



GOD'S STORY YOUR STORY

Neerlandia *Eagle Express* Newsletter February, 2019

Using God's Gifts

Romans 12 (excerpts)

“In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well.

If your gift is serving others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, teach well. If your gift is to encourage others, be encouraging. If it is giving, give generously. If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously. And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others, do it gladly. Never be lazy, but work hard and serve the Lord enthusiastically.”

We thought it would be good to provide an update of the services that our school has to offer. We don't just see it as services we offer, but more of a way we're utilizing the God-given gifts and talents of the staff we have in our school, and there are many!

- Our school is a Christian school working with Bible “through-lines” in every subject. The students are immersed in Biblical thinking and living throughout the day. We begin the day with devotions and most Monday mornings the whole student body gathers in the gym for a devotional assembly. Each grade also has two additional Bible classes each week.
- Our staff members are devoted Christians who believe that truth is found in God's word. They attend Christian teachers' conventions yearly which helps support their teachings in the classrooms.
- We have program assistants working in various classrooms (according to need) to provide special educational services for students who require them.
- We have Speech Language Pathology (SLP) services along with an SLP Assistant from Alberta Health Services for the students who require this support. Currently we have on staff an amazing PA who gives speech assistance daily to these students.

- This is perhaps the best model available - a Program Assistant providing daily speech support to students beyond the weekly SLP assistant visits.
- We have regular visits and support from a very experienced and reliable Occupational Therapist (OT) for students with sensory, fine motor, gross motor, and visual perceptual needs, to name a few.
- Pembina Hills' has an Inclusive Education Specialist assigned to work at our school and provides extensive resources, strategies, and supports for a variety of students. Her skill and expertise help ensure we are using best practice with all of our students to achieve at the highest level.
- We are utilizing Mrs. Sybesma's reading expertise to work with distinct groups of students who benefit from various specialized reading interventions. These reading interventions are above and beyond the regular classroom reading instruction.
- We have many CTF and options courses available throughout the year as well: Home Ec (Foods), Art, Outdoor Ed, Robotics, Electronics, and a fantastic Band program. We are always looking to utilize the talents and passions of the teachers on staff to provide a variety of CTF and Options courses that meet the students' needs and interests.
- Our students are able to go on many educational Field Trips.
- Our fabulous sports program includes volleyball, basketball, badminton, running team, cross country and soccer.

As principal, I am extremely thankful to God for the staff He has put in place in this building to have such a wide range of skills and talents that we can use to serve each and every one of our students and glorify Him in all we do.

Brett Seatter

School Wide News:

Progress reports will be sent home with students on **Thurs., March 7.**

The following week there will be **Parent Meetings** during the evening of Mar. 14 and during the morning of Mar. 15.

More information will be sent home later this month.

Staff Announcement

We want to welcome Hannah Raju as a student teacher over the next couple of months. She will start on Feb. 11. She will be working with Jr. High students and teachers. We will also be having Rhonda Loewen join our Grade One class as a student teacher in March. Both of these girls are former students of NPCS. Welcome!

Upcoming Events

Winter Walk Day & Snow Fun was planned for **Wednesday, February 6th**. However, due to the forecast for extreme cold temperatures these events **will be postponed** to another suitable day (TBA)

Students - remember to dress appropriately for weather conditions (ski pants, gloves, toques) when this does happen.



Show your support for Pink Shirt Day

Anti-bullying PINK SHIRT DAY

We encourage all students to wear pink on Wed., Feb. 27 to support anti-bullying in our school and community.

SKIING -JR HIGH



Gr. 9 Jasper Ski trip is scheduled for Feb. 12 – 14, 2019. Please make sure all forms and fees are in beforehand.

Mr. Gelderman & Mr. T. Wierenga will be accompanying the students on this trip.

Sports

BASKETBALL:

Jr. High girls practice:

Mondays: 4:50 – 6:00 pm

Wed.: 3:50 – 5:30 pm

Jr. High Boys practice:

Tuesdays: 3:50 – 5:30 pm

Thursdays: 4:50– 6:00 pm



There are a few Jr. High tournaments scheduled for Feb.
Gr. 8/9 Basketball Tournament at BCH on Wed., Feb. 20 (all day event)

Gr. 7/8 Basketball Tournament at Westlock Spirit Centre on Mon., Feb. 25 (all day event)

Gr. 8/9 - Mayerthorpe tournament on Feb. 22 & 23.

(Zone playoffs are scheduled for Mar. 1 & 2 – not sure which teams will play yet)

Elementary Basketball (Gr. 4-6) will continue throughout the months of Feb. & March.

The emphasis is on getting some exercise and having fun, while at the same time learning and practicing basketball skills.

