



# NEERLANDIA EAGLE EXPRESS NEWSLETTER

August 30 2023

Proverbs 16:3, "Commit to the LORD whatever you do, and He will establish your plans."

Welcome back to another school year! As summer winds down and the harvest season begins, it is a beautiful time of year filled with hope, dreams, and many opportunities.

We are so excited to have your children attend here and are honoured to teach them in our school. We have a few new staff members and students in our school this year - we are so glad you are able to join us and learn about God's grace and creation here at NPCS.

The school has undergone some changes this year with different classroom locations for many grades of students - we trust this new configuration will ensure the school space is being used in the most efficient manner possible for class size and flow of students.

We also have several new coaches joining us this year, including some opportunities for a few more parents or community members to join our team. We appreciate the help and support this community continues to provide and we look forward to maintaining these relationships to work together to serve these students and help them grow in their education and their Christian walk.

We look forward to seeing you throughout the year.

Take care and God bless.  
Brett Seatter, Principal

## School Wide News:

\*This opening newsletter will be printed and sent home with youngest child of each family. It will also be posted on the website. For the remainder of the year there will not be print copies sent home unless specifically requested. They will be posted on the webpage:  
<https://www.neerlandiaschool.ca>

## Staffing News

We are happy to announce that we have a few new teachers for the 2023/2024 school year.

We hope that they all will feel at home and part of our school community.

Natalie Borzel- Grade One teacher (covering for Renee Rentz who is on maternity leave)

Jill Rauscher - Grade Two teacher (there will be two Grade Two classes this year, Lorna Strydhorst is the other teacher)

Kerry Vanderwekken (has returned to us) - Grade Five teacher (covering for Laura Mast's maternity leave)

Our Educational Assistants for the upcoming year are:  
Katie Blum, Annemiek Elzinga, Char Nanninga, Kym Peters, Shirley Rauscher, Lisa Seatter, Miranda Strydhorst & Nicole Wierenga. Ramona De Vries & Carmen Ewasiw will also be helping out with Early Learning students when they are here in the afternoons.

## FORMS

Each year, parents are required to complete a **Student Enrollment Verification Form** for each child. This form also includes consent and acknowledgement regarding FOIP, Technology Acceptable Use and Field Trip (Walking Distance) for the school year.

Parents will receive an automatic email from Pembina Hills (School Engage) in **early September** indicating they need to **update their child's school enrollment information** and to complete this form.

Please complete this form **as soon as possible** through the **PowerSchool Parent Portal** (select the **New Registration & Enrollment Verification** link in the bottom of the left menu). Instructions on how to complete it will also be listed in the email notification.

**Completing Consent, Other School Forms and Paying Fees Online:** Complete consent/other school forms and pay for fees online throughout the year through your **PowerSchool Parent Portal**.

Select **Payments, Consent & Transp Forms** in the left menu. See more instructions on the **PowerSchool for Parents division webpage**.

*Note: Forms and fees **cannot be accessed** through the PowerSchool App - **must be through the website**.*

## Visitors & Volunteers

### VISITORS

We would like all visitors to check in at the office before proceeding to any classroom, etc. We ask that all visitors use the front entrance. The only exception to this rule is for the Early Learning students that will be coming at 12:40 pm. We ask that they use the NE entrance closest to the Kindergarten room. There will be a check in/out sheet when these students arrive.

### VOLUNTEER FORMS

Volunteers provide assistance to the school in achieving educational objectives by providing non-educational services, e.g. playground supervision, supervision of field trips, driving, and chaperones. Volunteers are required to provide a Criminal Record Check and Intervention Record Check prior to their volunteer experience. These checks do not expire but you are responsible to let us know if anything changes.

You can get Criminal Record checks at the RCMP office on **Thursdays only** and the Intervention Record checks need to be done online. Individuals who require a completed Intervention Record Check through Children's Services are to email [CS.IRCNorthCentral@gov.ab.ca](mailto:CS.IRCNorthCentral@gov.ab.ca) to request this form. You will receive an email reply with the form to complete electronically, along with instructions.

Volunteer Forms F4-60 can be picked up from the office (or you can download from our webpage). These should be completed and handed into the homeroom teachers or the office before you can volunteer in the school.

**Driver's forms:** If you help out by driving students to extra-curricular activities such as sporting events we need a Driver's form filled out each year. The amount of liability insurance is at \$2 million so please check with your insurance company to make sure you have this coverage before filling out the driver's form.

We have copies of the 4-61 Driver's forms in the office or you can download from our webpage (Students & Parents Info Tab – permission forms)

## Room Changes

In order to better accommodate our students we have moved around most of the classrooms for the 2023-2024 school year. Kindergarten/Early learning will be in their same classroom but Gr. 1-9 have all changed. We will attach a school map to the printed newsletter so you can see the changes.

## Thanks to our Janitors!

We again say a BIG THANK YOU to Van Beeks and their crew for the great job they do in cleaning our school throughout the year and the extra cleaning that they do over the summer. Let's help keep our school looking great!

## SCHOOL MESSENGER

We will continue to use this system; **School Messenger** as it is a great communication tool. We will sometimes send messages just to certain classes/groups but in most cases it will be messages for the whole school. School Messenger is linked directly to students' parent/guardian contact information via PowerSchool. This service allows schools and the division to contact a large number of people quickly. This is especially important when we need to communicate information to you such as emergencies or important updates.

