



# HERITAGE HILLS ELEMENTARY

## Heritage Hills Parent Weekly

September 5 - September 12, 2022

Twitter Account: [@HeritageHills](https://twitter.com/HeritageHills)

### Important Dates This Week at Heritage Hills:

#### Monday, September 5

- No School

#### Tuesday, September 6

- Counsellor - Ms. Kropp at School

#### Wednesday, September 7

- Counsellor - Ms. Kropp at School
- Early Dismissal at 2:20p.m.

#### Friday, September 9

- First Fire Drill

### **Principal:**

Last week we enjoyed a great first week of school. On Tuesday there was a great deal of excitement and anxiety as we all were looking forward to the first day of school. The first day of school was awesome and there was a lot of fun and learning in our first week. Relationships were built and both students and staff settled into their new classes.

Thank you to those of you who attended our first ever Meet the Staff Evening. It was so nice to have you in the school again. We had an amazing turn out and it was a phenomenal evening. Thank you to our fundraising society (FAHHE) and to our school council for hosting the BBQ during the evening. It was truly an evening of

community building. We are looking forward to more events and to a great school year.

### **Collective Resume:**

At Heritage Hills Elementary School, we currently have 31 staff who are looking after your children each day at school. We believe it is important for you to know a little about the people your children are with each day. So here is the Collective Resume for Heritage Hills Elementary School:

Years of Post-Secondary Education: 146 years

Years of Experience: 564

Collectively staff have worked in 144 schools which include: Elementary, Junior High, High School, Elementary/ Junior High, Junior/ Senior High in both urban and rural settings. We have staff who have taught at the university level, other provinces and in other countries.

Our staff have many talents, skills and hobbies which include: Cooking and baking, gardening, reading, running, weight training. We have gymnasts, hikers, knitters , walkers, and cross country skiers on staff. We have a ukulele master, an orff master, an organizer, a trauma trained individual, photographers, coaches, singers, a bus driver and golfers.

Our staff speak many different languages including French, Portuguese, Spanish, Polish, Ukrainian and more. Many staff have an appreciation for music and they love to spend time with their families.

We have staff who have been semi finalists for the Alberta Excellence in Teaching Award and we even have a staff member who has won this award. We have staff who have received the Grit Team of The Year Award and we have staff who have won many other awards as well.

As you can see, your children are under the care of many talented individuals.

Thank you for all the support you give to Heritage Hills Elementary and our students. If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to call us at (780) 467-7447 or email us at [General.HHE@eips.ca](mailto:General.HHE@eips.ca)

### **Counsellor:**

I am at the school Tuesday and Wednesday this week.

Anxiety commonly arises as children return to school. [Anxiety Canada's website](#) has numerous resources for parents and children. Two tools that reduce anxiety are education and communication. This video is a resource I use and often share with parents. [Flight, Fright, Freeze - Anxiety Explained to Kids.](#)

Strathcona Library is offering a free workshop for adults, on September 19 from 7 to 8:30 pm. [Making Friends in the Adult World](#) is about the challenges of and the key elements needed when making meaningful and long-lasting friendships as adults.

If circumstances exist where you are unable to pay your child's fees, you can apply to have certain fees waived using the [Waiver of Fees | Elk Island Public Schools | EIPS](#).

## **DOT DAY:**

We are excited to participate in Dot Day again this year. International Dot Day is a global event celebrated in over 190 countries. The day was created after Iowa Teacher, Terry Shay, introduced his students to the book, ***The Dot by Peter H. Reynolds***. This global celebration is about inspiring creativity, courage and collaboration.

At Heritage Hills Elementary this year, students are encouraged to wear dots on September 15th in recognition of Dot Day. Students will also complete a variety of activities based on the book.

In addition, you may be interested as a family to participate in our [Dots for Doors/Points pour les Portes project](#).

## **Video surveillance on buses:**

Did you know each EIPS bus is equipped with video surveillance?

Video surveillance and equipment help:

- 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 (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 EIPS Correction and Verification Form is now available online through your PowerSchool Parent Portal. Use the form to access and update your child's records information—including address, parent and guardian information, emergency contacts and medical information. Reviewing the form and submitting updates ensures the school has the most up-to-date information regarding your child.

When reviewing the form, pay close attention to all listed phone numbers, email addresses and emergency contact information. Also, if you recently moved, now is the time to ensure the Division has your updated address. Throughout the year, the Division and school uses the listed information to communicate with families about important information, including updates, the latest news and events.

