

### April 2021 SPRUCE GROVE COMPOSITE HIGH SCHOOL



#### Dates to Remember

- April 2 Good Friday (no school)
- April 5 Easter Monday (no school)
- April 6 PD Day (no school)
- April 7 First day of classes
- April 15 Last Day of Quarter 3
- April 20 Virtual School Council 7pm
- April 21 High School PD Day (no school)
- April 22 First Day Quarter 4

Hello all. I hope you had a restful, refreshing Spring Break.

Just as April sees us transition to warmer seasonal weather it is also a transition month for your students who will be busy closing off their Quarter 3 courses and shifting into Quarter 4, their final term of the school year. As such, parents and students should be aware of, and plan accordingly for, final projects and exams that will provide an important final indicator of student success and achievement.

April is also the month when students will be planning for their next school year. For our current grade 10s and 11s, this means planning their grade 11 and 12 course selection. This planning will begin the week of April 7th to 9th with students receiving course selection and planning forms from their grade level coordinator or counselor. In addition, grade coordinators and counselors will be making a brief virtual presentation available to students and parents which will provide important information related to their course selection planning and high school diploma and course requirements. Finally, students will formally complete their course selections online, at home through their PowerSchool account in mid to late April. Watch for communication and a video tutorial to guide students through this process.

We strongly encourage students to begin their individual planning process by consulting with current teachers and counselors and researching potential post-secondary programs to find out about required courses and competitive averages required for admission. Perhaps your student needs to start with an online interest or skills inventory that can help guide their exploration. To assist, we recommend your student make use of their MyBlueprint account at www.myBlueprint.ca. This is an invaluable tool introduced to students through their CALM course in grade 10. The program assists with exploration of post-secondary programs, careers and with tracking of high school credits and diploma completion. Additionally, please make sure your student has signed up for a myPass account, which is your direct, secure access to your accurate and up to date Alberta Education information. This account is required for viewing diploma exam marks, tracking high school credits, ordering transcripts, etc.

Although it is always an exciting time to begin thinking about new goals and planning to achieve them, your students should not forget that the first step towards meeting next year's goals is to ensure their attention, diligence and overall work ethic is applied in a way that fulfills current goals.

Cam Robertson Assistant Principal & Gr. 12 Coordinator SGCHS

### Strive for PROGRESS, not PERFECTION.

- unknown

### STUDENT SERVICES

### How do I prepare?

#### Make a long term plan: these 3 years go by fast (as you've seen this one fly by). Before you know it you'll be looking at graduation. Know what the pre-requisites are for classes.

- Know what the pre-requisites are for classes. You don't want to miss out on a class in Grade 12 because you didn't plan.
- Know What's Ahead: get a good picture of what a class is like by talking to the teacher directly, looking at the classroom, and discussing with friends who took that option.
- Be open to explore other options: You just might find your passion!
- Consider Teacher Recommendation: They've watched your work habits, assessed your skill through homework and tests, and have a good idea of what you can handle. If you disagree with the recommendations, talk with them!

#### Grade 11's:

- You will be selecting for your grade 12 year.
   Hopefully you have a sense of what you'd like to do after HS. Make a plan for what classes fit into that!
- Check out Post-Secondary requirements to see what you will need to have for your college application.
- If you aren't sure what you'd like to do after HS, talk to your Counsellor, Mrs. Stewart. Or take some personality/skill tests through your My Blueprint or other online options.

## **Course selections!**

COMING SOON



Current Grade 10's and 11's- you should sign up for My Pass now! This will be SOOOOOO important to have for your grade 12 year.

Don't put this off!!! 🖑

Grade 12's- Do you have your My Alberta Digital ID?





Spring is in the air and the Intro to Trade Construction class is a busy place. Students have been working hard on their skills. There are many cool projects being worked on in the shop from dog houses to green houses and sheds to raised garden boxes in many different configurations. Student are also working on different furniture projects which include the current popular projects using epoxy!

