

## MINUTES

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Neerlandia Public Christian School Council  
Monday, May 28, 2018 @ 7:30pm

Present: Lisa Gehring (Principal), Annemiek Elzinga, Charlene Nanninga, Jennifer Tuininga (School Trustee), Dallas Lee (teacher rep), Adam Crabbe, Lee Anne Schmidt, Amanda Batty, Janice Wierenga, Brett Seader, Steve DeVries

**1. Call to Order**

**2. Devotions**—Steve opens with prayer

**3. Adopt Agenda**

**4. Review and Approve Minutes**—April 30, 2018— Minutes approved

**5. Business from Minutes**

a. ASCA Request re: Locally Elected School Boards—Steve reports that our board submitted feedback and was thanked for same.

b. Council of School Councils—Amanda reports that it was interesting to attend same. Felt very privileged by the support our board receives. Mentioned that there is an information evening on June 5th in RF Staples, titled Selfies, Sexting and Snapchat.

**6. Reports**

a. Principal/Student Council Report—As attached. Lisa also added later that new swings for the school have been ordered.

b. School Trustee—As attached

**7. New Business**— No new business

**8. Correspondence** —No correspondence

**9. Adjournment**

**Next Meeting**—June 25, 2018 at 7:30pm

**Devotions**—Janice Wierenga

**Closing**—LeeAnne Schmidt

### **Principal's Report for May 28, 2018**

- **Thank you for the Christian Education Service Project support. The grade ones are excitedly preparing to take the plants and containers to Shepherd's Care on June 7<sup>th</sup>. The grade twos have prepared their meals, delivered them to the Raju's and the Vold's and have cards from both families. Our grade threes completed**

**their cookie sale which helps to offset fieldtrip costs. The junior highs, with Mr. Gelderman, also worked on a project where they built birdhouses which are beginning to be occupied. This was a great way to help our students understand that our faith is meant to be lived- daily- not just on Sundays.**

- **Our Grade 6 and 9 students have completed the written portion of their ELA Provincial Achievement Tests and preliminary results once again look strong.**
- **Many special events have happened, or are coming up, this month as well:**
  - **Evergreen Theatre came on May 7<sup>th</sup>. It talked about climate change and rising water levels.**
  - **The grade 4s did their swimming lessons.**
  - **Plants from the gr 4 fundraiser came in.**
  - **The grade 8s went on their annual Frontier Lodge Fieldtrip with Mr. Gelderman.**
  - **The Grade 9s attended the PARTY program in Barrhead where they learn about the possible consequences of poor choices such as drinking and driving.**
  - **The drama class performed at one of our assemblies and have another short presentation planned for June 11<sup>th</sup>.**
  - **The grade 7s leave for their Jasper Trip tomorrow and the grade 9s go to their Whirl Wind tour on Wednesday and Thursday.**
  - **The grade 1-3's go to the Children's Festival in St. Albert on Thursday.**
  - **The junior highs also participated in the Division Track meet on the 24<sup>th</sup> and our students qualified in 17 spots for the zone track meet in St. Albert on June 5<sup>th</sup>.**
  - **Looking ahead: PHSSAM is on June 7<sup>th</sup>**

- **PATs continue from June 14<sup>th</sup> to the 28<sup>th</sup>.**
- **DARE Grad in on June 14<sup>th</sup>, with Grade 9 Grad happening one day later.**
- **K's go to the Zoo on the 14<sup>th</sup> and have their grad on the 21.**
- **There is a farewell assembly for students at 3:00 on the 19<sup>th</sup>.**
- **The grade 2 museum trip and the final K day are on the 21<sup>st</sup>.**
- **The farewell evening is on June 22<sup>nd</sup>.**
- **The last student day is June 28<sup>th</sup>.**
- **It's a shame that we don't do anything here.**
- **Kim and I had the privilege of attending the PCCE Leadership Event at Entheos with Brent. The focus of the event was truth and reconciliation. It was led by a Canadian Reformed Minister, Harold Rochet. I learned a lot and I highly recommend that you consider having him come out for a parent event next year, followed up by work with our students. This way parents will have the opportunity to learn about this work and to, I hope and pray, become more comfortable with our moving forward with this area of our students' education.**
- **I sent out the results from our surveys. Are there any questions or surprises in those results?**

#### **School Trustee Report – May 28, 2018**

##### **PHPS Staffing**

We are excited to have recently posted 36 teaching positions for ADLC this fall, and are working with our municipalities to try to encourage our new teachers to move into the school division.

