

January 7, 2022

Principal's Message,



Happy New Year to all of our Andrew families. I hope that everyone was able to enjoy a wonderful Christmas and a restful break. I look forward to hearing all the exciting stories from our students about what they did over the break. I know that I spent time visiting with friends and family, did a lot of skating, and even snuck in a nap or two! With that, your Andrew Staff are ready to begin 2022 in an exciting and positive way!

I would like to thank all of our families and community for your amazing support with the food drive/hampers donations. Our small school has a huge heart and was able to collect approximately 1500 items for Christmas hampers with \$450 in cash donations. I love these examples of our safe and caring school community.

I hope that all families were able to access our Christmas presentation of *Twas the Night Before Christmas* that our preschool to grade six students worked on. If you do not receive the School Messenger email on December 20, please call the school to get access to the presentation.

In the parent survey that I sent out in November and December, we had a few parents share how they like to gain information about what is happening at the school. Some indicated that they like the school's Facebook page and wanted to see the great things that are happening at the school. Be sure to always head to our school website and click on the School Activities tab to see the pictures from different activities. We use our school website as our main way to connect.

Finally, I would like to invite all parents and guardians to attend our virtual School Council meeting on Thursday, January 20 at 6:30pm. One topic that we will be discussing will be school fees for the 2022-23 school year. This is a great forum to discuss school-related issues and topics and learn how you support our school community.

Melissa Kerr

Bell Schedule

- [Andrew School Bell Schedule 2021-22](#)

Division Calendar 2021-22

- [EIPS Division Calendar](#)
 - [EIPS Kindergarten Calendar](#)
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Upcoming events and important dates:

- **January 10:** Students return to in-school learning
 - **January 14:** Theme Day - Beach Day
 - **January 18:** Secondary French immersion information session
 - **January 21:** ECS Friday
 - **January 21:** Theme Day - Wacky Sock Day
 - **January 27:** [Family Literacy Day](#)
 - **January 27:** Advanced Placement information session
 - **January 28:** Theme Day - Disney Day
 - **January 31:** Professional Learning Day (schools closed to students)
 - **February 1:** [Kindergarten](#) and [grades 1-12](#) new student registration opens for 2022-23
 - **February 1:** [Returning student registration](#) opens for 2022-23
 - **February 2:** Early dismissal
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Gratitude to our Community Partners

It surely takes a village to support the school and we are so grateful for the continued support. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts to the following donors:

- The Rainbow Club - Food Bank Donations
 - St. George's Anglican Church Ladies Club - Food Bank Donations
 - Servus Credit Union - Breakfast Club Donations
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Counsellor's Corner

As we begin a new year, there is always the temptation to set new lofty goals that are often unattainable. Here are some valuable and realistic strategies from the [Mental Health First Aid](#) site:

- Make time for self-care
 - This can be time with loved ones or by yourself, exercise, time outdoors, etc.
- Be kind to yourself
 - Feel those feelings, be aware of your self-talk, and always remember that you are doing the best you can.
- Sleep
 - Improving the quality of your sleep is a significant factor in improving your overall health. Make it a priority.
- Limit Screen Time
 - The amount of time individuals are on their devices, especially in the evening can have an impact on their sleep. Set limits to screen time and you'll see an improvement in sleep and your mental health.
- Learn more about ways to support mental health.
 - We all benefit when we know more about mental health. From incorporating strategies to seeking out professionals, mental health should be a priority in this new year.

Have your say, EIPS wants to hear from you!

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) wants to hear from you to gain a deeper understanding of your confidence in the Division and its strategic direction. As such, it launched a new annual survey entitled, EIPS Year in Review: Stakeholder Confidence Survey—open January 6-18.

The survey covers a range of topics, including student growth and achievement, learning supports, teaching and leading, governance, and resource allocations. The information gathered will help EIPS:

- assess stakeholder confidence—families, staff, Grade 12 students and community members;
- gather input to guide future decision-making; · gather feedback to enhance its [Four-Year Education Plan](#); and
- provide a platform for families, students, staff and community members to have a voice in ensuring high-quality, student-centred learning environments in EIPS schools.

EIPS will share the results in the Annual Education Results Report 2021-22.

[TAKE THE SURVEY NOW!](#) Survey closes January 18, 2022.

NOTE: EIPS encourages everyone to respond honestly. Your identity and answers are confidential and cannot be linked in any way to you or your child's school. Grade 12 students will have an opportunity to complete the survey at school. Families who do not want their child to complete the survey simply need to advise their child's school.

Kindergarten Registration Starts Soon!

Is your child turning five on or before Dec. 31, 2022? If so, it's almost time to register for kindergarten.

Kindergarten registration opens for the 2022-23 school year on February 1, 2022.

To help families prepare, Elk Island Public Schools has put together an online [EIPS Kindergarten 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.

Additional information regarding Andrew School's kindergarten program is available on our [school website](#).

Returning Student Registration for 2022-23

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) will once again conduct an online returning student registration process to confirm student registrations for the 2022-23 school year. Families of all current students—with the exception of graduating Grade 12 students—must complete the process to confirm the school their child plans to attend in the 2022-23 school year or advise the Division of their plans not to return to EIPS. 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 2022-23 returning student registration takes place Feb. 1-28, 2022.

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, 2022. Create a PowerSchool Parent Portal account

For more information, contact the school office at 780-365-3501.

Inclement Weather

With the winter season almost here, 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) advises families of any bus cancellations using various communications tools—automated-telephone messages, alerts posted on www.eips.ca and school websites, Twitter, Facebook, local radio stations, and notification through both the Bus Status and the Ride 360 apps. Morning bus cancellations are posted on www.eips.ca by 6:30 a.m.

Decisions regarding bus cancellations are guided by EIPS administrative procedures that state, “school bus service may be suspended...when there is a forecast or current temperature of -40 C, including wind chill factor, in one or more regions.” Other reasons for suspending or delaying school bus services include adverse weather and poor road conditions. 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.

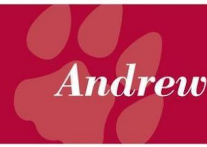
For more information, contact EIPS Student Transportation at 780-417-8151.

Looking for Staff Contact Information?

We’ve recently made changes to how families can contact Andrew School staff.

If you’d like to reach out to your child’s teacher directly, simply log in to your PowerSchool Parent Portal account. From the Grades and Attendance page, you can click on the name of any of your child’s teachers to email them directly.

To connect with school administration and main office staff, refer to the online contact form to send an email to the applicable person directly. From the online contact form, you can also send an email to the school to report your child’s absence.



If you're having trouble with your PowerSchool account, contact the school office. And, of course, we're always just a phone call away if you have questions or need assistance, 780-365-3501.