

# April Newsletter



We hope you enjoyed a wonderful Spring Break and were able to celebrate Easter, however that looked for your family this COVID year. It came at the perfect time for the snow to melt and some of the puddles to dry up on our school grounds. We are now gearing up for what we affectionately refer to as “April-May-June”. The time just seems to fly from now until the end of the year.

Mrs. Wisselink has organized another Virtual Book Fair from **April 26 – May 7**. Please see below for more information.

Annually, EIPS conducts a parent survey to gauge its progress toward meeting the goals and priorities outlined in its [Four-Year Education Plan](#). Plus, new this year, the survey includes a Part B, featuring questions about the Division’s priorities, goals and outcomes. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey as we are committed to continuous improvement. [TAKE THE SURVEY NOW!](#) Survey closes April 20, 2021.

Thank you for your continued support. As always, if you have any questions, concerns, or comments, please stop by or give me a call.

Have a wonderful month of April!

Sincerely,  
Kari Huk

## Upcoming Events

- April 7 Early Dismissal, Loonies 4 Lamont
- April 13 Spring Photos taken by Lifetouch – PALS, Kindergarten to Grade 3
- April 14 Spring Photos taken by Lifetouch – PALS, Kindergarten. Grade 4 - Grade 6

## Lifetouch Photos

Lifetouch will be in the school on April 13 and April 14. They will be taking Spring Photos of all our students on these 2 days. We have scheduled PALS, Kindergarten and Grades 1 – 3 on April 13 and PALS, Kindergarten and Grades 4 – 6 on April 14. More information will be coming to you. The Kindergarten students will have Grad pictures taken on those days.

## Library News

Virtual Author Visits – On May 4, Authors David Paulsen and Sue Farrell Holler will be visiting our students through Google Meets.

David Paulsen will be speaking with students in grades 4-6, he is a writer, broadcaster, teacher, football coach, rodeo competitor, stage and film actor who has written books for middle elementary students and young adults. The Salt and Pepper Chronicles is a six book series which follows the adventures of

two teenage girls and one bratty little brother who travel the globe to tackle mysteries that often have a magical, sometimes even super-natural element to them.

Sue Farrell Holler will introduce her newest picture book, “Raven, Rabbit, Deer” to our students in Kindergarten to grade 3. She grew up on Cape Breton Island but now calls Grande Prairie home. Some of her picture and fiction books include introductions to First Nations culture and the stories are set in Alberta.

Virtual Scholastic Book Fair - Our fall Book Fair was a great opportunity for students and parents to purchase books for their home libraries. We are excited to be able to offer a second Virtual Book Fair from April 26 – May 7. During these two weeks our Lamont School Community will be given a special access code to the Online Book Fair. You will place your orders online and all orders will be shipped directly to your home. Any orders over \$40.00 will receive free shipping and any books purchased on the Wednesday Family Nights will also receive free shipping. Lamont Elementary School Library will receive 20% of the profits from the Book Fair. The unique shopping link posted below will NOT BE LIVE until Monday, April 26.

<https://virtualbookfairs.scholastic.ca/pages/5158100>

### **First Nations, Métis & Inuit Education**

At the end of March, teachers were able to explore the Indigenous Games kit with their students. We plan to begin gathering the materials and resources needed to create an Indigenous Games kit that can be used throughout the year, at Lamont Elementary. We also purchased Mathology resources that will honour Indigenous teachings, while also supporting math learning for grades K-3. On April 21st, First Nations, Métis and Inuit Advisor, Jeremy Albert, will be taking the day to educate staff on how to use the “Under One Sun” resource that was purchased for grades K-6. After this professional development session teachers will use this resource during the last few months of school and integrate it into their year plans for the upcoming school years.

### **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 on May 27 at 6:30. Make sure to attend to virtually tour the school; meet the teachers; gain insight on play-based learning; and see what a typical day looks like. The link will be shared closer to the date of the information night.

To make the transition to school as smooth as possible Elk Island Public Schools has also put together a toolkit for families. The kit includes information about registration, important dates, programming options, what to expect, eligibility, how to find your designated school, transportation and more. Find it by visiting [www.eips.ca/programs-services/kindergarten](http://www.eips.ca/programs-services/kindergarten).

### **Have your say! The 2021 EIPS Parent Survey is Now Open**

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) wants to hear from you. Make sure to complete the 2021 EIPS Parent Survey—open from April 6-20.

Annually, EIPS conducts a parent survey to gauge its progress toward meeting the goals and priorities outlined in its [Four-Year Education Plan](#). Families are asked a series of questions about their experiences with EIPS and the school their child attends, the overall performance of the Division, the quality of

education being provided to students and areas for improvement. The survey feedback helps the Division develop new strategies to better serve students and the wider community.

Plus, new this year, the survey includes a Part B, featuring questions about the Division's priorities, goals and outcomes. As you know, in fall 2021, EIPS welcomes a new locally elected Board of Trustees. Your feedback will help the incoming Board develop a new EIPS Four-Year Education Plan—one that's responsive to student and community needs and focused on continuous improvement.

### [TAKE THE SURVEY NOW!](#)

Survey closes April 20, 2021.

NOTE: The survey is anonymous and doesn't take long to complete. If you want to share the experience of more than one child attending an EIPS school, simply complete the survey again.

### **A big THANK YOU to all EIPS families**

National Volunteer Week takes place April 18-24. Most years, we celebrate the week in schools by thanking the hundreds of volunteers across EIPS who offer their knowledge and time to help enhance learning within the Division. This year is a little different because of COVID-19. While different, schools are thanking their families in new and creative ways.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees at Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS), I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to every one of our EIPS school families for your support over the last 12 months. Collectively, we've created a relationship that allows us to rally behind one clear vision: To provide exceptional education for all students. As we navigate the pandemic, it's critical we continue to work together to support student learning. Through this, we'll inspire learners and ensure they gain the skills they need to transition to the next grade or the world of work.

So, again, thank-you for your time, for your efforts, for your kindness and for your understanding as we work together to ensure all students succeed.

Trina Boymook  
Chair, EIPS Board of Trustees

### **Watch for Thin Ice**

Remember, be aware of thin ice this time of year. Depending on changing temperatures, ice can form and melt to varying degrees on outdoor bodies of water. Please remind your child about the dangers of thin ice, obey all posted signs, take the proper care and remain a safe distance from the ice. For more information about ice safety, visit the [Canadian Red Cross](#).

Did you know?

The colour of ice may be an indication of its strength. Clear blue ice is the strongest. White opaque is half as strong as blue ice. And, grey ice is unsafe—the greyness indicates the presence of water.