

April 2019

Elk Island Public Schools

# THE WESTBORO REPORT



## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

It is April and Spring is sprouting! As the snow melts, we will soon be able to enjoy some green grass, budding trees and fresh flowers!

Westboro is excited about our upcoming **Shop till you Drop** on April 6<sup>th</sup>. Families are welcome to come and purchase items from a variety of vendors.

We also hope you will be able to join us for the **Family Dance and Silent Auction** on April 12<sup>th</sup> - so many wonderful activities to look forward to! Thank you to our parents and staff for making these opportunities possible! Happy Spring everyone!



## APRIL

- 5 Newsletter
- 6 Shop 'Til Ya Drop!
- 12 Family Dance
- 15 Hot Lunch
- 16 Logos Chapel at Park Church
- 18 Earth Day - wear something green
- 19 No School
- 22 No School
- 24 School Council 6:30 p.m.
- 26 Swimming Starts for Gr. 1-3 (every Friday until June 21<sup>st</sup>)

## KUDOS



Many, many thanks to the amazing parent volunteers that we have in our school! For your work on councils, for organizing hot lunches, for supervising field trips, for completing book orders, for photocopying, and organizing fundraisers!

For running Penny Carnival, for helping with student reading, for completing crafts and laminating materials. Our parents even supervise swimming!

These are just a few of the very important tasks that you do in the Westboro School community to make our school the fantastic place that it is. Thank you so very much for all of your efforts!! We appreciate you most sincerely!

## MAY

- 1 Early dismissal
- 2 ECS Open House 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
- 3 Newsletter  
Swimming for Grades 1 - 3

**PRINCIPAL**  
**Mike Lastiwka**

**ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL**  
**Chantel Werner**

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[www.westboroelementary.ca](http://www.westboroelementary.ca)  
@WBOelementary

## A REMINDER: SAFE PARKING AT WESTBORO ELEMENTARY

Thank you to those parents who have been working with us at the school to help keep our students safe!

Thank you to the many parents who honour the posted parking signs, are mindful of the speed zone in front of the school, and park away from the crosswalks. Again, our students' safety is top priority to us at Westboro, and our school zone is a very busy place before and after school. We have included a map from Strathcona County that outlines parking around the school in this edition.

Kindly remember that **U-turns are prohibited** on Strathcona Drive between Leuders Crescent and Broadmoor Boulevard.

Once again, please remember to respect the posted signs, and laws for parking around our school!

## ATTEND OUR KINDERGARTEN INFORMATION NIGHT

### Gearing up for Kindergarten

Do you have a child registered in kindergarten next year? If so, make sure to attend our upcoming Kindergarten Information Night on May 1, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.:

- tour the school;
- meet the teachers;
- gain insight on play-based learning; and
- see what a typical day looks like.

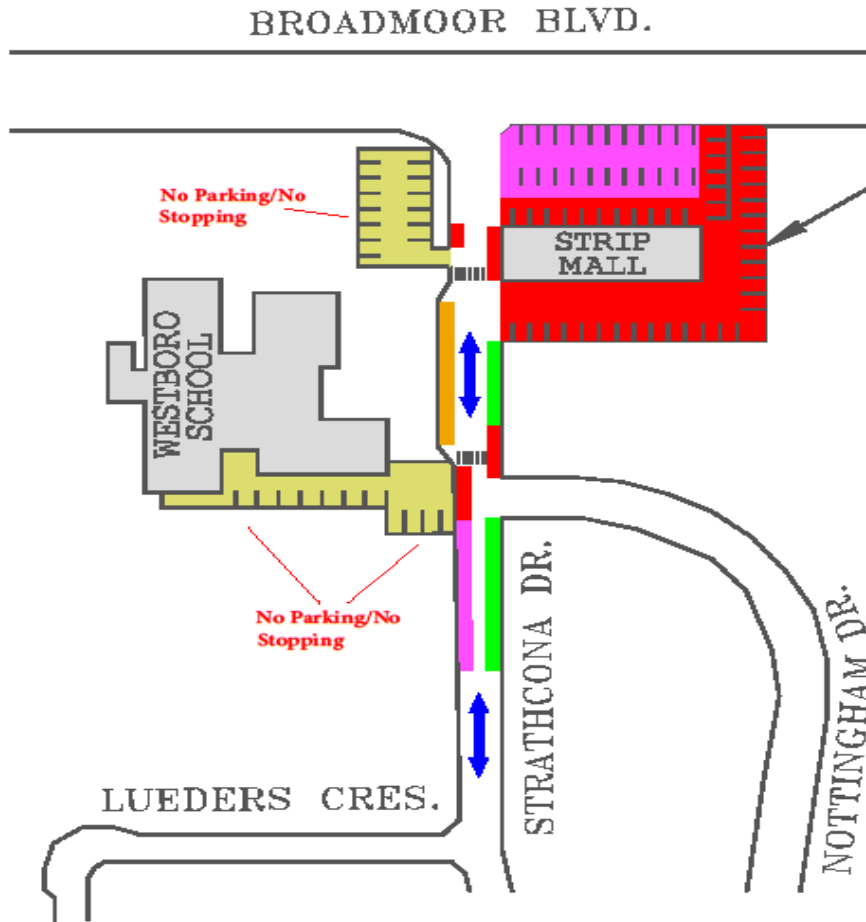
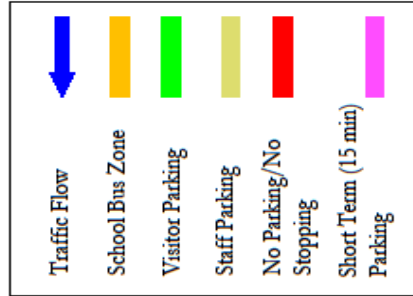
Elk Island Public Schools has also put together an online toolkit to make the transition to school as smooth as possible. The kit includes information about registration, important dates, programming options, what to expect, eligibility, how to find your designated school, transportation and more. Find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