If you are interested in possibly ordering a new piece of furniture or and outdoor project, please feel free to email Mr. Pratt at *jpratt@psd70.ab.ca* or call the school to discuss options.



# Canadian Parents for French Parkland Chapter

FEATURED RESOURCES, APRIL 2021



### 1.) WWW.FRENCHSTREET.CA

Camps, field trips, family activities, exchanges and programs, post-secondary activities, parent supports, events and contests.

This is a great hub for French resources in Canada!

### 2.) SUMMER CAMPS!

<u>http://af.ca/edmonton/learn-french/kids-</u> <u>teens/summer-camp</u>



Summer camps are available in Edmonton area, and CPF members get an extra \$25 discount!



### 3.) HIGHSCHOOL -VOLUNTEER TO BE A TUTOR

<u>https://cpf.ca/en/chapters-</u> volunteers/volunteers/volunteeropportunities/

This a fantastic way to build resume experience.

### 4.) SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Visit www.frenchstreet.ca or CPF.ca to explore scholarships.





### 5.) NEXT MEETING IS MAY 4TH @ 6:30 PM

Join our local chapter to be added to the email list! There will be prizes available, details to come.

### JOIN CPF

HTTPS://CPF.CA/EN/MEMBER-REGISTRATION-AND-RENEWAL/

### **Stronger Together**



#### Parkland School Division Family Supports Newsletter March 19, 2021

Dear parents and caregivers,

The newsletter theme this month is all about emotional regulation. The added stressors that come from coping with a Pandemic can play havoc with the way we are able to cope emotionally. This is true for us and for our kids. The good news is that there are skills we can all learn to help regulate our emotions more effectively. As parents it is important for us to understand ourselves and our children's emotional responses before we react. This will help with our kid's behaviour, mood and even learning.

Take care, Vicky Mamczasz -Family Support Facilitator, Dena Davis- Sunrise Supports Program Liaison

Family Life Family Life Psychology

#### Family Tips for Emotional Regulation with Joel Pukalo -Family Life Psychology - Stony Plain 780-963-7451

- Free online webinars
- Low cost counselling for children and adults

Creating an environment of emotional empowerment requires that parents work collaboratively with their children to help them grow in emotional awareness and emotional regulation. Emotional awareness means that I understand *how* I'm feeling. Emotional regulation means

knowing *what to do* to manage *how* I'm feeling. Understanding *how* I feel is essential to figuring out *what to do* about how I feel. Emotional regulation requires emotional awareness. Therefore, the first step in putting children in the driver's seat of their own emotional management is to help children understand *how* they are feeling. In a parent-driven approach, parents may tell their children how to feel. Consider the following examples:

- Johnny, don't get angry. It's a small problem stop making it such a big deal.
- Jill don't cry. Everything is going to be okay.
- Jack, you should be happy right now. Think of all the good things in your life and stop being so gloomy.

In a child-driven approach parents value relationship and keeping their child happy so they have difficulty providing appropriate parameters for emotional expression. Children may also use their feelings to try to get what they want. Consider the following examples:

- Johhny is having a tantrum over not getting a toy in the store, so the parents break down and buy the child a toy.
- Jill is having a crying meltdown about accidentally dropping her phone at school so her parents go out and buy her the newest iPhone.
- Jack is really frustrated about losing technology privileges for the day so he fluctuates between extreme anger and extreme sadness until his parents give him back his device.

Connection-based parents teach their children to communicate *how* they are feeling while providing them with tools and strategies to help children manage their emotions. Consider using a circle of responsibility, a core value of connection-based parenting. Within my circle, I am responsible for my emotions, words, actions, and behaviors. I am also responsible for how my emotions, words, actions, and behaviors impact other people around me. I am allowed to feel the way I do AND I am responsible to communicate it in a healthy way that does not negatively impact the people around me. I need emotional awareness to know what I'm feeling and I need emotional regulation to communicate how I'm feeling in a constructive manner. But before I can figure out *what to do* with my emotions, I need to understand *how* I am feeling first.



