



Elmer Elson ELEMENTARY

Elmer Elson Elementary
Box 330
Mayerthorpe, AB.
T0E 1N0
www.elmerelson.ca
Phone: (780) 786-2268
Fax: (780) 786-2050

NEWSLETTER - September 2021

ADMIN TEAM MESSAGE

Our current enrollment in the school is 286 students.

We appreciate the support of our parents and welcome all thoughts and questions. Together we will make this year a rewarding educational experience for your children.

NGPS TECHNOLOGY ACCESS AND MAINTENANCE FEE

Our school division has set a technology and maintenance fee for all ngps students of \$31.50 for full time students and \$15.75 for ECS.

This fee helps to keep up with the expensive, yet important advances in technology and ensure all students have access to a device.

TEACHING STAFF LIST 2021-2022

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|-------------------|--|
| ECS | Rhonda Bablitz Trisha French |
| Grade One | Leanna Feser & Lisa Chittick Susan Mattson |
| Grade Two | Ashley Chayka Darla Masterson |
| Grade Three | Susanna Patterson Ann Unland |
| Grade Four | Sheryl King Tenille Hagman |
| Grade Five | Miranda Pybus Dawn Paquette & Sherry Petersen |
| Grade Six | Katie Kosirowski |
| Music (half time) | Amanda Benson |

STUDENTS ARRIVING LATE or PICKED UP BEFORE SCHOOL DISMISSES

Arriving late to school:

Inform the office that you will be late. Upon arrival, students will enter through the main door. Ring the buzzer on the left-hand side of the entryway. The office staff will let the students in.

Leaving prior to dismissal times:

Parents should call the office upon arrival. For student safety, parents MUST meet the office staff at the main doors to sign the children out.

BELL SCHEDULE

The following is the bell schedule for the upcoming school year. This should assist you in being able to contact staff members or your children during class breaks.

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|---------------|---|
| 8:40 | Doors open and buses unload |
| 8:47 | Warning bell |
| 8:50 | Classes begin |
| 10:30 - 10:44 | Morning Recess |
| 11:44 - 12:10 | Primary Noon Recess & Intermediate eat lunch/DEAR (drop everything and read) |
| 12:10 - 12:34 | Intermediate Noon Recess & Primary eat lunch/DEAR |
| 1:54 - 2:08 | Last Recess |
| 3:10 | Dismissal |

STUDENT INFORMATION VALIDATION GREEN FORMS

Each year, we are required by Alberta Education to update student information forms.

We know they take time to complete, but it is important that we have accurate information on file for each student. We are asking for e-mail addresses from parents to aid in getting communications out smoothly. Please complete and return the green validation forms as soon as possible so our information is up to date and accurate.

Also, if we do not have your child's birth certificate or proof of residence on file, please bring it in so we may make a copy for our files. Proof of residence can be verified by a utility bill, tax notice, telephone bill or a rental agreement that shows your range road and township road number (blue or green sign). Legal land location i.e. SW-24-56-W5 is not sufficient.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

We require all parents to do the screening questionnaire with your children each morning. Please refer to the information that was sent home earlier this year.

Please keep it in a spot where you can easily refer to it if necessary.

SCHOOL COUNCIL REPORT

We all know that back to school can be very busy, but we hope you can spare some time to join our School Council for the first meeting of the year. The organizational meeting for the School Council will be held on Monday, September 28th, at 6:00 p.m. via google meets.

Please contact the school if you would like a Google Meet invite for the meeting.

We will elect the new executive for the 2021-2022 school year. We hope you will join us.

SNACK SHOP

Our snack shop trolley has started this week. Items for 50 cents each are available to supplement lunches.

STUDENT AGENDAS

Each student in our school has been given an agenda. This is an excellent way to communicate between home and school. It also helps students take responsibility for organizing homework, schedules and important dates.



