

Minutes

Neerlandia Public Christian School Council
Monday, May 17, 2021 @ 6:30PM

Virtual Google Meeting - meet.google.com/jfh-nqhe-vez

Attendance: Sheri Strydhorst, Annemiek Elzinga, Brett Seatter, Jennifer Tuininga, Amanda Batty, Laura Braucht, Katherine Nanninga, Charlene Fleming, Geraldine Wierenga

Absent (with notice): Kym Peters

1. Call to Order

2. **Devotions** – Image Reflecting (p47) – Laura

3. **Adopt Agenda-** motion to approve as circulated, all in favor

4. **Review and Approve NPCSC Minutes** – April 22, 2021- approved as circulated

5. Business from Minutes

a. May 11, 2021 – Council of School Council Meeting Overview

- i. New Curriculum – concerns. ACSC Curriculum review virtual session (May 5, 6 or 13). PHPS will not be piloting the new curriculum, (refer to Jennifer’s report). K-6 would be implemented immediately, so students would have learning gaps.

Action: We are all encouraged to read the release from PHPS ([Recommendation re: piloting draft curriculum.](#)) of why they decided not to pilot the new curriculum. At the June meeting the board will decide if they should send a letter to the Ministry of Education indicating the board’s concerns.

b. AGM – review, questions, last minute details

Action: Brett and Jennifer to send Sheri slides for the AGM.

6. Reports

a. Principal/Student Council – Brett

- i. See attached report
- ii. Teacher Assignments- see attached report. They are in the process of hiring an additional Grade 2 teacher.
- iii. New school fee for JH options/CFT – Board made a motion to approve the proposed fees. However, since the meeting, things have changed making this irrelevant. Brett will report on this at the next meeting.

b. School Trustee - Jennifer (see attached)

MISSION - The Neerlandia Public Christian School Council and Neerlandia Christian Education Society provides advisory support to the principal to further our children’s Christian education and understanding of God’s presence in all aspects of life.

VISION

1. Encourage excellence in learning, holding the Bible as the infallible Word of God.
2. Provide a strong support network of parents, guardians and community members who care about the students, staff, and school.
3. Actively participate in school life and discuss current issues pertaining to the school.

- c. ASCA. School Council Engagement Task Force - Amanda
 - i. nothing to report

7. New Business

- a. Set August meeting date - August 23, 2021 @ 6:30pm

8. Adjournment

Upcoming Meetings:

- May 25, 2021 AGM @ 6:30pm - Katherine devotions
- June 14, 2021 @ 6:30pm - Annemiek devotions
- August 23, 2021 @ 6:30pm – pancake breakfast and 1st day assembly

May 2021 Principal Report

- Have had grade 3, 6, 7, and 8 all needing to quarantine at some point since Spring Break due to students or staff being a positive case.
- Had positive cases in other grades that did not impact others as the infectious period wasn't during school time.
- This had taken up a lot of time and energy as a staff trying to work through the protocols of contacting everyone and doing everything required for AHS. The two weeks of online learning has helped this calm down.
- Online learning continues to go fairly well for the families or students that make sure they show up - they're doing well and keeping up with assignments.
- We purchased enough chromebooks to have 1-to-1 in grades 3-9 next school year and will have carts for k-2 to share.
- The following poster was made for our k-3 classrooms. This was taken from the PCCE resources:



MISSION - The Neerlandia Public Christian School Council and Neerlandia Christian Education Society provides advisory support to the principal to further our children's Christian education and understanding of God's presence in all aspects of life.

VISION

1. Encourage excellence in learning, holding the Bible as the infallible Word of God.
2. Provide a strong support network of parents, guardians and community members who care about the students, staff, and school.
3. Actively participate in school life and discuss current issues pertaining to the school.

- Staffing configurations are set for next year and are as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Support Staff Role</u>
Mrs. Rauscher	DIV 1
Mrs. C. Nanninga	Grade 3 every morning and two afternoons
Mrs. L. Seatter	Grades 4-9 & some speech assistant
Mrs. M. Strydhorst	Kindergarten mornings & Gr 3 afternoons
Mrs. Tuininga	Speech assistant
Mrs. Elzinga	Full-time Kindergarten
Mrs. Visser	Library
Mrs. Gelderman	Library
Mrs. Fisher	Admin assistant

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Teacher</u>
Kindergarten	Mrs. Olthuis
Kindergarten	Mrs. Wierenga
1	Miss Loewen (temp for Mrs. Rentz)
1	Mrs. Henschel
2	Mrs. L. Strydhorst
2	Temp for Mrs. Mast
3	Mr. Enns and Mrs. Lee
4	Mrs. Sybesma
5	Mr. B. Wierenga
5 & JH	Mrs. Smith

MISSION - The Neerlandia Public Christian School Council and Neerlandia Christian Education Society provides advisory support to the principal to further our children's Christian education and understanding of God's presence in all aspects of life.

VISION

1. Encourage excellence in learning, holding the Bible as the infallible Word of God.
2. Provide a strong support network of parents, guardians and community members who care about the students, staff, and school.
3. Actively participate in school life and discuss current issues pertaining to the school.

6 & JH	Mrs. De Waal
JH & 6	Mrs. Wruk
JH	Mr. Gelderman
JH	Mr. T. Wierenga
Inclusive Ed	Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Henschel
Music/Band	Mrs. Ferster
Principal	Mr. Seatter

MISSION - The Neerlandia Public Christian School Council and Neerlandia Christian Education Society provides advisory support to the principal to further our children's Christian education and understanding of God's presence in all aspects of life.