#### The Seeds of Self-Reg Parenting

#### SAFETY

- Helping children feel safe, in every way physically, emotional and socially—provides the foundation for their mental, social and emotional wellness.
- Excess stress affects brain-body stress systems in ways that can make children feel unsafe, even if we think they are safe (and should feel safe).

#### RELATIONSHIPS

- Self-Reg parenting starts with relationships. Dr. Stuart Shanker says. "The foundation of self-regulation is the feeling of calmness and safety that children experience with their parents."
- Children learn to self-regulate through "coregulation" with parents.
- Co-regulation: When two people adjust to and regulate one another's behaviour (mood, emotions, language) via bi-directional interactive signals and behaviours.

#### ENVIRONMENTS

- Factors such as too much screen time, not enough physical activity, visual clutter, lack of sleep and excess junk food are "hidden stressors" for some kids.
- Create spaces in your home where children can go to feel more calm or more energized as needed.
- Unstructured, non-electronic play, especially outdoor play, are great stress relievers for children.





#### BECOME A STRESS DETECTIVE

- Learn to "reframe" children's behaviour (see and understand it in a different way)
- Many behaviours that adults think of as misbehaviour—tantrums, for example—are actually "stress behaviour," caused by too much stress.
- When a child "misbehaves, ask "Why?" and "Why now?" Look for stressors that may be causing the behaviour.

#### **IT'S PERSONAL**

- Self-Reg is personal and it begins with you.
   Consider your own stress and how it affects you and, in turn, your children. You will be most able to build your children's self-regulation, if you take care of your own.
- Self-Reg can help you understand your children's behaviour better and help you be less angry and more patient and understanding.

#### SELF-REG PARENTING IS A LEARNING JOURNEY

- Learn about the connections between stress, energy and tension and how they affect children's behaviour, mood and learning.
- Read Dr. Stuart Shanker's book Self-Reg.
- Consider taking one of our <u>online</u> courses, such as Self-Reg in Parenting or Self-Reg Foundations.

Courtesy of the Mehrit Centre <u>https://self-reg.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Infosheets\_Self-Reg\_for\_Parents.pdf</u> Consider taking one of the Self Reg for Parents courses <u>https://self-reg.ca/parents/</u>

#### What Can Parents Do As Co-regulators?

1. Recognize signs of dysregulation in your child

2. Identify the stressors or environmental cues that trigger dysregulation for your child

3. Teach your child how to recognize and communicate his or her feelings, and to become more aware of their response to stress

4. Help your child find a way to become more alert (if idling on low) or more calm (if revved up too high)

It's best to introduce and practice the following regulation techniques when your child is feeling *calm*. Doing so will help your child to strengthen these skills and be more apt, in kind, to using them in moments of struggle. For a time, however, your ongoing support will be needed to help your child use these strategies when feeling dysregulated.

#### **Calming Techniques**

- When your child's body, mind, or mood is revved up:
- · Take slow, deep breaths to help calm the body and the brain
- Use progressive muscle relaxation activities: tense then relax key muscles in your body, moving from head to toe
- · Take a squeeze use a stress ball or hug a stuffed animal
- Listen to calming music
- · Distract with a fun activity or game (non electronic)
- Block out noises, sights or smells that are overstimulating
- Take a break go for a walk or splash cool water on your face
- Practice mindfulness focus your mind on an activity to get back to the present. For example, eat a small piece of fruit focus on the taste, the smell and the feel of it

#### **Alerting Techniques**

When your child's body, mind, or mood is idling on low

- Get their body moving through play and
- physical activity
- $\cdot$  Use a fidget toy or wiggle cushion
- $\cdot$  Chew gum
- $\cdot$  Eat chewy, crunchy, or sour foods
- $\cdot$  Drink cold, citrus-infused water

#### **Staying Regulated**

Be sure to spend time setting up your child or teen for success:

• Encourage positive self-talk – tell yourself things like "this will pass" or "I can do this" or "my turn will soon come, I can wait'

Ensure your child gets enough quality sleep · Eat well. Promote a healthy diet of wholesome foods
Engage in regular physical activity – minimum 60 min/day

 $\cdot$  Have and maintain a regular routine at home and at school

• Reach out to social supports – talk to a friend, family member, teacher, coach, or trusted adult

#### From - Alberta Health Services



### Learning to Think Helpful Thoughts

Have your child explain what unhelpful and and helpful thoughts are to all family members.