## SCHOOL CLOTHING ONLINE!!



For this school year we will be ordering our clothing (hoodies/t-shirts, etc.) using an online ordering system via Sports Factor. It will only be available a few times throughout the school year. It is open for orders right now and will close on **Sept. 17**.

Here is the link: <https://neerlandiafall23.itemorder.com/>

## SCHOOL PARKING LOT

We have several staff members this year so we will fill all the available parking spaces. We are asking **PARENTS & GUESTS** to please park in the **drive-around area** by the school or on the road and **not in the parking lot** during the school day for dropping off or picking up children. Thank You!

## SCHOOL START/END TIME

### Bell Schedule

Busses arrive: 8:10 – 8:15 am  
 Morning Warning Bell: 8:20 am  
 Classes begin: 8:25 am  
 Morning Recess: 10:10 – 10:25 am  
 Lunch Break: 11:55 – 12:10– students have time to eat  
 12:10– 12:40 - elementary students to go outside  
 Afternoon Recess: 2:10 – 2:25 pm  
 Dismissal Time: 3:40 pm  
 Busses leave at approx. 3:50 pm

## NCES/NPCSC NEWS

The NCES & NPCSC boards met on August 22. Here are the highlights of our meetings:

NCES is looking forward to celebrating the start of the school year with the return of our pancake breakfast on Friday, September 1st from 7:45-8:45am! This breakfast wraps up the first week of school. We request that parents accompany children in grades 1-3 for the pancake breakfast. Students, families and community members are welcome. We hope you can join us!

Thank you to Coutts Logging for the many years of cooking for the pancake breakfast. A big shout out to the new group of volunteers (Keith Wiart, Steve DeVries, Jo Schuurman, Nancy Schuurman, Marvin Schatz) who have signed up to cook this year!

Construction of the **playground equipment** was scheduled for early July. However, rains have filled the piling holes and prevented concrete from being poured. We are hoping for a few weeks of dry weather to complete this project and have it ready for NPCSC students early in the school year.

Watch for the 2023-24 NCES Fundraisers: BearTracks Ice Melt in October/November; Beef Jerky in late November; Bottle Drive after Christmas.

NCES will be hosting a Hot Dog and Chocolate Milk hot lunch in late October.

Since PHPS is no longer charging bussing fees, NCES no longer needs to reimburse bussing for Out-of-Boundary Families. This is a major reduction in historical NCES spending. The NCES board has allocated bussing funds to phase 3 of playground development for an accessible play area.

The start of school is a busy time of year! NCES will send out our annual membership requests in October, once everyone is back into the fall routine.

Memberships are optional and cost \$300/family or \$150 for grandparents/community members. Thank you for your years of financial support. We could not support Christian education without you!

You are welcome to join our next NPCSC & NCES board meeting scheduled for September 18, 2023 at 7pm.

On behalf of the 2022-23 NCES board: *Sheri Strydhorst (Chair), Kirstie Schatz (Incoming Chair), Charlene Fleming (Playground Liaison), Laura Braucht (Treasurer), Shawna Sotnikow (Hot Lunch Coordinator), Char Nanninga (Secretary), Diane Thiessen (Member-at-Large) and Sandra Olthuis (Community Member and PCCE Rep)*

## LIBRARY NEWS

Regular library hours begin August 30 and 31

9:00AM-4:30PM

September Library Hours

Monday-Thursday

9:00AM-4:30PM

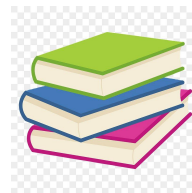
All Day Friday, September 1

9:00AM-4:30PM

Library will be closed Monday,

September 4

for Labor Day Holiday



## Chocolate Bar Fundraiser

We are very sad that we cannot sell the \$1.00 bars that have been a successful fundraiser for over 30 years. They are no longer available. The new bars are more expensive but are bigger. They will be going home with students on Thursday so watch for them coming to your door.

They will be **\$3.00 each** or **\$90 for a case of 30 bars**. Thanks in advance for your support of our major fundraiser!

**TERRY FOX RUN:**

We will be having our Terry home field trip forms (paper) forms will be available online on this annual walk.



Fox Run at 10:00 am (approx) **Thursday, Sept. 14**. We will send for this first event due to the shortness of time (other field trip in the future). Parents & community members are invited to join us



Sept. 1 - Welcome Back Breakfast (7:45 - 8:45 am)

followed by an Assembly at 9:00 am (in gym)

Sept. 4 - Labour Day holiday

Sept. 14 - Terry Fox Run

Sept. 15- Teacher Day, **no classes for students**

Sept. 20/21 – Safely on Board (bus safety Gr. K & 4, K & 1/2)

Sept. 21 - Cross Country (gr. 4-9) at Westlock Golf Course

Sept. 22 - **Alternate Day, no classes**

Sept. 27 - Jr. High Soccer tournament

**Sept. 29 - Truth & Reconciliation Day (holiday)**

**Looking ahead:**

Oct. 3 & 4 (evenings) – Parent Meetings

Oct. 17 – Student Picture Day

\* we sent home a list of important dates 2023-2024