



Neerlandia Eagle Express Newsletter January 2023

Principal's Message

This will be a bit of a different topic this month. When I first came to Neerlandia I couldn't wait to order some school clothing as I love the maroon colours for our sports teams and I didn't have any athletic clothing from my previous school. The one thing I couldn't help but notice when I ordered my new NPCS hoodie, was it didn't have a logo.



Although our website had this school logo representing our Christian program it didn't have an Eagle logo. None of our volleyball or basketball jerseys had a logo - it was always "NPCS Eagles" or "Neerlandia" or "Eagles", but no actual logo for an eagle.

As we've ordered new uniforms over the past few years, we were always asked by the company if we had a logo, which we had to say "no" to. Then when we purchased the bus, we needed to put decals on the side, so we finally picked an Eagle from a design website and had this turned into the decals, using this logo:



The only thing about this logo is it doesn't say "Neerlandia" or "NPCS" anywhere, so it doesn't truly identify who we are. It wouldn't work as a logo solely on it's own.

With our switch to an online store for school clothing, we needed some sort of logo that would represent our school for the different clothing options. Mrs. Fisher brought up that way back in the day (a few decades ago) there was a logo on the wall of the old school and she knew there was a picture of it on our school history display. It is this (apologies for the poor quality of photo):



It's a pretty neat logo with that retro feel that is popular in sports clothing these days. So we sent a picture of this, along with the bus logo, and asked if their designers could come up with something that blended the two

together.

They surprised us and made a split of the two, which was kind of unique, but also not what we were expecting.

They look like this:



I met with many of the coaches and Art teachers in the school to get their opinions and insight and we agreed this was a nice start to the process. Although many liked the look of these (I in particular was quite fond of the "N" logo), it still didn't fully capture the old retro logo. We requested they do one more logo, which they then came up with the final look of this:



So that's the explanation of how we got to where we are today with the new logo, which is a tip of the hat to the old logo and the history of our school. There are many options available on our online store for purchasing school clothing and merchandise. With the different options and colours made available, hopefully everyone is able to find at least something that they like and can purchase to wear our school colours and logo with some pride.

*Note: for the first order we have a **deadline of January 16** so please take a look very soon if you would like to place an order. (we will offer again later this year and in beginning of the next school year).

Go online to <https://neerlandia22.itemorder.com/> to place your order.

Happy New Year everyone!
Brett Seatter, Principal

All School News

We want to once again thank **our Janitors** for the great job of keeping our school clean & safe, inside & out. Everything looked sparkling clean again when we came back from our Christmas Break.

We are so thankful that we have dedicated people to do this job!

We also want to thank everyone for their donations that were made at the Christmas concert. The **Barrhead Victim Services** received **\$712.00**. THANK YOU!

Pembina Hills School Division Annual Satisfaction Surveys

Annual Satisfaction Surveys

In February, parents will be invited to participate in the Annual Satisfaction Survey. The link will be provided to take you directly to the survey.

How long will it take?

- We know it takes time to participate in surveys, and time is precious.
- The questions are brief and use rating scales to make them quicker to answer.
- We estimate that it will take 5 to 10 minutes.

Will I be able to comment?

- There are opportunities for you to provide written feedback at the end of the survey.

How do I participate?

- Click or tap the link in the message you receive. It will take you directly to the survey.
- You can respond to the survey using a desktop computer, laptop or mobile device.

Are my responses anonymous?

- Your email address will be collected and connected to your responses.
- Collecting the address eliminates the chance of duplicate responses and enables us to trace issues that might arise in the completion of the survey.
- Comments are reviewed by administration and considered during the planning process.
- No comments are reported publicly.

I have more than one child in this school. Will I get an email like this for each one?

If you have several children in a single school:

- You *should* just get one message.

We have tried to minimize duplicates but given the complexity of families, and because we rely on the information that schools have on file, you **might** get more than one message for this school.

IF that happens, you only need to respond one time. We apologize in advance for the extra messages.

How do I respond if I have several children in a single school:

- Please respond to the questions while thinking about the overall experiences of your children in that school.

I have children in another school too. Will I get a survey for that school too?

- If you have children in more than one school, you can respond to a survey for each school.
- Each message has a link to the survey connected to that specific school.
- Please respond to the questions while thinking about the children in that specific school.

What if the survey doesn't have questions related to my concerns?

- If you have comments or wish to discuss something that has not appeared in this survey, please contact your school principal directly.

What if I haven't been contacted to do the survey?

- If you haven't received a message by February 3, you can contact Debbie Westman at debbie.westman@pembinahills.ca

What does Pembina Hills do with the surveys?