Additional information regarding Westboro Elementary's kindergarten program, can be found on our school website at [www.westboroelementary.ca](http://www.westboroelementary.ca).

**NOTE:** To be eligible to attend kindergarten in the 2019-20 school year, children must be five years of age on or before Dec. 31, 2019.



# Westboro School Traffic Management Plan



Please respect the businesses who allow parents to use their parking lot. Do not park in front of the businesses when accessing the school, whether they are open or not.

**School Bus Zone:**  
 School bus drop off/pick up times are 8:15am-8:45am, & between 3:00pm-3:30pm.  
 Student drop off/pick up is not allowed from the school bus zone during these times.  
**U-Turns:**  
 U-Turns are prohibited on Strathcona Drive between Lueders Crescent and Broadmoor Boulevard.

## REGISTER FOR KINDERGARTEN

Is your child turning five on or before Dec. 31, 2019? If so, it's time to register for kindergarten.

Kindergarten registration is now open for the 2019-20 school year. To register, simply complete the online registration form at [www.eips.ca/registration/kindergarten](http://www.eips.ca/registration/kindergarten).

### *KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION CHECK LIST:*

- Determine your child's designated school
- Scan and upload all required documents: proof of name, residence, date of birth and citizenship.
- Additional documents to scan, if applicable include: Guardian Letter and Parental Custody Agreement if restrictions on access.
- Once the online registration is complete and submitted, a confirmation notice is sent to the given email address.

*NOTE:* The paper copy is no longer available. For step-by-step instructions on how-to use the online form visit the [EIPS Registration](http://www.eips.ca/registration) web page.

Families will be advised in April about the results of the application process.

Additionally, to help families prepare for kindergarten, Elk Island Public Schools has put together an online toolkit 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. Find it by visiting [www.eips.ca/programs-services/kindergarten](http://www.eips.ca/programs-services/kindergarten).



## EARTH DAY AND PITCH IN

We will be celebrating Earth Day in our school on April 18<sup>th</sup>. An assembly will be on the 15<sup>th</sup> during Circle Time. We will be "Pitching-In" to help clean up our school yard on April 18<sup>th</sup>! Students should arrive at school this day prepared to spend some time outside picking up garbage. If you have old gardening gloves, rubber gloves or latex gloves, please feel free to send them with your child.



## AMA PATROLLER FOR THE MONTH

Once again many thanks to our dedicated team of School Safety Patrollers who are outside monitoring our crosswalks in the morning and after school. This is especially difficult in the cold weather. Thank you for the respect you show them by allowing them to guide you safely across the street.

A special mention goes out to our Patroller for the

Month of March: Acacia in Grade 4L

Well done! Keep up the great work!



## HOT LUNCH

Online ordering for the final session of this year (May & June) will be open from April 10<sup>th</sup> through April 24<sup>th</sup>. Sorry no late orders will be accepted. Visit [westboro.hotlunches.net](http://westboro.hotlunches.net) to place your orders. If you have any questions email us at [westborohotlunches@gmail.com](mailto:westborohotlunches@gmail.com). **Also as always, a big THANK YOU to our volunteers for their continued support!**

## FRIENDS' CLUB



### Accredited Friends Club Child Care and Out of School Care program

We are located inside Westboro Elementary School and are now accepting registration for **children ages 3 to 5 years old, Kindergarten and grades 1 to 6 students.**

We offer breakfast and afternoon snack, gym sports, outdoor play, fun projects, homework club, soccer club, cooking/baking club, field trips, arts, crafts and games. We are open on PD days.