Due to our recent teacher stabilization plan, a voluntary program for teachers who wish to retire, we have also posted positions for seventeen new teachers in our community schools. We have started a webpage on our PHPS site to promote our communities.

##### **PHPS offers \$2,500 Relocation Incentive**

Are you considering applying for a position in Pembina Hills Public Schools? Do you already work for us but live outside the division? Our new Relocation Incentive offers \$2,500 to all new

and existing employees who live outside the division and choose to move to a community within Pembina Hills' geographic area.

*Why are we offering this incentive?*

We believe that growth in our communities will help to sustain the viability of our schools. We also believe there are many benefits to employees who reside in the communities where they work, including reduced travel time and expenses. With the exception of Vista Virtual School that has campuses in Edmonton and Calgary, we prefer that our employees reside within the geographic area of the school division.

**School board adopts \$63.3M PHPS budget and \$20.2M ADLC budget**

The school board adopted the PHPS and ADLC budgets for 2018-19. Secretary Treasurer Tracy Meunier presented the combined budget overview, a total of \$83.5 million.

While government funding rates remain the same as last year, our division will have less money due to declining enrolment and the increased cost of goods and services.

We are however thankful for the continuation of the Classroom Improvement Fund (CIF). As part of its budget deliberations, the board approved the \$843,600 allotment to schools. Schools will be required to submit proposals for their portion of the CIF and later report on how they spent the monies.

The division's 2018-19 budget illustrates the importance of reserves. Although we will receive less money from the government next year, the PHPS Budget indicates our intention to use reserve funds to keep and launch programs that focus on our priority areas — diversity of student needs, student-teacher relationships, numeracy, and literacy.

The ADLC Budget includes the following changes:

- Phasing out of services provided by contract markers
- Centralization of services in Barrhead
- Discontinuance of services to adult students
- Decreasing instructional design to maintenance levels for 2018-19; no new resource development is planned
- A net reduction of 21.5 fte support staff positions — a result of operating efficiencies, alignment of work locations, decreasing instructional design output and elimination of job tasks

**PHPS to save enough power to light 935 homes each year!**

The school board approved the division's \$644,000 LED lighting project. To help fund the project, PHPS will receive \$196,000 in rebates from Energy Efficiency Alberta, a government agency dedicated to helping the province save energy and lower its carbon footprint.

Here is how the remaining \$448,000 will be funded:

\$232,000 will come from unplanned revenue the division received from the former Alberta Local Authorities Reciprocal Insurance Exchange, an insurance Co-op the division was a previous member of

\$216,000 will come from the Infrastructure Maintenance Renewal Program – funding the division receives each year for major work in our school buildings

The project will result in a potential annual savings of \$150,000 or 374,000 kWh – that's enough to light 935 homes! Phase 1 of the project will include installation and replacement of over

12,000 fluorescent light bulbs in all schools and offices this summer. Phase 2 of the project will include the replacement of all exterior lighting with LED lighting.

### **93% of respondents satisfied with overall quality of education in PHPS**

The school division surveys all parents, all staff, and students in Grades 4 to 12 each year. Schools and the division consider this feedback as they develop their annual education plan. The report is available at [www.phpschools.ca](http://www.phpschools.ca)

### **K-4 Provincial Curriculum Consultation**

Alberta Education is looking to gather parent and guardian feedback on the draft K–4 provincial curriculum. Twenty face-to-face meetings will be held in communities across Alberta from May 31 to June 15, 2018. There are four sessions being offered in Edmonton May 31<sup>st</sup> – see the ASCA website for more information.

