at the golf course location. Visit [strathcona.ca](http://strathcona.ca) for more details.

## NEW PROVINCIAL RESTRICTIONS

New mandatory provincial restrictions announced on November 24, 2020 are now in effect for County residents, businesses and facilities. Restrictions will be in place for at least three weeks. Visit [strathcona.ca](http://strathcona.ca) to learn what these restrictions include.

## COMMUNITY & FAMILIES

People are the most important part of this community, and together we thrive. Click [here](#) to find out more about programs and services that help engage and empower people of all ages and situations.

## SAFE. SUPPORTED. CONNECTED.

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused stress, hardships, and pressure for Strathcona County residents in ways some may have never experienced before. Trying to balance everything can feel overwhelming. Strathcona County Family and Community Services is here to support you through these challenging times. If you're stressed about finances, parenting, or just need to talk, call us at 780-464-4044. Click [here](#) for more information.