



The Firewire Parents' Weekly

January 20-26, 2020

An atypical week with no buses operating. Teachers and students made the days interesting with 30-40% of the student population present. Thank you, teachers for providing work time, review time, extra skating, additional Phys. Ed. classes, and more reading time during the affected days.

Fortunately, we had no field trips scheduled and our athletic games were easily moved to this coming week. We are ready to get back to normal with balmy -5-degree days next week 😊.

With the bus cancellations last week, we have extended the deadline for the Junior High Firebird Fun Day permission forms until Wednesday, Jan. 22.

This Week's Activities

Monday – Day 4

- Therapy dogs are in for junior high students (P.5)
- Sr. Boys & Girls basketball teams travel to Lamont for a make-up game. Girls play first at 4:00.

Tuesday – Day 5

- Skating for grades 1-3
- Jr. Boys basketball practice, 3:00-4:30 pm
- Sr. Girls basketball practice, 4:30-6:00 pm

Wednesday – Day 6

- Gr. 1 field trip to Royal AB. Museum (all day)
- Therapy dogs are in for junior high students (P.5)
- I am at a Leadership meeting for the afternoon.
- Jr. Girls basketball practice, 3:00-4:30 pm
- Sr. Boys basketball practice, 4:30-6:00 pm
- FSAC meeting @ 7:00 p.m.
- School Council meeting @ 7:45 p.m. – school fees discussion

Thursday – Day 1

- Skating for grades 4-6
- Basketball Games:
 - Seniors travel to Ft. Christian. Both games are at 4:30 pm.
 - Juniors host Rudolph Hennig. Boys play first at 4:00 pm.
- Hot Lunch Day

Friday – Day 2

- DARE for grade 6 classes
- Gr. 1-6 Money Mentors presentations
- Jr. High MADD assembly, 8:50-9:50
- Basketball skills camp for grades 5-9 students.

On Stage for the week of Jan. 27 - Feb. 2:

➤ *Monday*

- *Junior High midterm week: Language Arts (Periods 1-3)*
- Sr. Boys basketball practice, 3:00-4:30 pm
- Jr. Boys basketball practice, 4:30-6:00 pm

➤ *Tuesday*

- *Junior High midterm week: Mathematics (Periods 1-3)*
- Skating for grades 1-3
- Jr. ATB Banking Day
- Jr. Girls basketball practice, 3:00-4:30 pm
- Sr. Girls basketball practice, 4:30-6:00 pm

➤ *Wednesday*

- *Junior High midterm week: Science (Periods 1-3)*
- Pizza Day
- Gr. 3 Curriculum PD for Mr. Bresden, Mrs. Vasseur & Mr. Cooksley (all day)
- Sr. Girls basketball practice, 3:00-4:30 pm
- Sr. Boys basketball practice, 4:30-6:00 pm

➤ *Thursday*

- *Junior High midterm week: Social Studies (Periods 1-3)*
- Skating for grades 4-6
- Gr. 2 Rubble Rd. presentation
- Locker clean out
- Basketball Games:
 - Juniors travel to Mundare. Boys play first @ 4:00 pm.
 - Seniors have a Bye.

➤ *Friday*

- Junior High Firebird Fun Day – Semester 2 begins
- Gr. 6 DARE
- Basketball skills camp for grades 5-9 students, 3-5 pm.

School News & Upcoming Events

School Fees Discussion

At our January 22nd School Council meeting I will be discussing our current fee structure for this year. We will continue the conversation at our March School Council meeting to plan for the 2020-2021 fee structure. Parents are encouraged to attend this meeting. Some areas I will be sharing are:

- a. Course fees, noon supervision, activity fees, field trips, and extra-curricular
- b. Provide parents with the 2019-20 fee schedule
- c. A list of questions for consideration

Elementary Skating

Elementary classes continue with skating at the SOC. Our grade 1-3 students will skate periods 2-4 (from 8:45-11:30) on the Tuesdays of January 21, 28, and February 4.

The grade 4-6 students will have from 8:45-11:30 on the Thursdays of January 23, 30 and Wednesday, February 5 (due to Convention).

Test Anxiety Strategies

Below are some resources for parents, teachers & students to access as exams are upcoming for students. Thank you Asma for these links.

Test-anxiety for parents by U of A- Great read for parents and beginning the conversation with their children

<https://www.ualberta.ca/media-library/ualberta/students/university-wellness-services/ccs/handouts/english/test-anxiety.pdf>

Video: breaking the cycle of anxiety

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wh2EgELKbDQ>

Parent series program from AHS some are in Sherwood park location. There is one on test anxiety

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Z85m7EeOKyU0B6HWU4XdWxqP9Yt_2Oye/view

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—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 do not have a PowerSchool Parent Portal account, you need to set one up before Feb. 1, 2020.

Kudos

To Mrs. Chickoski for helping make dozens of calls during the no bus days.

To teachers for grouping students and providing some meaningful activities this past week.

A Final Thought...

“Use what talent you possess: The woods would be very silent if no birds sang except those that sang best.” ~ Henry Van Dyke

Enjoy your weekend. ~ Brad