Follow me on Facebook or Twitter!  
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## **MINUTES**

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Neerlandia Christian Education Society  
Monday, May 28, 2018 @ 9:00pm

Present: Lisa Gehring (Principal), Annemiek Elzinga, Charlene Nanninga, Dallas Lee (teacher rep), Adam Crabbe, Lee Anne Schmidt, Amanda Batty, Janice Wierenga, Brett Seader, Steve DeVries

### **1. Call to Order**

### **2. Adopt Agenda**

### **3. Review and Approve Minutes**

### **4. Business from Minutes**

a. PHSSAM Concession—Brief review of what needs to be done. **ACTION—Steve** will have BBQ's there. **ACTION—Lee Anne and Randy** will have generators. Also **Jeff and Randy** planning to BBQ. **ACTION- Lee Anne** will email Charlene once she has items from Costco for pricing.

#### b. Transportation Fee—

i. Letter—Charlene has had very few rebate cheques to write. **ACTION—Steve** will send out letter informing Out of Boundary families about rebate available.

ii. Special Agreements—**ACTION- Adam** will contact one of the families to remind them of their contract. One family paid up. One family unlikely to pay as children within boundary currently. Determine we will discuss bussing concerns on a needs basis. No requests at this time.

c. Grad Bibles—Lee Anne reports on grad Bibles. Has found a Bible/interpretive book that goes along with it. Requests that principal and junior high teachers can write in each child's Bible. **ACTION—Lisa** will find out if teachers able to do same.

i. Present at Grad June 15th/18—**ACTION—Lee Anne** willing to present

d. Awards—Leader of the Band, Art/Drama—**ACTION—Steve** will find out who has been chosen for awards

e. Teacher Farewell—Dallas reports—Farewell is on June 22 at 7pm in school gym. For Jim, Lisa and Kathi. Evening out. Requested help with MC—asked Steve. Decorations—**ACTION—Charlene, Jill O, and Annemiek** willing to organize. Food sign up sheet is in staff room and Shirley will be organizing same. Requesting if bringing food to bring a 9by13 pan. Idea is food will be buffet style. Dallas asks that if anyone has photos of Kathi in her classroom please get them to Dallas. Steve states that we would like to present something at the evening. Amanda motions to spend \$75 on each outgoing teacher. Motion carried. **ACTION—Steve** will handle gift certificates, **Lee Anne** will get flowers, and **Janice** will get cards for each teacher.

## 5. Reports

a. Financial—Randy reports that there has not been a lot of activity on account recently.

b. Preschool— Steve talked to Jill and she reported that 19 students are currently registered for preschool. 14 of them are attending NPCCS in future. Will wait to see if further children register.

c. Outdoor Classroom— Annemiek reports that trees have been ordered. Cost is \$2,383.50. 14 trees ordered. Will need help digging them in, and will organize night to do same. **ACTION—Annemiek** will organize getting black dirt for backfill, and will also put in newsletter regarding when evening is planned for.

## 6. New Business

a. PCCE

i. Board Governance Workshop—**ACTION—Steve** will organize with Gayle Monsma

ii. Bill 24 Information Letter—The board reviewed letter from PCCE regarding concerns about parental rights. Board generally in agreement as unhappy the government mandating that teachers are prohibited from informing parents about any clubs/activities their children attend. Unsure of how to handle same. Several people suggested that more information is required and that people need to think about the best way to move forward. Determined that the parents in the school need to direct our next action. **ACTION—Adam** to draft letter for parents. Special meeting scheduled for **June 6th at 7:30pm** to decide what action to take and what our different options are.

b. Spartan Race- Steve presents that we had been approached about whether we would want to handle running the concession for the Spartan Race. Decided that we are too busy at present with PHSSAM and decided to decline offer.

c. Community Giving—Steve reports that he had been approached about the board considering community projects to donate to eg. Baseball diamond, rink etc. Board will think about ideas to get involved in this way.

## 7. Correspondence

## 8. Adjournment

**Next Meeting—June 25, 2018 at 7:30pm**

**Devotions—Janice Wierenga**

**Closing—LeeAnne Schmidt**