VISION

1. Encourage excellence in learning, holding the Bible as the infallible Word of God.
2. Provide a strong support network of parents, guardians and community members who care about the students, staff, and school.
3. Actively participate in school life and discuss current issues pertaining to the school.

School Council Trustee Report - May 17, 2021

Pembina Hills will not pilot draft K-6 curriculum

The board passed a motion to approve the recommendation by senior administration that Pembina Hills NOT participate in piloting any part of the draft K-6 curriculum. The recommendation was developed following a very informative process of gathering feedback with teachers, and considering how spending energy, resources and time on a piloting process would impact our students and teachers.

Key reasons for the decision include:

1. Impact on Education Plan Priorities
2. Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on student achievement
3. Teacher well-being
4. Logistics of piloting
5. Issues with the Draft Curriculum

Read more about the review process and reasons for the recommendation in the news article: [Recommendation re: piloting draft curriculum.](#)

Satisfaction rates achieve 10-year high: Survey results

Assistant Superintendent of Education Services, Mark Thiesen presented the 2021 Pembina Hills Satisfaction Survey Summary to the Board of Trustees. Each year, the school division surveys parents, staff and students in Grades 4-12 on their satisfaction level in a variety of areas. The results are used by schools and the division to develop their annual education plans and find ways to improve the educational experience of students. Individual school results can be found in the "Performance Measures" document found under "Our School" → Assurance Reporting, on each school's website.

The data is collected and organized into four themes. The overall satisfaction rate for each theme shows significant improvement, with all areas achieving their highest rating in 10 years:

1. Safe and Welcoming Learning Environment – 91.3%
Even though COVID-19 threatened our health and safety, the survey questions in this theme have progressed positively.
2. Satisfaction with Leadership – 87.3%
After several years of slight decline, satisfaction has improved significantly over the last three years.
3. Instruction, Assessment and Inclusion – 92.3%
Despite the downward pull of this year's reduced satisfaction with extracurricular opportunities, this theme continues to progress in a positive direction mostly on the strength of increased student satisfaction with other related elements.
4. Overall Quality of Education – 96%
All groups surveyed continue to convey very high levels of satisfaction with the overall quality of education in Pembina Hills.

[Read the full summary of the Satisfaction Survey results here.](#)

MISSION - The Neerlandia Public Christian School Council and Neerlandia Christian Education Society provides advisory support to the principal to further our children's Christian education and understanding of God's presence in all aspects of life.

VISION

1. Encourage excellence in learning, holding the Bible as the infallible Word of God.
2. Provide a strong support network of parents, guardians and community members who care about the students, staff, and school.
3. Actively participate in school life and discuss current issues pertaining to the school.

Superintendent Hiring Process

As you are aware, Superintendent David Garbutt is retiring, and the Board is recruiting for a new superintendent.

Thank you to those of you who participated in the *Superintendent Recruitment Survey*. The board received a total of 165 responses from senior and school administration, staff and parents. The responses were used to help the board prepare an ideal candidate profile.

- The top qualities identified in the surveys were that the candidate should be **honest / trustworthy** and exhibit **integrity**.
- The top skills that the candidate should have are excellent **communication** skills and strong **leadership** ability.

The [ad and ideal candidate profile](#) will be open until May 21st. It has been posted on the PHSD website and advertised across the country. The shortlisting of candidates will occur on June 3rd, and interviews will be held June 16 and 17th. The Board will have a new Superintendent in place by mid August, depending on their availability.

Bus Speed Limits

The *Student Transportation Task Force Report* was recently released and Recommendation No. 6 stated that: "Alberta Education work with Alberta Transportation to explore changing the current 90-kilometre-per-hour maximum speed limit for school buses to allow school buses to travel the posted speed limit."

Although we were excited to see our joint advocacy come to fruition there is to be another working group struck to research the recommendations, and their work will not be completed until September 2022.

Trustee Elections

The Pembina Hills school board will be made up of six trustees following the October 18, 2021 elections. Candidates are needed! It is a rewarding way to be involved in your community and contribute to the education of our students.

Visit the [Election 2021 page](#) on our website for more information including:

- [Candidate package](#)
- [Electoral ward map](#)
- Electoral ward descriptions
- Trustee handbook

Nomination packages can be picked up at Regional Office at 5310 – 49 Street in Barrhead.

Report submitted by Jennifer Tuininga, Board Chair
Follow me on Facebook or Twitter, www.pembinahills.ca
Jennifer.Tuininga@pembinahills.ca 780-674-6579 H 780-284-0971 C

MISSION - The Neerlandia Public Christian School Council and Neerlandia Christian Education Society provides advisory support to the principal to further our children's Christian education and understanding of God's presence in all aspects of life.

VISION

1. Encourage excellence in learning, holding the Bible as the infallible Word of God.
2. Provide a strong support network of parents, guardians and community members who care about the students, staff, and school.
3. Actively participate in school life and discuss current issues pertaining to the school.

MISSION - The Neerlandia Public Christian School Council and Neerlandia Christian Education Society provides advisory support to the principal to further our children's Christian education and understanding of God's presence in all aspects of life.

VISION

1. Encourage excellence in learning, holding the Bible as the infallible Word of God.
2. Provide a strong support network of parents, guardians and community members who care about the students, staff, and school.
3. Actively participate in school life and discuss current issues pertaining to the school.