2021 BUS FEE SCHEDULE

Please refer to the following information regarding bus fees for urban Mayerthorpe students. Application for bus service and payment of bus fees must be made as follows: Sign up for [SchoolCashOnline](https://ngps.schoolcashonline.com), or go to ngps.schoolcashonline.com. From the Home Page, click on Register to create an account. Follow the prompts to set your password and begin paying all your school expenses easily online! This fee is charged for students who are not funded for transportation by Alberta Learning because they live within 2.4 kilometres of the school.

Access your Parent Portal with [BusPlanner](https://busplanner.ngps.ca) or visit busplanner.ngps.ca. This will take you to the Parent Portal home page. Click on Parent Portal, enter your email address under New Subscribers, check the 'I'm not a robot' box and click submit. Follow the prompts to set up a password and you are ready to go!

Students in the Paddle Heights Trailer Park on the west side of town and north of the tracks by Mayerthorpe Welding will be provided transportation without charge. Students must be registered with the Transportation Department in order to access this service. Please refer to the first paragraph for information on how to register for bus service.

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| Student under 2.4 km | \$371 per child |
| Kindergarten Half Time student | \$185 per half day per child |
| Kindergarten Full Time | \$371 per child |
| Family Rate | \$927 (3 or more children) |
| Supplemental Bus Service - Alternate Seat Placement | <p>\$386 per child (this is in addition to the regular single seat placement fee of \$371 for students who live under 2.4 km from their designated school, for a total cost of \$757)</p> <p>There is no regular single seat placement fee for students who live over 2.4 km from their designated school; however, students who do reside more than 2.4 km from their designated school, and who wish to access Supplemental Bus Service (alternate seat placement), will be charged the Supplemental Bus Service Fee of \$386 per child.</p> |
| Kindergarten Half Time - Alternate Seat Placement | \$193 per child (this is in addition to the regular single seat placement fee for Kindergarten half time students of \$185 per day, for a total cost of \$378) |
| Family Rate - Alternate Seat Placement | \$966 (3 or more children) |
| Replacement Bus Pass | \$6 per pass |

For any questions regarding bus fees, please contact the Transportation Department at transportation@ngps.ca, Toll-free at 1-800-262-8674, or directly at 780-778-2800.

MEAL OF THE MONTH

Last year we partnered with local restaurants to bring a Hot Lunch Program to EEE.

We are working on our Hot Lunch Program and more information will be sent out as details are confirmed.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Thanks to many community members and businesses we have offered a Breakfast program for all students for many years.

As soon as students arrive at school in the a.m. they can go to the community kitchen to get toast for breakfast before classes begin.

It is open to all students even if they already had breakfast at home.

PHOTO DAY

School photos are scheduled for **Thursday, September 23rd**. Individual and class photos will be taken on this day.

Retakes are scheduled for **Tuesday, November 2nd**.

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

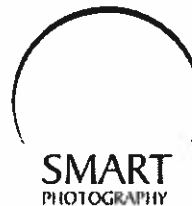
Imagine if you didn't have to write another cheque or send cash to the school again. We highly recommend that you sign up for School Cash Online. This will allow you to pay any school related fees online rather than submitting money directly to the school. It is really quite easy to use and provides a history of all payments made.

To register please enter the following address:

<https://ngs.schoolcashonline.com>

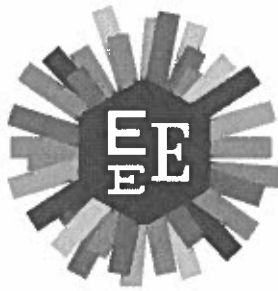
You can also find this link on the Northern Gateway web page

If you need assistance to set up an account please call Mrs. Williams at the school.



→ What to expect on Picture Day at Smart Photography!

- Smart Photography will be at your school on **September 23rd**.
- On the day your child is photographed, they will receive an information sheet with their online access code.
- Your child's photos will be loaded online approximately 3-6 business days after the last day of photography.
- Log in to smartorders.ca to view your proofs and place an order.
- After the ship to school deadline, you can still access your photos and place an order to be shipped directly to your home!
- Contact Smart Photography at 780-944-0800 or 877-838-0800 info@smartphotography.ca for questions or assistance with your order!