EIPS Correction and Verification Form

### **Review and update the form by Sept. 22, 2022.**

For more information about the PowerSchool Correction and Verification Form, or activating your access to PowerSchool, please contact the school office at 780-467-7447.

### **Improving home-school communication:**

To enhance communication between families and schools, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) created a how-to guide entitled, Communication Protocol for Schools.

Topics include:

- appropriate channels to use;
- standard formats and structures;
- timing and sequencing for regular and ongoing home-school communication; and
- ways to bring forward questions or concerns.

The guide also offers useful tools and resources schools and families can use to enhance face-to-face meetings, email communication and various social media efforts. EIPS encourages all families and schools to review the guide at:

[Communication Protocol for Schools](#)

### **Download the SchoolMessenger App**

Heritage Hills Elementary and the Division use the SchoolMessenger platform for communicating with families—through both phone and email. Be sure to add communications@eips.ca and [\*\*General.HHE@eips.ca\*\*](mailto:General.HHE@eips.ca) to your safe sender list to avoid having important messages funnelled into your junk mail folder.

The easiest way to stay connected is to download the SchoolMessenger app. Get the latest updates direct to your mobile device and enable push notifications to never miss a message. Families can also check back on past messages—for up to 30 days—directly in the app rather than searching to find an old message buried in your inbox. Download the SchoolMessenger app from the [App Store](#) or [Google Play](#) today.

Coming soon—the Safe Arrivals absence reporting tool will be rolled out within the SchoolMessenger app later this school year. Families will be able to quickly and

easily report a child's absence directly in the app. No more phone calls or emails required. Stay tuned for updates in the coming months.

## **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.heritagehillselementary.ca/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 Heritage Hills Elementary's important dates including holidays, school-closures days, planned activities, events and more.

## **Pay School fees online!**

School fee information for the 2022-23 school year will be posted on the PowerSchool Parent Portal in 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 a credit card.

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 you're unable to pay your school fees, you can apply to have certain fees waived by submitting an Application for a Waiver of Fees. The application deadline is Dec. 15, 2022.

For more information about school fees, waivers and payment deadlines visit [eips.ca](http://eips.ca). Alternatively, contact Suzanne Cleet at Heritage Hills Elementary at 780-467-7447.

## **School Council and Fundraising Association:**

On behalf of the Student Council I wanted to say a huge thank you for all of those families who attended our Meet the Staff event on September 1, 2022. The response was very overwhelming and we hope that you enjoyed the BBQ. We are looking forward to making this year one to remember at Heritage Hills. If you have any questions about the School Council or any suggestions of what you would like to see done at our school, please feel free to email: [hheschoolcouncilchair@gmail.com](mailto:hheschoolcouncilchair@gmail.com). Please check the school calendar for upcoming meeting dates.

If you are not on our school Facebook page please feel free to join, it can be found here:  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/387685648833564>

## Parental Involvement

Parental Involvement is essential to the success of our school community. Please find below the meeting dates for the HHE School Council and FAHHE (Fundraising Association). Watch upcoming weeklies for more information regarding agendas, times, and location.

### Heritage Hills School Council Meeting Dates for 2022-2023

- September 14 - School Council and FAHHE - Fundraising
- October - No Meeting
- November 16 - School Council and FAHHE - Fundraising
- December - No Meeting
- January 11 - School Council and FAHHE - Fundraising
- February - No Meeting
- March 08 - School Council and FAHHE - Fundraising
- April 12 - School Council
- May 10 - School Council and FAHHE - Fundraising
- June 14 - AGM for School Council and FAHHE - Fundraising

## Amazing Things Happen at HHE:

We are off to a great start already this school year. Many opportunities to promote safe and caring schools, citizenship, lifelong learning and parental involvement.

Here are a few highlights already:

- First Day of School
- Meet the Staff Evening and BBQ

## Absences, Lates, Appointments, Leaving for Lunch and Leaving Early:

If your child will be leaving to go home for lunch, leaving school early or absent for the day - please call and notify the office. The school is required to record all student absences accurately, so please advise if your child is ill, or not ill, but away for personal reasons. An agenda note does not always make it to the office. A call to the office ensures everyone will know where your child is to be at all times.

Please call us with this information at (780) 467-7447 or email at

[General.HHE@eips.ca](mailto:General.HHE@eips.ca).

## Career Pathways

[September](#)

**Enjoy a great week everyone!**

**“A reader lives a thousand lives before he dies... The man who never reads lives only one.”**

**George R.R. Martin, A Dance with Dragons**