

April 2020

Elk Island Public Schools

# THE WESTBORO REPORT



## Alternative Learning During In-school Class Cancellations

Thank you to all Westboro families and students for your patience while the Division worked out the details of how learning will take place while in-school classes are cancelled. Over the last few weeks, teachers and staff have worked hard at developing alternative learning plans at all grade levels. Students enrolled in diploma courses began working with their teachers in late March. And, on April 6, the Division officially launched its alternative instruction for all other students.

Delivering learning in this way is new for students, family members and teachers. There will no doubt be obstacles to overcome along the way, and there will be successes that will bring surprise. Over the coming weeks, students will start to adjust to a different format, and teachers will learn what works best for those in their classes. It will take time. Know that teachers care deeply about students, about their achievement and are committed to ensuring all learners have the resources needed to successfully transition to the next year.

To help make the shift in learning as smooth as possible, EIPS has developed an online toolkit for families: [Alternative Learning During In-School Class Cancellations](#). The toolkit offers information about learning resources, supplemental lessons, navigating Google Classroom, how-to tips on supporting students, and more. In addition to learning supports, the toolkit also lists various mental health resources families can access to help navigate the unprecedented challenges everyone is facing as a result of the global COVID-19 pandemic.

Given the circumstances, it's important no one feel undue pressure to get it all right from the very beginning. There are many supports available to help along the way, and your child's education remains top of mind for every Westboro teacher and administrator. Using the resources available, teachers will do their best to help guide both you and your child until everyone is back at school, and face to face.

For more information, and questions about alternative instruction, contact your student's teacher directly via their email or the school at 780-467-7751.

## REGISTER FOR KINDERGARTEN

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

Kindergarten registration is now open for the 2020-21 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](#) 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).

Additional information regarding Kindergarten can be found on our school website at [www.westboro-elementary.ca](http://www.westboro-elementary.ca).



## 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.



## EIPS DISTRICT NEWS

### A BIG *THANK YOU* TO ALL EIPS FAMILIES

National Volunteer Week takes place April 19-25. 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 different. We're facing a global pandemic, and all in-school classes are cancelled until further notice. It's a challenging time for all of us. We're learning new routines and facing obstacles we couldn't even have imagined just a few weeks ago. The coming weeks and months will bring a collective effort—from teachers, students, families, staff and trustees—to ensure the success of all students.

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 who are supporting their child as we transition to alternative instruction. Whether it's providing positive learning environments, establishing new routines at home or navigating Google Classrooms with your child, the impact each of you is making is profound. Now more than ever, it's critical we continue to work together to support student learning and inspire learners to 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 patience, for your kindness and for your understanding as we work together to ensure all students succeed.

Trina Boymook  
Chair, 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.