Full time child care spaces are available. Subsidy is available for eligible families.

For more information about our programs and services, please call us at 780-707-4481 or e-mail: [kspa2006@gmail.com](mailto:kspa2006@gmail.com)

We are happy to answer all your inquiries.

## SCHOOLCOUNCIL / PARENTS' GROUP NEWS

Our big events in April are our second **Spring Shop Til Ya Drop** on April 6<sup>th</sup> from 10am – 4pm in the gym and our **Annual Family Dance** being held Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup> from 6 p.m.- 8:30 p.m. We count on support from our families and any donation of new items are welcome!! This year we are scaling back on the auction and focusing on the raffle. If each family could donate a raffle basket item, it would be awesome.

Our next meeting is April 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm in the Library, hope to see you all there!

### ANNUAL FAMILY DANCE

Our annual **Family Dance and Silent Auction** will be held in the gym at Westboro on April 12<sup>th</sup> from 6 - 8:30 p.m. Come out and join us on the fun. Our theme this year is 1950's Rock n' Roll Dance, so feel free to dress up and have fun with it. We are also still taking donations of new or unused items for our raffle baskets. We have a bin outside the office for any donations being brought in. Any donation is much appreciated.

### LOGOS INFORMATION

As soon as I pray you answer me; you encourage me by giving me strength.

PSALM 138:8

The next Logos meeting is Tuesday, May 14, 2019 at 7:00 pm in Sherwood Heights. Hope to see you there.

The next fundraiser will be Nitza's pizza coupons and the sheets will be coming home May 1, 2019 and available until May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Trust the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding.

PROVERBS 3:5

Janeen Bielby

Westboro Logos Representative



WESTBORO PARENTS GROUP PRESENTS

# Spring Shop til ya Drop



With Dozens of great vendors, fantastic auction items, this is an event you don't want to miss!

Get all your shopping done or treat yourself to a fun day out with friends and family at our fabulous fundraiser!

**Saturday, APRIL 6**

**10:00am – 4:00pm**

**WESTBORO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GYM**

1078 STRATHCONA DRIVE, SHERWOOD PARK, AB

All are welcome!

Some of our amazing vendors this event are:

- 4 Kids Designs
- Bandana's for Dogs by Hailey
- Beauty Counter
- Burning Flames Custom Candles
- Canning Momma's
- Cups & Cakes by Jaycee
- Epicure
- Glasses 2 Go
- Creations by Janice
- KEEP Collective
- Lety Franco Creations
- Mel's Bags, Bins, & Totes
- Norwex
- Pampered Chef
- Sewing by Kim & Lindsay
- Sweetegs SP with Kelly
- Tupperware
- Wayward Wood

**AND MANY MORE.....**

Accepting Donations  
for the Foodbank!



## EIPS DISTRICT NEWS

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK: APRIL 15 - 21

### **A big *THANK YOU* to all of our volunteers**

On behalf of the Board of Trustees at Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS), thank you to all of our volunteers within the Division who help make our schools and programs successful. Whether it's assisting at an athletic competition, co-ordinating a fundraising initiative or helping at a school event, the impact you make within our school community is profound. Together, we've built a positive relationships that has allowed us to rally behind one clear vision: Provide exceptional education for all students.

In recognition of National Volunteer Week, which runs April 7-13, EIPS extends a heartfelt thanks and celebrates the hundreds of volunteers across EIPS who dedicate countless hours of their time in our schools.

Trina Boymook  
Chair, Board of Trustees

## BUS STATUS APP

### **New Bus Status App Available**

A new version of the Bus Status app is now available. If you haven't already, we encourage all families to download the new version from the App Store or Google Play. After downloading, make sure to delete the older version from your device.

All information from the [Division Bus Status page](#) is currently pushing out to both the old and new versions of the app, so you'll receive updates regardless of the app you're using. However, at the end of the school year, the old version of the app will no longer work. Families will need to ensure they've downloaded the new version of the app to receive updates about bus delays and cancellations in 2019-20.

The changes aren't specifically related to the overall functionality of the app—it's much the same as the current version. What is changing is it's now one unified app available for download rather than each school division having a separate app. The first time you open the new app, it will prompt you to select Elk Island Public Schools from the list of school divisions. After that, you will use the app the same way you have in the past. You can reselect your favourite routes and update them as needed. You'll also continue to receive push notifications about delays and cancellations the same way you do now.



