



April 30, 2021



# WESTBORO ELEMENTARY

## Weekly Newsletter

### IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

**May 3-9:** [Mental Health Week](#)

**May 3:** Bus Driver Appreciation Day

**May 4:** Kindergarten Information Night

**May 5:** Early Dismissal

**May 5:** Hats On! for Mental Health

**May 7:** No School - Professional Learning Day

### COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

We would like to remind families to use the [STAY AT HOME GUIDE](#) to determine when to keep your child home from school and when it is safe to return. Complete the [COVID-19 Alberta Health Daily Checklist \(for children under 18\)](#) with your child every day. The questionnaire will help determine if it's safe to send your child to school. If the answer is "Yes" to any of the questionnaire questions, DO NOT send your child to school. Stay home and see the instructions on the [STAY AT HOME GUIDE](#). If the answer is "No" to all the questions, your child can attend school. For more assistance you can call 811 and/or complete the self assessment tool at <https://myhealth.alberta.ca/Journey/COVID-19/Pages/COVID-Self-Assessment.aspx>

If your child tests positive for COVID-19 please contact the school immediately at 780-467-7751, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. If you receive positive test results outside of school hours, please email Principal Mike Lastiwka at [mike.lastiwka@eips.ca](mailto:mike.lastiwka@eips.ca) and Assistant Principal Shelby Labrecque at [shelby.labrecque@eips.ca](mailto:shelby.labrecque@eips.ca). Thank you.

## STUDENT TRANSPORTATION: 2021-22 REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

Planning to use Student Transportation in the 2021-22 school year? If so, make sure your child is registered so Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) can plan routes and send your child a bus pass before the first day of school.

All students who indicated needing transportation services through the returning student registration process are now registered. Families registered will receive tentative route schedules and invoices by the end of the month—fees are due June 30, 2021.

For those students who didn't indicate needing transportation service through the pre-enrolment process and want to now register, simply contact EIPS Student Transportation at 780-417-8151 or email [st@eips.ca](mailto:st@eips.ca).

For more information about EIPS Student Transportation visit [www.eips.ca/transportation](http://www.eips.ca/transportation).

**NOTE:** Families can pay fees online using the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#). To pay in-person contact Student Transportation to make an appointment.

## EIPS LAUNCHES NEW BLOG: TAWÂW, MIYOONAKISHKATOOHK, WELCOME!

The Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) First Nations, Métis and Inuit education team has launched a new blog entitled, [tawâw, miyoonakishkatoohk, welcome!](#) The monthly blog offers readers information and resources about Indigenous education and related events taking place throughout the Division.

During the recent parent engagement sessions, families of both Indigenous students and those who attended the general foundational knowledge series said they wanted more information about the projects, activities and initiatives happening at schools across EIPS. So, the Division delivered and created [tawâw, miyoonakishkatoohk, welcome!](#) Make sure to visit the blog often for the latest news and information about what's happening throughout the Division.

## EDUCATION WEEK 2021: MAY 3-7

Education Week takes place May 3-7. Throughout the week, students and staff from Westboro Elementary, are showcasing and celebrating the role education plays in shaping the future of our province. Led by the Alberta Teachers' Association and Alberta Education, the annual event is celebrated by school communities provincewide with activities focused on the importance of education.

The theme of Education Week continues to be Learning is a Journey highlighting the progression and growth of students over time and the multiple facets of an educational experience—including core subjects, fine arts, school teams, citizenship education, extracurricular activities and more.

## BUS DRIVER APPRECIATION DAY

Join us on Monday, May 3, 2021 as we recognize and thank our school bus operators for keeping the safety of our students their first priority. We encourage you, and your children, to take a moment to say thanks to our bus operators—who go above and beyond to provide safe and timely transportation to our students.

On behalf of Westboro Elementary **THANK YOU** to all of our school bus operators for a job well done.

## GEARING UP FOR KINDERGARTEN

Do you have a child registered in kindergarten next year? If so, make sure to attend our upcoming virtual Kindergarten Information night. Make sure to attend to virtually tour the school; meet the staff; gain insight on play-based learning; and see what a typical day looks like.

### **Kindergarten Information Night 2021:**

**Date:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021

**Time:** 6:30 p.m.

The information session will be held via Google Meets and a link will be sent out to families on Monday, May 3, 2021.

## MASK PROTOCOL

Parents who drop off and pick up students in person are reminded that even though they may be outdoors, public health measures remain in effect. Please ensure you maintain a minimum of two metres away from others who are not part of your immediate household and if that's not possible, a mask is required—even outside. The Chief Medical Officer of Health has indicated there has been outdoor spread when these measures haven't been followed, and we want to ensure our school community remains healthy and helps prevent further transmission of COVID-19.

## QUARTER 4 FEES

Quarter 4 fees are now posted and payment is due within 14 days. Any outstanding fees from Quarter 1, 2, and 3 are also now due and require payment.

If any credits were present on the account, they have been applied and any outstanding balance will show as due. Please log into your PowerSchool account to see credits, fees, and make payment.

**NOTE:** As of May 13th, parents will have the ability to transfer overpayment credits between siblings, between schools, and between school and Transportation.

If you have any questions, please call Billie Jean Mepham at 780-467-7751.

# Strathcona County Information

## COVID-19 UPDATE

The Government of Alberta announced the province is [moving back to Step 1 restrictions](#), effective April 7, 2021. The Province is [rolling out their vaccination program to eligible Albertans](#). Mask wearing continues to be mandatory. [Mental health](#) and [business supports](#) are available.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR

While we can't be together physically for events at this time, many in the community are hosting events, classes, meetings and gatherings creatively online. Click [here](#) to view the events calendar.

## PITCH IN THIS SPRING

Pitch-In this spring (May 15 to 23) and help clean up litter in Strathcona County. Here is how to get involved:

- Submit a registration form.
- Use your own garbage bags or register and receive them for free. Contact-less pick-up of bags will be available May 4 to 6 at the Sherwood Park Arena.
- Strathcona County staff will contact you to confirm which area you plan to tidy up, and when.

Learn more and find the registration form here:

<https://www.strathcona.ca/.../volunteer.../pitch-in/>

## YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO IT ALL ON YOUR OWN

If you're feeling alone or overwhelmed, call Strathcona County Family and Community Services at 780-464-4044 or visit <https://bit.ly/3kmGb3V>.

## RAISING RESILIENT, SELF-RELIANT, AND SECURE KIDS IN AN AGE OF ANXIETY

Taking time for yourself is not always easy, especially when caring for others. When we are at our best, we can give others the best version of ourselves. Family and Community Services invites parents and caregivers on a month-long journey through the book "The Scaffold Effect: Raising Resilient, Self-Reliant, and Secure Kids in an Age of Anxiety" with weekly virtual discussions, May 19 to June 9. It's an opportunity to:

- find meaningful connections
- practice self-compassion
- reflect, learn and share about the experience of caregiving

Register in advance for Between the Lines Book Club: <http://ow.ly/mPM450Ey3es>