



CLOVER BAR KNIGHTLY NEWS

FEBRUARY 2019

IMPORTANT DATES

January 28	High School Information Evening 7PM @ Sherwood Park Alliance Church
January 30	Social Studies Mid-Term
January 31	Math Mid-Term
February 1	ELA Mid-Term Semester 2 begins Returning Student Registration opens on PowerSchool
February 5	Safer Internet Day
February 6	Health Day Winter Walk Day Early Dismissal
February 7-8	Teachers' Convention (schools are closed)
February 15	National Flag Day Professional Learning Day (schools are closed to students)
February 18	Family Day (schools are closed)
February 23	Young Authors' Conference
February 27	Pink Shirt Day

Click the following links to access the school calendars:

[School Calendar](#)

[Basketball](#)

[Cheer Team](#)

SCHOOL NEWS

The Wizard of Oz Drama Production

Mrs. Laurie and Mrs. Thorne, what a wonderful production! The cast and crew of the Wizard of Oz were amazing! Thank you for your time and dedication to students! Mr. Haman, Mr. Kohlenberg and Mr. Timanson thank you for all of your time and effort developing the set! All staff, thank you for supporting the production in the endless ways that you do!

Mid-Term Exams

Midterms are this week, and expectations about what is to happen before, during and after each exam are not always clear for parents and students. The following are answers to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) that Clover Bar junior high teachers field from year to year.

What are the days and times of the midterms?

Each midterm is scheduled for only Blocks 1, 2 and 3 (8:48am – 11:15 am) on each of the following days:

Wednesday, January 30 - Social Studies Midterm Exam

Thursday, January 31 - Math Midterm Exam

Friday, February 1 – ELA Midterm Exam

Students are provided with ample time to complete the mid-term exams. All students are required to bring a book to read in the event that they complete the exam earlier as they are not permitted to leave until the end of the exam block.

Should students be picked up from school after each exam?

Please do not pick students up from school after each midterm. Regularly scheduled classes resume for the remainder of the day, and student learning continues. Teachers may choose to move on to new concepts, review concepts, involve students in classroom discussions or other activities – and if your child is not present, your child will never fully learn the material that was covered! True learning experiences happen when students are present in the moment.

How can I support my child's success?

Learners of all ages need to prepare ahead of time for assessments; cramming the night before is not effective. Please help your child set aside some time each day to review in each of their four core subject areas. Studying with the proper tools (for example – using a calculator, not a cell phone, for Math calculations) helps build student confidence. A good night's rest, a healthy breakfast, and arriving on time – these all reduce student stress and anxiety, which in turn allow students to do a better job of showing what they know during assessments.

Why do students complete midterms?

Midterms are a meaningful way for students and teachers to review concepts that were covered in class from September to the present moment, as a lot of learning has taken place since the beginning of the year. This review gives students an additional opportunity to grasp concepts that perhaps were still unclear, and to strengthen their understandings. Midterm assessments then capture student cumulative understandings of concepts, giving students the opportunity to demonstrate their increased insights and raise their overall grades as they head into the second half of the year – what a positive opportunity for them!

The junior high teachers of Clover Bar Junior High School thank you for the support of their students, your children, in this journey of learning.

Semester 2 Schedules

Students are encouraged to log in to their PowerSchool account to view their schedule for Semester 2. We have processed all of the option change requests and accommodated where scheduling permitted. These changes are reflected in PowerSchool. Students may use the computers in the library during lunch to access their accounts if they are unable to at home. See the office if you require assistance with your PowerSchool account.

Creating digital citizens

Clover Bar phone expectations for students during instructional time:

Phones are **NOT** to be used in the classrooms unless teaching staff have requested the use for “educational purposes”. A bin is available in each classroom to store phones during class. Students are encouraged to keep their phones in their lockers during the day or in their pockets but they CANNOT come out except for educational purposes. “No phone? No Problem”.

Clover Bar Parking Reconfiguration

Coming Spring 2019 – the parking configuration for busses and parent drop off is changing. Bus parking will be directly in front of the school and parent drop off area will be located along the street.

DISTRICT NEWS

Measuring our Success: **Accountability Pillar Survey**

Once again, Alberta Education is conducting its Accountability Pillar Survey—an annual check-up on the province’s education system. Every year, Alberta Education conducts the survey to gather information about the quality of education provided by Alberta schools and school authorities. The survey looks at various measures such as engagement levels, student wellness, student outcomes, and the classroom(s) and school climate.

