Good Afternoon Glen Allan Elementary families,

I hope you had a restful and enjoyable break and Happy New Year to everyone! We are excited to be back to school today and happy to see our students virtually. Thank you for your patience, understanding and effort with the temporary online learning for January 6-8. Our staff have prepared some wonderful learning experiences for the three days and we know there have been some connectivity issues this morning so thank you again for your patience! If you do know that your child will not be attending the online learning or if you need assistance with technology, please let the office know. **We are all looking forward to having students back in the building on Monday, January 11.**

Please mark your calendars **for Thursday, January 21 at 6:30 p.m. which is our next virtual Glen Allan School Council meeting.** During this meeting, I will be sharing information about our current fee structure, posing specific questions about priorities, and asking you to provide your feedback as we plan for the 2021-22 school year. While many of these activities and services enhance students’ educational experience, we want to ensure these fees are not cost prohibitive for families.

Specifically, we will be asking for input on the following:

* Noon hour supervision
* Field trips and associated fess
* Extracurricular activities
* Non-curricular goods and services

I understand not all families will be available to attend the meeting but it’s still important we get as much input from the school community as possible. Following the meeting, materials will be shared on our website for your review, and an email address provided so you can submit a written response.

We will use the feedback provided to help determine fees for 2020-21, which will then be shared at the February school council meeting, posted to our website, and shared through the weekly Buzz email.

**EIPS Division News**

**EIPS 2021-22 Division Calendar: Now available!**

The official 2021-22 EIPS calendar is now available online. The calendar includes important dates during the 2021-22 school year, such as school-closure days, breaks, the first and last day of classes, professional learning days, early dismissal days, plus more. Highlights from the 2021-22 EIPS calendar include:

* September 1 – first day of classes
* November 8-12 – November break
* December 22 to January 4Christm – as break
* February 1 – second semester begins
* February 10-11 – Teachers’ Convention
* March 28 to April 1 – spring break
* June 28 – last day of classes
* June 29 – last operational day before the summer break

To view the 2021-21 calendar, visit [eips.ca](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/34A0ZFLEFGVIABXK8gLEOg~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRh1ztjP0QjaHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuZWlwcy5jYS9kb3dubG9hZC8yMjUxNjRXB3NjaG9vbG1CCl_14wf2X9JcYjpSFWp1ZHkuYW5kZXJzb25AZWlwcy5jYVgEAAAAAg~~).

**Did you know you can sync the Division calendar to your personal calendar?** You can. Simply, visit [eips.ca/calendar](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/gq24MvemSD_2JWOmtTyHxQ~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRh1ztjP0QbaHR0cDovL3d3dy5laXBzLmNhL2NhbGVuZGFyVwdzY2hvb2xtQgpf9eMH9l_SXGI6UhVqdWR5LmFuZGVyc29uQGVpcHMuY2FYBAAAAAI~) and click on “subscribe to calendar.” It’s that easy.

**Kindergarten Registration Starts Soon!**

Is your child turning five on or before Dec. 31, 2021? If so, it’s almost time to register for kindergarten.

Kindergarten registration opens for the 2021-22 school year on Feb. 1, 2021.

To help families prepare, Elk Island Public Schools has put together an online [EIPS Kindergarten Tool kit](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/IqgibU79h0ECv8Rk4IIcxg~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRh1ztjP0QfaHR0cDovL3d3dy5laXBzLmNhL2tpbmRlcmdhcnRlblcHc2Nob29sbUIKX_XjB_Zf0lxiOlIVanVkeS5hbmRlcnNvbkBlaXBzLmNhWAQAAAAC) 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 2021-22**

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) will once again conduct an online returning student registration process to confirm student registrations for the 2021-22 school year. Families of all returning students must complete the process to confirm the school their child plans to attend in the 2021-22 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 2021-22 returning student registration takes place between Feb. 1-28, 2021.

Access to the Returning Student Registration Form is provided through the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/4BgqGhP3_r3Pr_IbJZMkYQ~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRh1ztjP0QsaHR0cHM6Ly9wb3dlcnNjaG9vbC5laXBzLmNhL3B1YmxpYy9ob21lLmh0bWxXB3NjaG9vbG1CCl_14wf2X9JcYjpSFWp1ZHkuYW5kZXJzb25AZWlwcy5jYVgEAAAAAg~~). If you don’t have a PowerSchool Parent Portal account, you need to set one up before Feb. 1, 2021.

[Create a PowerSchool Parent Portal account](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/jsZ4XOgdUcfrLarmrvtw4Q~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRh1ztjP0Q1aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuZWlwcy5jYS9zY2hvb2xzL3Bvd2Vyc2Nob29sL3BhcmVudC1wb3J0YWxXB3NjaG9vbG1CCl_14wf2X9JcYjpSFWp1ZHkuYW5kZXJzb25AZWlwcy5jYVgEAAAAAg~~)

 For more information contact the school directly.

**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 [eips.ca](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/aAyv-WJtYD7t0s6LcDADMw~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRh1ztjP0QTaHR0cDovL3d3dy5laXBzLmNhL1cHc2Nob29sbUIKX_XjB_Zf0lxiOlIVanVkeS5hbmRlcnNvbkBlaXBzLmNhWAQAAAAC) 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](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/t-VQb_iiwtHNrJ3ei-D-KQ~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRh1ztjP0Q6aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuZWlwcy5jYS9hYm91dC11cy9hZG1pbmlzdHJhdGl2ZS1wcm9jZWR1cmVzLzEzMVcHc2Nob29sbUIKX_XjB_Zf0lxiOlIVanVkeS5hbmRlcnNvbkBlaXBzLmNhWAQAAAAC), 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 what they feel is safest during times of inclement weather.

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

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

With 43 schools and close to 17,000 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](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/b_UKTgR0RH5CYeoskPRqMQ~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRh1ztjP0QYaHR0cHM6Ly90d2l0dGVyLmNvbS9laXBzVwdzY2hvb2xtQgpf9eMH9l_SXGI6UhVqdWR5LmFuZGVyc29uQGVpcHMuY2FYBAAAAAI~). Each uses a 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](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/b_UKTgR0RH5CYeoskPRqMQ~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRh1ztjP0QYaHR0cHM6Ly90d2l0dGVyLmNvbS9laXBzVwdzY2hvb2xtQgpf9eMH9l_SXGI6UhVqdWR5LmFuZGVyc29uQGVpcHMuY2FYBAAAAAI~).

NOTE: Communications Services manages the Division's Facebook and Twitter accounts. The account is updated and monitored intermittently during regular office hours from 8 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.

Thank you for your continued support and have a wonderful day!

Kind Regards,

Judy Anderson

Principal