



Principal's Message

At the end of April, we celebrated Christian Education week here at NPCS. Our grade 8s plan to complete their portion of the project sometime this week as they're now back in school. Later this week I will send a link for parents to view some videos we made to celebrate our unique Christian learning as each grade highlighted a Through line of focus. I would like to thank the staff for their leadership and cooperation in making this work during unique circumstances this year. For those of you who came to the school last week, hopefully you enjoyed our sidewalk that was decorated with the Throughlines as the kids had a lot of fun putting this together.

We have a prayer request as we have recently learned that Pembina Hills will be getting a new Superintendent by the Fall, then replacing an Assistant Superintendent next Spring. These are obviously significant changes to Pembina Hills and we pray that God puts the right people into these positions who will support the learning and educational experience of all Pembina Hills students. Pembina Hills has a long history of supporting our alternative Christian Education programming here at NPCS and it is our hope and prayer that the new Superintendent will appreciate our unique setting and continue to be a partner for years to come.

We also have a local election in the fall that will see some new school board trustees as some of the current trustees are stepping down from their positions. Again, please pray for the upcoming election and that God would put it on the hearts of the right individuals to let their name stand and run for trustee to keep this school division moving in the right direction.

Finally, we have our NCES and School Council AGM coming up at the end of May. As we seek people to fill the positions, please pray for the right people to serve

in this capacity as this is a truly important role for our school as they oversee our Christian Education programming and learning.

All of these events are opportunities for God to move people into place and allow us to continue to provide the utmost education to your children as we fulfill the mission of the school. Thanks for being an amazing community of people to work with and serve.

Brett Seatter,
Principal

Long Service Awards

Several of our teachers were presented awards on April 23. Jennifer Tuininga presented these via Google Meet.

For the 2019-2020 year

Brett Seatter	10 years
Trenton Wierenga	10 years
Kim Sybesma	10 years

*she also received an Exemplary Teacher Award – check it out on our webpage.

Dagmar Visser	15 years
---------------	----------

For the 2020-2021 year

Shirley Rauscher	25 years
Juanita Henschel	15 years
Dallas Lee	10 years
Lorna Strydhorst	15 years
Brent Wierenga	10 years

Congratulations to all recipients. We are thankful for their many years of service to our school & community.

Wear a Hat Day (support Mental Health)



Hats On! For Mental Health

Wear a **special hat to school** on Wednesday, May 5 to raise awareness of the importance of good mental health.

CLASS PICS & KINDER GRADE PICS

We are hoping to have Smart Photography come out on **Thurs., May 20th** to take class pictures. These will be taken outside, following Covid regulations, etc.

We will also take individual **Kindergarten Grad pictures**. These will be taken in the Foyer of the school. This is a Thursday so our Tues./Thurs. class will be here but we will have to ask parents of **Mon./Wed. Kindergarten class** to bring their child in for these pictures. We will set a time of **9:30 – 10:00** (approx.) for the Mon./Wed. Kindergarteners.

Bussing Forms

Just a reminder for all students that are out-of-boundaries, the F5-01B form must be **COMPLETED ONLINE ONLY** for this school year.

For **NEW families** including our **NEW KINDERGARTEN students for 2021-2022** school year – you must also complete the bus forms online. The ones that live in boundaries must complete the F7-100 Rural Transportation form and the ones that are out of boundaries need to complete the F5-01A form (need principal's signature) and F5-01B must be completed online. Instructions are on the Pembina Hills webpage and on NPCS webpage. Thanks to those that have already done this. If you need help you can call the office or call the Transportation office at 780-674-8509.

Once you have paid your transportation fees for out of boundary students, you can send receipt to our NCES and they will reimburse \$150. per student (Gr. 1-9) and \$75. for Kindergarten students. See details under the NCES NEWS.

FUNDRAISERS

SPRING PLANT FUNDRAISER:



DeHerd's Gardens Fundraiser baskets will be ready for pick up at the school outside the front entrance on

Thursday, May 6th between 2:30-4:30 pm.

At this time, the **hanging baskets and succulent boxes** will be ready. **Patio Planters will not be ready for pick up until closer to the long weekend, a pick-up date for those has yet to be determined.** If you have ordered a mixture of hanging baskets, succulent boxes, and patio planters, you will be able to pick up your hanging baskets and boxes on May 6th, but your patio planters on a separate date. Choice of colours will be decided on a first-come-first served basis. Please arrange a pick up for your order in the time available. **Please ensure that you wear a mask upon pick up and follow social-distancing rules.**

Thank you very much for your support of this fundraiser for our grade one class!

