

# MINUTES

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Neerlandia Public Christian School Council  
Monday, June 25th, 2018 @ 7:00PM

Present: Charlene Nanninga, Janice Wierenga, Steve DeVries, Annemiek Elzinga, Amanda Batty, Brett Seatter (new Principal), Lisa Gehring (outgoing Principal), Lee Anne Schmidt, Randy Strydhorst, Jennifer Tuininga (school trustee)  
Absent: Adam Crabbe

## 1. Call to Order

## 2. Devotions—Janice Wierenga

## 3. Adopt Agenda

**4. Review and Approve Minutes—** May 28, 2018-Need to add Randy Strydhorst as present, Brett's last name misspelt. Minutes approved with changes.

## 5. Business from Minutes

## 6. Reports

a. Principal/Student Council—Lisa speaks first and says she has appreciated working at NPCCS, and thoroughly enjoyed the farewells. Brett reports that Renee has position, Jason Furster is in Grade 3, Brent Wierenga is in Grade 5. Also mentioned there is a position open for a band teacher, someone has applied for the position who is a strong applicant. The time table was changed so that every week only has four "days". If school is open on Friday then it will be a Monday schedule. He also reports that woodworking will be a CTF option in the last semester, as will have to be done outside for sawdust etc. Brett will teach same. Steve asks if any feedback regarding Grade 6 on junior high time table. Brett reports they will be still going to their own classes etc., just have same teachers as junior high, says has had no parents unhappy at present. Steve thanks Lisa for her service.

b. School Trustee—Jennifer reports as attached. Also added that they had a bus tour to show prospective teachers to the region what the area looks like, and that they did tour them past Neerlandia school.

## 7. New Business

a. Bill 24 Discussion—As per previous meeting the board has serious concerns regarding Bill 24. We felt it important to pass along to our school trustee. Lisa speaks about how parents are concerned that teachers hands are tied as far as being forbidden from telling parents what their children are up to. That there has always been a legal obligation for staff to protect children. Jennifer cautions that since this issue is so sensitive it is important to have messaging organized in case the board is contacted by media. Amanda mentions that if the policies have not changed to reflect that teachers are prohibited from informing parents then it wouldn't be necessary to contact families in our school. Jennifer will try determine which changes have been made.

## 8. Correspondence—No correspondence

## 9. Adjournment

**Next Meeting—August 27, 2018 @ 7:30pm**  
**Devotions—Randy Strydhorst**  
**Closing: Steve DeVries**

## **School Trustee Report – June 25, 2018**

### **Farewell to School Resource Officer Constable Robert Hynes**

After almost four years as the School Resource Officer for Barrhead area schools, Constable Robert Hynes will be transferring to the RCMP Academy “Depot” Division in Regina, Saskatchewan. The RCMP is actively looking for a replacement.

### **Board adopts their 2018-19 meeting schedule**

Visit our [Board Meeting page](#) to find out when and where board meetings will take place during the next school year. Board meetings are held at our regional office in Barrhead and at our schools on a rotating schedule.

### **ADLC teacher calendar changes**

Starting 2018-19, ADLC teachers will begin their school year the same time as PHPS community school teachers and they will have the same spring break as the rest of the division. However, ADLC teachers will have a 3-week Christmas break, and will finish their year the first week of July. Teachers will be available to students in the summer months if their schools support the service.

### **Board withdraws membership from PSBAA**

The board passed a motion to withdraw its membership from the Public School Boards’ Association of Alberta (PSBAA) effective December 31, 2018. In their discussion, the board indicated support for priorities that focus on the importance of local autonomy and the role of locally elected school boards.

The board spent approximately \$16,000 per year on membership fees and \$33,000 per year attending PSBAA events and meetings.

### **Cost of living increase awarded to non-union support staff**

There will be a 2% cost of living adjustment (COLA) applied to non-union support staff salaries and hourly rates effective September 1, 2018. The rationale for the COLA is that it has been 3 years since a cost of living adjustment has been applied to non-union staff salaries. Although funding rates have not increased, the board recognizes that costs have increased. The 2% increase strikes a balance between fiscal responsibility and ensuring fair compensation to our staff.

The 2% cost of living increase will also be given to all CUPE employees, as per the previously ratified CUPE Collective Agreement.

## MINUTES

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Neerlandia Christian Education Society  
Monday, June 25, 2018 @ 9:00pm

Present: Charlene Nanninga, Janice Wierenga, Steve DeVries, Annemiek Elzinga, Amanda Batty, Brett Seatter (new Principal), Lisa Gehring (outgoing Principal), Lee Anne Schmidt, Randy Strydhorst,  
Absent: Adam Crabbe

### 1. Call to Order

### 2. Adopt Agenda

**3. Review and Approve Minutes**—May 28, 2018—Add Randy to members attending, spell Brett's last name correctly. Minutes approved with changes.

### 4. Business from Minutes

- a. PHSSAM—Everyone felt it was a great day. Amanda will update changes.
- b. Transportation Fees—Charlene reports getting more receipts to reimburse for families. Lisa and Annemiek contacting people regarding paying bussing fees and getting reimbursement.
  - i. Special Agreements—1 family paid back fees. 1 family partially paid back. One not paid back at all. Steve reports that this family in school has genuine financial concerns, has turmoil regarding family situation. Discussed what our options are regarding this family. Some people felt since they had broken contract that was a concern. Discussed options about getting funding to support this family attending our school. Determined we could write a letter to see if sponsors would come forward to support this family. Total cost is \$1125 less our reimbursement. Randy motions we commit to support this family for another year. Motion is seconded. Motion is carried. **ACTION—Steve** will contact.
  - c. Bill 24 Information Letter—Steve reads letter he drafted for parents using Adam's draft. Board happy with same. **ACTION—Annemiek** will help with getting envelopes ready for mailing.

### 5. Reports

- a. Financial—Randy reports budget hasn't changed that much since last month, trees that were purchased are not included. A few other incidentals have also not yet been recorded.
- b. Preschool—No report as preschool is done for the year. There are 21 students registered, so two classes will be held.
- c. Outdoor Classroom—Annemiek reports that trees are in. Benches will be installed in concrete this week. A few benches are to go into the ground. Annemiek will discuss with maintenance.

### 6. New Business

- a. 2018/2019 School Year

i. New Board Members—**ACTION-Steve** will contact Sherri Strydhorst.  
**ACTION-Amanda** will contact Matt and Amy Driessen. Alternate suggestion—Natasha Wierenga

ii. AGM—November 5th—Tentative Date

iii. Board Governance Meeting—Steve has not yet heard back from Gayle of PCCE

iv. Welcoming Committee—**ACTION—Charlene and Lee Anne** volunteered to contact all the new families entering kindergarten and the school.

**7. Correspondence**—Bills and cheques given to Randy and Charlene.

**8. Closing**—Lee Anne Schmidt

**9. Adjournment**

**Next Meeting—August 27, 2018 @7:30pm**

**Devotions—Randy Strydhorst**

**Closing—Steve DeVries.**