Sharing out loud some of your own thoughts helps your child or youth to recognize whether thoughts are helpful or unhelpful.

Encourage your child to focus on the positives of any situation and realistic thoughts.

From the BC Children's Hospital





20 Things Every Parent of Kids with Special Needs Should Hear

By Dr. Darla Clayton, PsyD, The Mobility Resource See the full article at https://www.abilities.com/community/parents-20things.html

- 1) You are not alone.
- 2) You too deserve to be cared for.
- 3) You aren't perfect—and that's ok!
- 4) You are a superhero.
- 5) Therapy is play.
- 6) Play is therapy.
- 7) Make time to enjoy your kids
- 8) You will be obligated to make heart wrenching decisions.
- 9) You won't always get it right.
- 10) Forgive yourself.

.11) Being a parent is hard. Being a parent to a child with extra needs is *extra* hard.

12) Parenting a child with extra needs is like a marathon.

- 13) Don't lose yourself.
- 14) Keep your sense of humor.
- 15) Celebrate the little things!
- 16) Don't let typical parents get you down.
- 17) Don't compare.
- 18) You don't have to be "THAT" parent.
- 19) Make time for your marriage.
- 20) Trust your instincts.





#### **Register here:**

https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/supporting-emotional-regulation-with-children-on-the-autism-spectrum-registra tion-131635817273?aff=ebdsoporgprofile



https://ca.ctrinstitute.com/covid-19-videos/supporting-children-during-covid-19/

### WISE-MIND WEDNESDAYS FOR YOUTH

#### WEDNESDAYS FROM 4-5:30PM

This spring, Spruce Grove FCSS and Stony Plain Youth Centre have partnered to offer virtual programs for youth every Wednesday from 4:00pm-5:30pm. The programs are free, but registration is required. Once registered, youth will be able to access any or all of the Wise-mind Wednesday programs.

•Understanding Anger March 24

Setting Boundaries March 31

•Effective Listening April 7

•Respectful Assertiveness April 14

Navigating Change & Loss April 21

Super You - Learning to Self Empower April 28

Understanding Stress May 5

·Social Emotional Skills & Strategies for Self-Regulation May 12

To register visit www.sprucegrove.org/onlinereg or call 780-962-7618.

FCSS MALLER Parkland



### Lighthouse Church added a new photo.

Lighthouse Church



Lighthouse Church added a new photo.

Lighthouse Church







Open the First and Third Sat of each month from 10-1pm Lighthouse Church 49 Boulder Blvd Stony Plain

#### Lighthouse Church

Just a reminder that our <u>free</u> community outreaches will be running this Saturday, <u>March 20</u> from 10:00 - 1:00 pm.

Our outreaches are located in the house directly behind the Church at:

49 Boulder Avenue, Stony Plain

Hope lives at Lighthouse Church, everyone is welcome!

Garments of Praise (the <u>free</u> store) has their spring clothing out, come and find a new to you outfit, for you and your family.

Food for the Store will be providing <u>free</u> community bag lunches. Don't forget to register for the Easter of Hope, <u>free</u> community Easter dinner - registration closes March 28, 2021. To register go to <u>www.lhpc.ca</u>

#### **Caregiver Education Series - Alberta Health Services**

Торіс	Caregiver Education Session - Technology and the Teenage Brain - CYF Caregiver Education
Description	Digital Wellness for Families / Take a look at the teen brain and the risks and benefits of technology use. Tips on effective communication and limit setting are also shared. Note: Caregivers and their youth (grades 7-12) are welcome to attend this session together.