- Regional office administrative staff, school administrators, teachers and trustees review the survey data.
 - Comments are read by administration only. No comments will be shared publicly.
- School data is reported in the school's education plan.
- The data from all of the schools is combined to create a division summary that will be reported at a public Board meeting. The compiled data is also recorded in the Division Education Plan.

PIZZA lunch

Our Grade 7 class will be hosting a **Pizza lunch** on Thursday, January 26 for all students & staff. Pre-order forms will be going home with students on

Thursday, Jan. 12 and need to be returned no later than Thursday, Jan. 19. No late orders will be accepted as we need to pre-order these for Jan. 26.

Orders can be placed **ONLINE**, however, please make sure you use your **POWERSCHOOL account** to pay for the pizza and not the NCES etransfers as this is a school sponsored hot lunch not a Parent Council one as you are used to. Cheques (payable to NPCSC) or cash can also be used as payment method.



SPORTS TEAM JERSEY DAY

On Thurs., Jan. 26 students are encouraged to wear a jersey from their favorite sports team. This is just for fun!!!

SPORTS

Jr. High:

We will continue with our Jr. High basketball program. The games & tournament schedule will be shared with players as necessary and is posted on our NPCSC online calendar.

Elementary:

Our **Elementary Running Club** will be starting up again towards the end of January. (also Jr. High one will start in March).

Elementary Basketball will also begin at the end of January. They will have a game already in Westlock on Feb. 1.

More information and permission forms will be coming out in a couple of weeks.

Neerlandia NPCSC/NCES News

NCES needs your help!

We are **looking for donations** for our upcoming fundraiser auction (Mar. 16-18, 2023). We are looking for items, big or small, or services, such as babysitting, hosting a fun dinner, that people can bid on.

In the past, items such as baking, quilts, jam, and other talented homemade items have been popular as well. **So please support your school this way.**

Items can be dropped off at the school. Larger items should not be sent to the school. Please arrange for drop off by texting Sheri Strydhorst at 780-284-1849.

For items like baking that you are willing to donate fresh, please contact 780-284-0043 or email ncesauktion@gmail.com so they can be added to the bidding website.

NCES is hoping to raise \$35K to provide funding for our core activities over the next 2 years. These core activities include: bussing for out of bound students, Christian curriculum, Christian professional development for NPCPS teachers.

Submitted by: Amanda Batty

PHSD News

Board Approves 2023/2024 School Calendar.

Schools operating on **alternate calendars** will finalize their calendars by the end of February 2023.

Key dates for Pembina Hills 2023/24:

First Day of School - August 30th
 Fall Break - November 6-9th
 Christmas Break - December 25 - January 5th
 Teachers Convention - Feb 8th & 9th Spring
 Break - March 25th - 28th (including Good Friday March 29th & Easter Monday April 1st)

No School - Sept 4, Sept 15, Sept 29, Oct 9, Oct 20, Nov 10, Feb 2, Feb 19, March 1, March 15, April 19, May 20, June 7. Last Day of School - June 27th

Victoria Kane

Vice Chair, Trustee

Pembina Hills West Ward 1 victoria.kane@pembinahills.ca

LIBRARY NEWS

January hours

Monday-Thursday
 9:00AM-4:30PM
 Wednesday Evenings
 7:00-9:00PM
 All Day Friday January 6, 2023
 Closed January 30 for PD



BOOK CLUB will meet **January 10 at 7:30 PM** to discuss "Salt to the Sea". We will have a special guest with personal insights on the tragedy. Everyone is welcome!!

AGM will be held January 16 at 7:00 PM at the Library.



Lego-Building Competition will be held on **Thursday, January 19.**
Theme: "Wings and Things"

Registration Forms available at the library

and should be handed in by **Tuesday, January 10.**

Rhyme Time will start on **January 25** and will continue for 8 weeks. The time is 10:15 - 11:00 am each Wednesday morning.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 10 deadline for Lego registrations
January 10, 7:30 pm- Book Club meeting in Gr. 8 room
(Special guest speaker)
January 13 ***Alternate Day, no classes for students***
January 16, 6:30 pm NPCSC/NCES meeting
January 16, 7:00 pm Library AGM
January 19 Library Lego Contest
January 19 Wear your favourite Jersey Day
January 20 ***Alternate Day, no classes for students***
January 26 **Gr. 7 PIZZA LUNCH**
Wear your favourite Jersey Day
January 27 ***Teacher Day, no classes for students***
January 30, Monday: PD DAY, no classes for students
(for Sports schedule see the online Calendar)