## THIN ICE

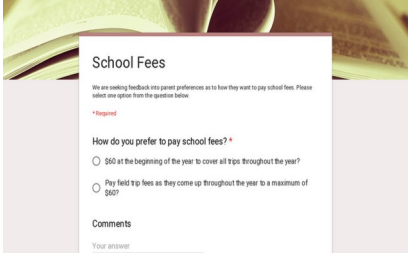
### Watch for Thin Ice

Elk Island Public Schools remind families to be cognizant 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 children about the dangers of thin ice, to obey all posted signs and to take the proper care to remain a safe distance from the ice. For more information about ice safety, visit the [Canadian Red Cross](#).

### Did you know?

The way ice forms affects the way it melts in spring. Minerals in the water actually become concentrated in vertical veins throughout the ice as it freezes. Warm temperatures cause these veins to melt more quickly and weaken the ice, a process known as *candling*

## SCHOOL SURVEY—FIELD TRIP FEES

	<h3>School Fees</h3> <p>We are seeking feedback into parent preferences as to how they want to pay school fees. Please select one option from the question below.</p> <p><a href="https://forms.gle/DKs74NyoAxXjNNkq9">forms.gle</a></p>
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<https://forms.gle/DKs74NyoAxXjNNkq9>

## School Emergency Program

A GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

Revised: June 2017

**Schools are considered to be one of the safest places in our communities. However, in reality, an emergency can strike anywhere at any time.**

DURING ANY EMERGENCY, THE DIVISION'S FIRST PRIORITY is the safety



of its students and staff. To provide an effective response to any school crisis, the Division has developed an Emergency Response Plan. The plan works in conjunction with other local emergency plans, as a school emergency could require the involvement of numerous agencies. Both individual school plans and the Division's plan, are reviewed annually and after each emergency.

There is an onsite emergency-response team at each school, along with a Division-based Emergency-Response Team that provides support and aid to schools at the time of an emergency. All staff are trained on emergency protocols and drills are regularly practiced at each school.

Although standardized protocols and procedures provide the basis for the response, the way Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) responds to an emergency is influenced by the specifics of an incident. As a Division, the foremost by the concern to ensure the safety of students and staff.

As such, the Division collaborates closely with local emergency personnel to ensure plans are co-ordinated with appropriate agencies. The Division's plans don't replace the authority of the municipality, law enforcement, fire or EMS—staff members work in full co-operation with these agencies.

For security reasons, certain components of the emergency response plans aren't publicly available. However, the following "School Emergency Program" guide outlines key elements of the plan and answers questions parents frequently ask regarding emergency preparedness. I hope you find the guide helpful and informative.

We appreciate your support and assistance in our continued safety efforts. Sincerely,  
Mark Liguori, Superintendent

## EMERGENCY DRILLS

THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, SCHOOLS CONDUCT TRAINING AND DRILLS to help better prepare students and staff for possible emergency situations. When a school is confronted with an emergency, staff will assess the situation and then decide on a course of action.

Schools conduct drills throughout the year to rehearse emergency procedures. These exercises prepare students and staff to act quickly and help to minimize a child's fear during a real emergency.

In addition to the procedures described below, schools also practice protocols such as "Drop-Cover- Hold," a method of protecting vital body parts during certain natural disasters, and conduct fire drills. All staff and students are required to participate in these drills.

### Lock Down

A Lock Down is usually used in response to acts or threats of violence to students and staff directly impacting the school. During a Lock Down all doors to and within the school are locked. No one is permitted in or out of any area once it has been locked. Students and staff must respond quickly to a Lock Down command to get to a safe location before doors are locked. **No one, other than law enforcement, is permitted access to the building until the Lock Down is over.**

### Hold and Secure

Hold and Secure is used in response to security threats or criminal activity outside the school. During a Hold and Secure, all entrance doors to the school are locked, with no one permitted in or out of the building. **No one, other than law enforcement, is permitted access to the building until the Hold and Secure has been cleared.**

### Shelter in Place

Generally, Shelter in Place is used during an environmental emergency, such as severe storms or chemical spills. During a Shelter in Place, students and staff retreat to safe zones to seek shelter, which includes students or staff who are outside coming back into the school. Each school's emergency-response plan identifies the safest location for its occupants and how to seal a room from hazardous conditions. **Students will not be released or dismissed until the situation is resolved.**

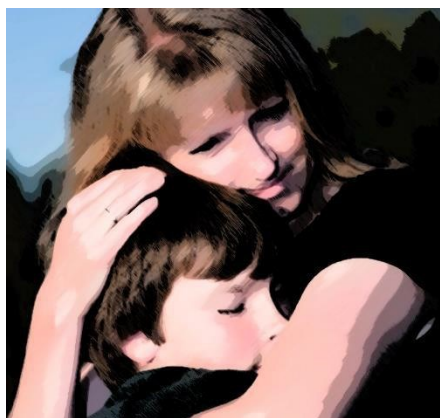
### Evacuation

An Evacuation requires all students and staff to leave the school and go to an alternate location. In some cases, this may mean only going outside and away from the building until it's safe to re-enter the school. In other cases, students and staff may need to go to an evacuation centre. Parents are informed of the alternate location through the school's Crisis Notification Network.