#### Time: March 24 at 6:00pm

#### Register here: https://www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca/virtual-education/caregiver-series-registration

Торіс	Drop-In Series - Anxiety Part 4: Overcoming Avoidance - CYF Caregiver Education
Description	In this session, we will discuss how avoidance of stressors can increase our child's stress responses. By encouraging our children to face manageable stressors, caregivers can help their child foster effective coping skills. For caregivers of children in grades K-12.
	<ul> <li>This session is for adults only unless otherwise indicated.</li> <li>Please do not take screenshots, or share content from this session.</li> <li>Session resources and links will only be sent to participants who attend the session.</li> </ul>
	For information about upcoming sessions and more caregiver resources, go to www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca
Time	Mar 25, 2021 06:00 PM in Mountain Time (US and Canada)

#### Register here: <u>https://albertahealthservices.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\_ltlVCbMTQu2c29DqYFeg9w</u>

#### **Community Support**



#### https://adaptabilities.ca/parent-resources/

T: 780-431-8446 F: 780-669-5762 E: info@adaptabilities.ca

#### Reach out for support...

Youth Mental Health (Westview Primary Care Network) - call in for an appointment - 780-960 - 9533 ext 221 Community Connector - Simonne Massner - 780-217-4146 Stony Plain and Prab Gill - Spruce Grove and Greater Parkland area 780-217-8701

Youth Mental Health - Northgate Walk In Clinic (AHS - now call in or virtual appointment)780-342-2700 MOBILE/AFTERHOURS CRISIS TEAM: 780-407-1000

Mobile Addictions Support - Lisa Kimmerly - 780-868-1895

Parenting support (APFA) - Triple P Parenting - Rebecca Plante - 780-963-0549

Adult Crisis Response - 780-342-7777

Support Network Distress Line - 780-482-4357

Adult Mental Health Referral and Treatment - 780-424-2424

Parkland School Division - Family Support - Vicky Mamczasz - 780-668-7422

Sunrise Supports - Dena Davis - 780-977-6241

#### HELP FOR HARD TIMES **TRI-REGION SUPPORT GUIDE**

#### WHO CAN HELP, WHERE CAN I GO, AND HOW DO I GET SUPPORT?

I NEED TO TALK TO SOMEONE NOW (24H)
Distress Line 780-482-4357(HELP)
Addiction Helpline 1-866-332-2322
Child Mental Health (8am-11:30pm) 780-427-4491
Kids Help Phone 1-800-668-6868
Bullying Helpline 1-888-456-2323
Seniors Abuse Helpline
Family Violence Info Line 310-1818
Sexual Assault Center (Parn-9pm) 780-423-4121
First Nations & Inuit Mental Health Hope for Wellness 1-855-242-3310

I NEED IMMEDIATE HELP	Call 911		
Emergency Financial Assistance			
	80-644-5135		
Access 24/7 (Adults)			
Addictions & Mental Health7			
Westview Health Centre7			
Child Intervention Services7			
Kids Cottage Crisis Childcare7	80-944-2888		
Parkland RCMP8	25-220-2000		
Poison Control 1-8	00-332-1414		
NeighbourLink Parkland (ovactical cris	iis holp)		
Monday-Friday 9am-4pm	80-960-9669		
Pay Forward Kindness (homeless supp	ovts)		

587-286-4663

#### I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE TO START?



24-hour information and referral line connecting you to social, health and government services.



or download HelpSeeker, onto your phone to find local



WHERE CAN I FIND A SAFE PLACE TO SLEEP AT NIGHT? George Spady (men, women) ...... 780-424-8335 Hope Mission (ages 16+, men, women) 780-422-2018

I NEED A DOMESTIC ABUSE SHELTER Alberta Council of Women's Shelters 1-866-331-3933

Youth Edmonton Detox ...... 780-422-7383 I NEED A SAFE CONSUMPTION SITE Boyle Street Community Serv... 780-424-4106

Salvation Army (Transitional Housing, \$12/day

I NEED DETOX SUPPORT

Youth Empowerment &

#### Parkland Food Bank

.. 780-962-4565 105 Mad 

