



HAVE YOU HEARD...

ABOUT THE GREAT THINGS THAT ARE HAPPENING AT

Mills Haven Elementary

Read all about it in the
September 4, 2018 edition!

Follow the link below for important dates;
<http://millshaven.ca/about/calendar>

Welcome back, parents and students. Staff at Mills Haven Elementary are very excited to welcome everyone back for another exiting year. Teachers haven been busy over the last week preparing their classes for students.

There have been a number of changes to the school building and staff at Mills Haven over the summer.

Changes to the building:

- New Commons Area formerly known as the Library
- Asphalt was replaced outside of the school
- New furniture outside the office for parents
- New school sign on the building
- Two handicapped stalls and walkway from the school parking lot

Welcome new staff:

- Sarah Choo
- Colby Bidwell
- Rachel Kihn
- Janet Botterill
- Carey Cummings
- Brandy Lindsay
- Keri Busenius
- Diane Hansen

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 360 Reading and Math Intervention/Programming Instrument (MIPI) assessment tools in the 2018-19 school year. The tools focus on literacy and numeracy, are digitally based and offer an opportunity for students to demonstrate their learning. The goal of both assessments is to provide timely information to teachers, help enhance classroom instruction and ensure student learning needs are identified.



In September and May, EIPS students in grades 1 through 12 will complete the STAR 360 assessment, which evaluates reading comprehension. The assessment takes approximately 20 minutes and can be completed on any 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. 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 of each offers the teacher a clearer picture about a student's learning needs and helps determine if subsequent instructional planning is required.

The scores of the assessments are not used towards a student's grade and there is no need to study ahead of time. Both simply provide the teacher with information to better understand where each student is at 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 360 and MIPI assessment tools, contact Deb Barron, the Director of Learning Supports, at 780-464-3477.

Quick Facts: EIPS buses are all equipped with video surveillance

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

- ensure the safety of all students, drivers and property; and
- deter 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)*. 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.

Caregiver Education Series



The Division, in partnership with Strathcona County and Elk Island Catholic Schools, is hosting a series of caregiver information sessions focused on ways to support youth mental health. The free sessions provide parents, caregivers, teachers and community members with information about challenges that can impact children and adolescents. Some of the session topics include: dealing with anxiety, teenagers and technology, cannabis, understanding depression and self-injury, test anxiety, building executive functioning skills, and limit setting.

Visit the [Division calendar](#) to see all scheduled caregiver sessions.

Sync the School Calendar to Your Personal Calendar

Did you know you can sync the school calendar to your own personal calendar? You can. Just visit <http://millshaven.ca/about/calendar> and click on one of the following calendar options you want to subscribe to:

- Add to Google Calendar
- Subscribe to Calendar (Outlook)
- Download iCal

NOTE: Using a mobile device, these options are located above the calendar. Using a computer, these options are located below the calendar.

Once you click on the calendar option you want to subscribe to, follow the instructions. Within seconds, your personal calendar will contain all of **Mills Haven Elementary School's** important dates including holidays, school-closure days, planned activities, events and more.

Pay School Fees Online!

School fee information for the 2018-19 school year is expected to be posted on the PowerSchool Parent Portal by the end of 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 them online using Visa, MasterCard or INTERAC Online—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 various school activities such as field trips, class projects, athletic-team fees and more.

If circumstances exist where you are unable to pay your student fees you can apply to have [fees waived](#) by submitting an [Application for a Waiver of Fees](#). The application deadline is Dec. 15, 2018.

For more information about school fees, waivers and payment deadlines visit www.eips.ca/schools/fees. Alternatively, **Haven** contact **Mrs. Kathy Wheeler at Mills Elementary at 780-467-5556**.

Stay Connected: Subscribe to our news

As of the 2018-19 school year, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) is moving to a new service provider for sending phone and email notifications to families called School Messenger. Families won't notice much of a difference—all email subscriptions are being transferred so there is no need to resubscribe.

If you're new to EIPS and want to start receiving Division news and updates, or just want to review your subscription information, visit www.eips.ca/contact/subscribe. Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation (CASL) requires the Division to have direct consent before engaging in electronic communication with its families. Only those who have subscribed to receive emails will get information about Division and school-related news, such as newsletters, information about upcoming events, parent and community engagement opportunities, important school-based updates and more.

NOTE: Even if you're not subscribed, you will continue to receive emails regarding emergency situations and financial matters.