Throughout the month of February, Grade 7 students and all teachers at Clover Bar Junior High are completing the survey online at the school. Student participation is voluntary and completely anonymous. Students are assigned a

random username and password to ensure survey responses aren't linked to any individual student. The survey takes about 40 minutes to complete and is done within the school day during regular class time.

Additionally, parents and guardians of students in **grade 7** are also being surveyed, which can be done online or by mail—information about the survey was mailed to these families in mid-January. Again, the survey is anonymous and asks questions about experiences with your school. If you have a child in **grade 7**, we highly encourage you to participate. The survey must be completed and mailed by February 22 or completed online by March 8, 2019. Clover Bar and Elk Island Public School will use the data you provide to meet school and district goals to ensure continuous improvement. For more information about Alberta Education's Accountability Pillar Survey visit www.education.alberta.ca/accountability-pillar.

Clover Bar is also seeking input for our **grade 8 and 9** families. Your input helps us to continually program for student success. For **grade 8 and 9** feedback, please click on the link to complete the Clover Bar survey <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZK8P7QT>. Thank you in advance for creating a positive, learning focused school for our students!

Complete the Returning Student Registration: February 1-28

Elk Island Public Schools' (EIPS) Returning Student Registration Process is opening soon. On February 1, all EIPS families received an email from the Division asking them to confirm their child's enrolment in a school for the upcoming year by completing the online Returning Student Registration Form—available by logging in to the PowerSchool Parent Portal. Using the form, families can indicate the school their child plans to attend and apply to attend a non-designated school, if applicable. **All returning EIPS students are required to complete the form by Feb. 28, 2019.**

Don't have a PowerSchool Parent Portal account: Follow the instructions below to set an account up:

1. Go to <https://powerschool.eips.ca/public/>.
2. Choose "Create Account."
3. Enter the parent or guardian information—only one parent account is required regardless of the number of children you have attending EIPS schools.
4. Create a username and password of your choice. You'll need both the username and password to log in to the PowerSchool Parent Portal.
5. Enter your school-provided Access ID and Access Password for each student being added to the account.
6. Then, select "Enter."

For more information or assistance, contact your child's school.

Caregiver Education Series

The Division, in partnership with Alberta Health Services and Elk Island Catholic Schools, is hosting a series of caregiver information sessions focused on ways to support students' addiction and mental health challenges. The sessions are free and open to parents, caregivers, teachers and community members. Session topics include: dealing with anxiety, teenagers and technology, sleep and how it impacts the developing brain, understanding depression and self-injury, test anxiety, and building problem-solving and goal-directed skills.

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

Kindergarten Registration is Now Open!

Is your child turning five on or before Dec. 31, 2019? If so, it's now time to register for kindergarten. To register, simply complete the online registration form at www.eips.ca/kindergarten.

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.

Next Step Continuing Education Summer School and Youth Camps: Registration opens March 11

There's something for everyone

Summer School: Open to students entering grades 10-12

With more than 25 credit courses, there are lots of ways to get ahead. Students can earn high school credits, upgrade marks and finish pre-requisite courses.

Courses include:

- CALM, Physical Education 10, and Extreme CALM and Physical Education 10 combined
- English, math, social and all the sciences at the 10-, 20- and 30-levels
- Film Production
- Work Experience
-

Summer Youth Camps: Open to participants in grades 5-9

From sports to babysitting, campers enjoy a fun-filled program while also making friends and learning new skills.

Camps include:

- sports
- cooking and baking
- babysitting
- Handball—new

Registration opens on March 11

A FINAL THOUGHT...

February is upon us! I am looking forward to another month to learn with our students! It energizes me each day to see the citizenship of our students at Clover Bar. We have students volunteering to tutor over the noon hour. Students volunteer to work with our PLACE students. The drama production was amazing and made the news! Our basketball teams are working hard in practices and competitions! Individuals are offering assistance when someone is in need! What citizenship!!!!

February is survey month and I encourage all families to participate and let their voices be heard. Your responses on surveys provide input into planning for ongoing growth at Clover Bar School. Our grade 7 families will have the Accountability Pillar Survey, which will be mailed out. Great news, there is an online option this school year! Our grade 8 and 9 families will be asked to complete a short school developed survey. I thank you in advance, for sharing important information with us through the surveys.

Jacqui Holmes