### Dismissal

Under some circumstances it may be determined it's best to dismiss students to their homes and families as expeditiously as possible. Should this be the case, every attempt will be made to alert every students' emergency contact about situation and to ensure young students aren't left unsupervised.

## REUNITING WITH YOUR CHILD



WE RECOGNIZE WHEN AN EMERGENCY OCCURS parents are worried and want to be reunited with their child as quickly as possible.

It's our intention to make this happen. However, to ensure every child's safety and the safety of staff, specific procedures have been established for releasing students. **During an emergency, do not come to the school to pick up your child unless requested to do so.**

Parents are asked to adhere to the parent-child reunification procedures listed below. Staff will work to ensure these procedures take place without delay. Understand the process will take some time and we ask for your patience when you arrive at the Parent-Child Reunion Area.

### Parent-Child Reunion Procedures

1. **A Parent-Child Reunion Area will be established.** Parents are notified at the time of the emergency of the Reunion Area's location. The location may not be at the school—the location will depend on the specifics of the emergency.
2. **You will be required to fill out a Student Release Request Form.** The form ensures all students are accounted for at all times and students are only released to authorized individuals.
3. **Students will only be released to an individual designated as legal guardian or emergency contact** on the student's Emergency Card, which is completed at the time of school registration. Make sure to keep this information current with your school, as the school will only release a child to someone listed as an emergency contact—no exceptions are made.
4. **Valid identification is required to pick up your child.** Requiring identification protects students from any unauthorized individuals attempting to pick them up. Even if school personnel know you, you must still present ID as the school may be receiving assistance from other schools or agencies.
5. **You will be required to sign for the release of your child.** The release form is extremely important, as it ensures all students are accounted for at all times. Do not just take your child from the school or evacuation centre without signing for his/her release.
6. **Once you have been reunited with your child, please leave the area immediately.** Leaving immediately ensures your safety and that of your child's.

**If you are unable to pick up your child,** he/she will be kept at the Parent-Child Reunion Area until alternate arrangements can be made. Your child will be supervised at all times.

## REUNITING WITH YOUR CHILD

### WHEN AN EMERGENCY OCCURS



ALTHOUGH YOUR NATURAL INSTINCTS IN AN EMERGENCY may be to go to the school to safeguard your child, understand doing so could impede the response to the situation. Going to the school may interfere with efforts to deal with the emergency. Extra vehicles and people at the site make the task more difficult. Please follow the instructions provided to you through the communications channels outlined below. **Do not come to the school to pick up your child unless requested to do so.**

**If you arrive at the school in the midst of an emergency**, respect the protocol in progress. While the Division understands personal circumstances or initial reactions might move you to do something contrary to the school's established procedures, it cannot compromise the safety of students or staff to accommodate individual requests that could put another individual at risk.

**DO NOT CALL THE SCHOOL and DO NOT CALL YOUR CHILD'S CELL PHONE DURING AN EMERGENCY.**

- Phone systems need to remain available for handling the actual emergency.
- Overloading the system may mean the school cannot communicate with first responders.
- Calling your child's cell phone during an emergency may be putting them at higher risk by disclosing their location or drawing attention to them during a Lock Down.
- Experts advise under some circumstances cell phones and other electric devices may actually act as an ignition source for fires or explosions.

### KEEPING INFORMED DURING AN EMERGENCY

DURING AN EMERGENCY, it's unlikely you will be able to reach the school by phone. The school will, however, make every effort to contact parents directly or by one of the methods noted below.

#### **Crisis Notification Network and/or the Media**

Parents will be alerted to emergency situations through the school's Crisis Notification Network—by phone or electronic notification—and local media. Stay tuned to local TV and radio stations for news alerts.

#### **Website, Social Media and Recorded Messages**

The Division will also keep parents informed through Synrevoice or by posting information regarding the emergency on the [EIPS website](#), [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and recorded messages on the Central Office phone system (780-464-3477).

Additional information regarding emergency procedures is included in your child's School Handbook. If you have any questions or concerns, contact your school.