



4524-84 Street P 780-998-1441
Fort Saskatchewan, AB T8L 1J2 F 780-998-1444
www.winferguson.ca



September Newsletter

Dear Win Ferguson Families,

September 3, 2021

Welcome back to another school year! What a great week we had seeing our returning students and families, and meeting new ones. The energy in the building is incredible.

Thank you to all our families for supporting our back to school plan, and continuing to follow the COVID-19 protocols in place. We are so lucky to have you all as partners in your children's education.

Along with our monthly email, please continue to check our school website at www.winferguson.ca for information.

We wish you all an amazing September.

Lana Lastiwka
Principal

Forms Requiring Attention

Please sign into your parent portal to complete the following forms.

1. COVID-19 Alberta Health Daily Checklist Acknowledgement- Due: Aug. 31, 2021
2. Pre-existing Medical Conditions- Due: Aug. 31, 2021
3. Correction and Verification Form- Due: Sept. 22, 2021
4. 2021-22 Student's Responsible Technology Use Agreement - Must be completed by all grade 4 students, and new students in grades 5 and 6.



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Video surveillance on Buses

Did you know each EIPS bus is equipped with video surveillance? Video surveillance and equipment helps:

- ensure the safety of all students, drivers and property; and
- discourage destructive acts.

On a regular basis, EIPS Student Transportation reviews the video recordings, in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP Act). The recordings assist the department with monitoring student and driver conduct and may be used as evidence in a disciplinary matter.

For more information about the collection, use and disclosure of personal information, contact the EIPS FOIP Co-ordinator at 780-464-3477.

Update Your PowerSchool Information

The "Correction and Verification Form" is now available online through your PowerSchool Parent Portal. Families can use the form to access and update their child's information—including address, parent and guardian information, emergency contacts and any medical information. Reviewing the form and submitting updates ensures the school has the most up-to-date information regarding your child.

If you've recently moved, now is the time to ensure the Division has your updated address information. In particular, please also pay close attention to all phone numbers, email addresses and emergency contact information. The Division will undoubtedly continue to have important information to communicate with families throughout this school year, and we want to ensure you receive this information. If you haven't already done so, we ask all Win Ferguson families to review their child's PowerSchool information by Sept. 22, 2021.

For more information about the PowerSchool Correction and Verification Form, contact the school office at 780-998-1441.

Enhancing literacy and numeracy

As part of Elk Island Public Schools' (EIPS) ongoing efforts to enhance the literacy and numeracy of students in all grade levels, the Division is once again administering the Star Early Literacy/Star Reading and Math Intervention/Programming Instrument (MIPI) assessment tools in the 2021-22 school year. The tools focus on literacy and numeracy, are digitally based and offer an opportunity for students to demonstrate their learning. The goal: To provide timely information to teachers, help enhance classroom instruction and ensure student learning needs are identified.



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Three times a year—in September, January/February and May/June—EIPS students in Grade 1 complete the Star Early Literacy assessment and students in grades 2-12 complete the Star Reading assessment. The assessments take approximately 20 minutes and are administered on a digital device. Also, in September, students in grades 2 through 10 will complete the MIPI assessment, which is a mathematic screening tool used to inform teachers about a student’s math skills—students enrolled in math for Semester 2 will complete the MIPI assessment in February. For students in grades 7 through 10, the MIPI takes approximately 50 minutes, and for students in grades 2 through 6 it takes approximately 20 minutes. The results offer the teacher a clearer picture of a student’s learning needs and help determine if subsequent instructional planning is required.

The scores of the assessments aren’t used toward a student’s grade, and there is no need to study ahead of time. The tools simply provide the teacher with information to better understand where each student is in terms of reading comprehension and mathematic ability. If, after analyzing the results, it’s determined a student can benefit from extra support, the teacher will contact the family to discuss possible support strategies.

For more information about the Division’s Star and MIPI assessment tools, contact EIPS Supports for Students at 780-464-3477.

Pay School Fees Online!

School fee information for the 2021-22 school year is expected to be posted on the PowerSchool Parent Portal by late September. All fees are due within 30 days of being posted. To access your fee information, simply log in to the PowerSchool Parent Portal and go to “Student Fees.” There you can view your fees and pay online using Visa, MasterCard or debit card—when available from your financial institution.

Don’t forget to log in to the PowerSchool Parent Portal regularly throughout the year. Fees are often added to your child’s account to cover the cost of certain school activities such as field trips, class projects, athletic-team fees and more. Additionally, junior high and senior high fees can change as courses are added and deleted. If circumstances exist where you’re unable to pay your school fees, you can apply to have fees waived by submitting an Application for a Waiver of Fees. The application deadline is Dec. 15, 2021.

For more information about school fees, waivers and payment deadlines visit eips.ca/schools/fees.

Alternatively, contact Mrs. Campbell at Win Ferguson school, 780-998-1441.



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Sync the School Calendar to Your Calendar

Did you know you can sync the school calendar to your own calendar? You can. Simply, visit <https://www.winferguson.ca/about/calendar> and click on the applicable subscription option:

- Download to iCal
- Add to Google Calendar
- Subscribe to Calendar

NOTE: Options are located above the calendar.

Once you click on the desired subscription option, follow the instructions. Within seconds, your calendar will contain all Win Ferguson's important dates including holidays, school-closures days, planned activities, events and more.

Caregiver Education Sessions

Alberta Health Services hosts a variety of virtual caregiver information sessions throughout the year focused on ways to support students' mental health. The sessions are free and geared toward parents, caregivers, teachers and community members who want to learn more about challenges impacting children and adolescents. Session topics include anxiety, ADHD, depression, self-harm, technology, teens and teaching leadership skills, communication, resiliency and more Visit Caregiver Education to see the monthly caregiver sessions.

Upcoming events and important dates:

- Sept 8 - Early Dismissal - 2:12 pm
- Sept 14 – School pictures whole school
- Sept 15 – School pictures KA
- Sept 20 – School Council – 6:45 pm
- Sept 30 - [Orange Shirt Day](#)
- October 5 - [World Teachers' Day](#)
- October 6 - Early Dismissal - 2:12 pm
- October 11 - Thanksgiving Day
- October 18 - PL Day
- October 19 and 20 - Parent Teacher Interviews
- October 20 and 21 - School Picture Retakes