Sincerely,

Laura Mast, Renee Rentz, and Rhonda Loewen
Grade One Teachers

Neerlandia Christian Education Society (NCES) NEWS!

The NCES board met on April 26th, here are the highlights of our meeting:

- Thank you to everyone who supported our **April chicken finger hot lunch!!** A big thanks to our parent volunteers for making this possible: Charlene Fleming, Lindsey Cowan, Laura Braucht, Nicole Wierenga, Sandra Olthuis and Ayan Ali Idris.

- Due to the chance that COVID may disrupt in-person attendance, we will be postponing the May hot lunch. We hope to resume hot lunch in June as the school year wraps up.
- **Preschool!** Our pre-school registration has been very successful. We have enough registrations to run preschool for the 2021-22 school year. We have one available spot, so if you are considering registering your child, please do so as soon as possible. You can get registration packages from kympetersphotography@gmail.com.



- We would also like to **welcome Jessica Properzi as our preschool teacher**. We are still looking for substitute teachers, so if you or someone you know is interested in being on our sub list, please apply to kympetersphotography@gmail.com.

Sincerely, the NCES preschool subcommittee: Kym Peters, Nicole Wierenga, Daniella Wierenga, Rebekah Coleman, Sally Vanlaar, and Sheri Strydhorst

- **Funding for Future Playground.** The NCES is submitting a second grant application for a grade 4-6 playground area that would include a 75ft zipline and hybrid swings. We are excited about this opportunity and hopeful that our grant application will be successful! We will learn the decision on the grant application in mid-November 2021.



- **Bussing Reimbursement for Out-of-Boundary Families.** If you are an out-of-boundary family, NCES will reimburse \$150 per grade 1-9 student and \$75 per kindergarten student. To receive this re-imbusement, once you have paid your bussing fees to PHSD, send us a copy of your receipt by scanning and emailing it to

amandabatty1@gmail.com or texting a picture of it to Amanda Batty (780-305-6118). Please **DO NOT** drop off applications at the school due to COVID.

- **SAVE THE DATE - NPCSC and NCES AGMs** will be held May 25th at 6:30pm. We will be looking for up to two board members. Prayerfully consider this opportunity to serve our school community.
- You are welcome to join our next NPCSC and NCES board meeting scheduled for May 17, 2021 @ 6:30pm.

On behalf of the 2020-21 NCES board: Sheri Strydhorst, Charlene Fleming, Annemiek Elzinga, Amanda Batty, Katherine Nanninga, Kym Peters, Laura Braucht and Geraldine Wierenga

PHSD BOARD NEWS

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

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. The full summary of the Satisfaction Survey results are available [here](#).

- 96% of staff, parents and students are satisfied with the overall quality of education in Pembina Hills

Please contact me if you are interested in running for school trustee in the October 18, 2021 elections!

LIBRARY NEWS

MAY LIBRARY HOURS

Monday-Thursday

9:00AM-4:30PM

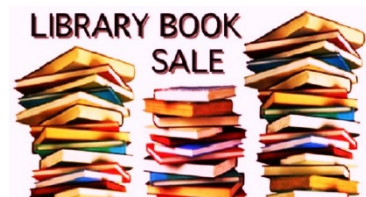
All-day Friday, May 28

9:00AM-4:30PM

Closed Monday, May 24 for Victoria Day Holiday

The Library is still CLOSED to the Public CURBSIDE PICK-UP is available.

Call the library at 780-674-5384 between 9:00AM-1:10PM to arrange a pick-up time.



USED BOOK SALE

Check out our **FACEBOOK page!** We are selling a lot of books that have been weeded from our library and will be posted here. The books range in price from .25 to \$1.00. Message us on Facebook if you would like a book. We have a lot of adult fiction and junior fiction will be coming soon.



May 5 Wear a Hat Day

May 6 Hanging baskets to arrive from De Herdt's
– pick up between 2:30 – 4:30 pm

May 7 **Alternate Day, no classes**

May 14 deadline for Mom's Pantry orders

May 14 **Alternate Day, no classes**

May 17 @ 6:30: NPCSC/NCES board meeting

May 20 Class pics & Kindergarten Grad pics

May 21 **Alternate Day, no classes**

May 24 **Victoria Day holiday**

May 25, 6:30 pm

- NPCSC/NCES Annual General Mtg.

May 27 – Mom's Pantry delivery date