

# Monthly Update January 2020



## Principal's Message

Welcome back to all students, families and staff, and a Happy New Year to everyone in 2020! It has been great to back at school after the holidays and busyness of December and focus on our learning. Additionally, at this time of year we look forward to providing our students with physical activities that will encourage lifelong activities, such as downhill skiing for grades 4 – 6 students, and cross-country skiing at Strathcona Wilderness Centre for the grades 1 – 3 students. The archery team is off to a good start having practices from 3:00 - 4:00pm and 4:00 - 5:00pm on Tuesdays depending what group the students are in.

Alberta Education will be mailing out their annual Accountability Pillar survey in the month of January for grades 4, 5, and 6 parents, and then in February those students will be surveyed online at school. Please participate in these surveys as they give us good feedback and inform our practice at Uncas School!

Scheduling will be open on February 3<sup>rd</sup> for our second round of Parent/Teacher/Student interviews via [schoolinterviews.ca](http://schoolinterviews.ca). Specific 'how to' instructions will be on our website.



## Kindergarten Registration Starts Soon!

Is your child turning five on or before Dec. 31, 2020? If so, it's almost time to register for kindergarten.

Kindergarten registration opens for the 2020-21 school year on Feb. 1, 2020.

To help families prepare, Elk Island Public Schools has put together an online toolkit—available at [www.eips.ca/kindergarten](http://www.eips.ca/kindergarten)—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.

## Returning Student Registration for 2020-21

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) will once again conduct an online returning student registration process to confirm student registrations for the 2020-21 school year. Families of all returning students must complete the process to confirm the school their child plans to attend in the 2020-21 school year. 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 2020-21 returning student registration takes place Feb. 1-29, 2020.

Access to the Returning Student Registration Form is provided through the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#). If you don't have a PowerSchool Parent Portal account, you need to set one up before Feb. 1, 2020.

[Create a PowerSchool Parent Portal account](#)

For more information contact the school directly.



### **Another way to stay connected: Follow EIPS on Twitter and Facebook**

With 43 schools and close to 17,400 students, there's a wealth of events, activities and stories taking place across the Division every day. You can find these stories and more by following Elk Island Public Schools on both Facebook and Twitter. Each uses the combination of news articles, videos and photographs that showcases the latest news, updates, events and alerts taking place across the Division.

Plus, if you're a member of an EIPS school community and want to share in the storytelling, simply tag the Division using #EIPS.

Stay in the loop, follow EIPS on Facebook and Twitter.

*NOTE: Communications Services manages the Division's Facebook and Twitter accounts. The account is updated and monitored intermittently during regular office hours from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday. The Division welcomes feedback and ideas from followers but does ask everyone interacting on the EIPS Facebook page to be respectful. Personal attacks and offensive language are not allowed and may be deleted.*



### **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, including automated-telephone messages, alerts posted on [www.eips.ca](http://www.eips.ca) and school websites, Twitter, Facebook, local radio stations and on Versatrans My Stop.

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 condition.

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 their beliefs and perceptions of safety during times of inclement weather. For more information, contact EIPS Student Transportation at 780-417-8151.

## **EIPS 2020-21 Division Calendar: Now available!**

The 2020-21 EIPS calendar is now available online. The calendar includes important dates during the 2020-21 school year, such as school-closure days; breaks; the first and last day of classes; professional learning days; and early dismissal days.

Highlights from the 2020-21 EIPS calendar include:

*September 1* – first day of classes

*November 9-13* – November break

*December 23 to January 5* – Christmas break

*February 1* – second semester begins

*February 4-6* – Teachers’ Convention

*March 29 to April 2* – spring break

*June 25* – last day of classes

*June 28* – last operational day before the summer break

To view the 2020-21 calendar, visit [eips.ca](http://eips.ca).

**Did you know you can sync the Division calendar to your personal calendar?** You can. Simply, visit [www.eips.ca/calendar](http://www.eips.ca/calendar) and click on “subscribe to calendar.” It’s that easy.

## **Uncas Out of School Care**

Uncas Out of School Care now provides 11- month childcare. The Centre is open on all regular school days and school closure days.

The Centre will operate only in August during the summer break. The Centre will be closed for the month of July.

The program also provides full time care for Kindergarten children from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. including non-school days.

For more information please call Anna at 780-297-0023 or email to [a.m.groszek@gmail.com](mailto:a.m.groszek@gmail.com)