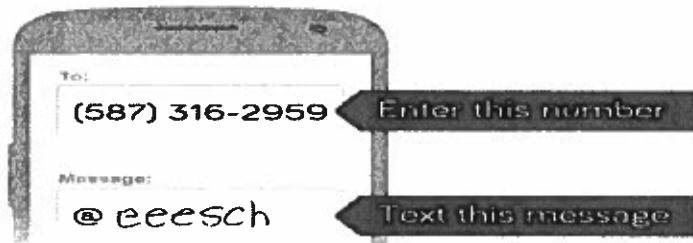


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Dear Parent(s) and Guardian(s),

To strengthen the home-school connection we would like our families to sign up for the school Remind messages. To participate in receiving school-wide text message reminders, simply text the number



You will not receive advertisement texts and your phone number will remain private.

Thanks,
Mr. A and Mrs. Feser



COMMUNITY NOTICE

Mayerthorpe Tae Kwon Do began on September 13th at 6:30 p.m. at the Mayerthorpe Legion. Please see their facebook page for more information. It is not too late to join.

BUSES

1. We recognize many students have long bus rides to school. They may drink water or have a quick and easy snack while riding the bus as long as they are responsible for their garbage and cleaning up after themselves.
2. We have had several reports that some students are standing up or moving seats while the buses are moving. This movement **cannot** happen while our buses are in motion and we ask you to kindly talk to your children to ensure it stops. We take the safety of our students very seriously.

Thank you for your support.

2021-2022 Calendar

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| AUGUST S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 | SEPTEMBER S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 |
| OCTOBER S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 | NOVEMBER S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 |
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| FEBRUARY S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 | MARCH S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 |
| APRIL S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 | MAY S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 |
| JUNE S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 | JULY S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 |

2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

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|------------------|--|
| Aug 30 - 31 | Staff Planning & Development Days |
| September 1 | First Day for Students |
| September 6 | Labour Day |
| October 8 | Staff Planning & Development Day |
| October 11 | Thanksgiving Day |
| November 10 | Staff Planning & Development Day |
| November 11 | Remembrance Day |
| November 12 | Day in Lieu of Parent Teacher Interviews |
| Dec 20 - Jan 3 | Christmas Vacation |
| January 4 | First Day Back for Students |
| January 31 | Staff Planning & Development Day |
| February 10 & 11 | Teachers' Convention (Onoway to Fox Creek only) |
| February 18 | Staff Planning & Development Day (Valleyview) |
| February 21 | Family Day |
| March 10 & 11 | Teachers' Convention (Valleyview only) |
| Mar 11 | Staff Planning & Development Day (Onoway to Fox Creek) |
| Mar 28 - Apr 1 | Spring Break |
| April 15 | Good Friday |
| April 18 | Easter Monday |
| May 19 | Staff Planning & Development Day |
| May 20 | Day in Lieu of Parent Teacher Interviews |
| May 23 | Victoria Day |
| June 29 | Last Day for Students |
| June 30 | Staff Planning & Development Day |

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

| TRUSTEE | AREA | PHONE |
|----------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Linda Wigton - Chair | Whitecourt | 780.706.4345 |
| Barb Maddigan - Vice-Chair | Whitecourt | 780.262.1013 |
| Diane Hagman | Mayerthorpe | 780.396.9694 |
| Jim Hailes | Fox Creek | 780.622.3385 |
| Sherry Jeffreys | Sanguato | 780.898.0404 |
| Judy Muir | Alberta Beach | 780.991.7413 |
| Christine Peck | Onoway | 780.691.0772 |
| Anita Portsmouth | Valleyview Rural | 780.552.4150 |
| Gerry Steinkue | Valleyview | 780.524.9889 |

Regular School Board meetings are held at the Division Office in Whitecourt. Members of the public are welcome to attend. Please visit our website at ngps.ca or contact the Division Office for a complete board schedule.