We will be participating in an **Elementary Basketball tournament** to be held at the **Westlock Spirit Centre** on **Thurs., Feb. 28** (all day event, 8:30 - 5:00). Field trip forms and information will go home with participants a week or so prior to this event.

FUNDRAISERS



Our Gr. 7 class will be offering hot dogs on Thurs., Feb. 21. The order forms will be going home on Monday, Feb. 11 and need to be returned no later than Tues., Feb. 19. This is to raise funds for the Jasper Ski Trip (May 28-May 30).

Gr. 9 class will be selling Little Caesar Pizza Kits over the next month or so. Please support this fundraiser for their graduation.

PARENT COUNCIL/NCES NEWS

- The NCES Fundraiser will be held **Friday, March 8th** at the Neerlandia CRC. This year's theme is "Building His Kingdom", and we are raising funds for playground equipment, wood working tools and bussing. The evening will feature a wonderful dinner, professional entertainment with Sharon Widdup, and silent/live auctions. We are still looking for silent/live auction donations, please contact any NCES member.
- For tickets, please contact Charlene Nanninga at 780-674-5732. **Tickets cost \$45 per person.** We look forward to an evening of fellowship and fundraising in support of our school.
- The NCES is looking into the feasibility of running a before and after school care program out of the Neerlandia Public Christian School for kindergarten to age 12 students. An **electronic survey** was circulated to all families. If you have not had a chance to respond, you can complete the survey at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7GSJDDS>. The survey takes approximately 2 minutes to complete. **Please submit your responses by February 7.** If you have any questions, please contact, Sheri Strydhorst, at sheri.strydhorst@gmail.com or 780-674-2167. We would greatly appreciate you taking the time to complete this short survey so we can determine interest in this possible program.
- Submitted by Sheri Strydhorst, Chairperson

School Board News

Nominate a Student for a Citizenship Award!

The school board's mission is to deliver an excellent education to our students so they become ethical and responsible citizens. The board therefore recognizes students who make positive contributions to their school and community.

We are looking for citizenship award nominations of deserving K-12 students. There are no limits to the number of awards that can be given, and the nomination process is ongoing throughout the school year! A student can be nominated by a staff member, community member, or other student.

Here's how you can nominate a K-12 student for an award - online or by printed copy:

1. Go to www.phpschools.ca

2. Click on the *Schools & Programs* tab and you will see *Student Citizenship Awards* listed third on the drop-down menu
3. Click on the page and it will provide you with the criteria, process and nomination form

There is also further information about the annual Gr. 12 awards (by application) on the page.

Follow me on Facebook or Twitter. Check out the 'Board News' in the Barrhead Leader!
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 780-284-0971 C

LIBRARY NEWS

FEBRUARY LIBRARY HOURS

Monday-Thursday
 9:00AM-4:30PM
 Wednesday Evenings
 7:00PM-9:00PM
 All-Day Friday, Feb. 22
 9:00AM-4:30PM

Library **Closed** Monday,
 Feb. 18 for Family Day
 Holiday

Note***We are open Thursday, February 7 from 9:00AM-4:30PM (Teacher's Convention Day)



Rhyme Time began last week and will run for 7 more weeks.
 Wednesdays, 10:15-11:00AM

Lego Competition 2019

Thank you to all who participated in our Lego contest! We had 21 entries.



Winners were:

Family-The Brendzan Family
6 yrs. and under- Morgan Wiart
7-9yrs - Alexa Van Beek
10-13 yrs. - Austin Fisher

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Feb. 5 – Jr. High Basketball trip to Fort & Swan Hills –
CANCELLED due to cold weather
- Feb. 6 – Winter Walk & Snow Fun – postponed due to cold
weather (we will announce another day)
- Feb. 7 & 8: Teachers' Convention (no classes)
- Feb. 12 - 14: Gr. 9 Jasper Ski Trip
- Feb. 15: Alternate Day, no classes
- Feb. 18: Family Day holiday
- Feb. 20: Basketball Tourn. at BCH (8/9)
- Running team (eliminations), leave at 1:30 pm
- Feb. 21 – Gr. 7 Hotdog Sale
- Feb. 22/23: Basketball Tourn. (8/9) in Mayerthorpe
- Feb. 25 – Basketball Tourn. at Westlock (7/8)
- Feb. 27: Pink Shirt Day (Anti-Bullying)
- Early dismissal, 2:45
- Feb. 28: Elem. (gr. 4-6) Basketball Tourn. - Westlock

Upcoming in March:

Mar. 7 – progress reports to go home with students

March 8th – NCES/Parent Council Fundraiser

Mar. 14 – evening & Mar. 15 – morning