

# Minutes

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Neerlandia Public Christian School Council

August 22, 2023 @ 7:00PM

Location: NPCSC Science Room

Attendance: Brett Seatter, Lorna Strydhorst, Victoria Kane, Kirstie Schatz, Sheri Strydhorst, Char Nanninga, Laura Braucht, Charlene Fleming, Shawna Sotnikow, Sandra Olthuis

Regrets with notice: Diane Thiessen

1. Call to Order at 7:01 pm
2. Devotions – Idolatry - Discerning – pg 59 – Charlene Fleming
3. Adopt Agenda - MSC
4. Approve NPCSC Minutes – May 15, 2023 - MSC
5. Business from Minutes
  - a. Howard’s Farewell – Learnings for future retirement celebrations? – Charlene F
    - i. Canoe and tree decorations were very personalized and meaningful
    - ii. In future, don’t advertise as an “Open House” when there is a program as some people showed up part way though the staff play.
  - b. Speakers for students
    - i. Addictions and staying off drugs – Sheri
      - NPCSC wants Mr Seatter to bring in a speaker on this topic for older elementary and Jr High students. Mrs Wruk also helps book these speakers
      - Covenant school is also interested in this topic.
      - ACTION: Sheri to email Brett and Lise a list of suggested speakers from Victoria. Invite to be extended to Covenant school
    - ii. Other topics – Sandra’s suggested speaker
      - Jonathon Van Maren <https://thebridgehead.ca/> He spoke at the Covenant school on the topic of social media addictions and pornography.
      - ACTION: Brett and Lise to look into Jonathon as a speaker for students and parents from NPCSC and extend invite to Covenant school
  - c. Long jump pit update – Brett
    - i. Pretty much done. Mr B Wierenga put in LOTs of hours
    - ii. This will require annual maintenance for weeding and tilling the sand
    - iii. Will be great when NPCSC hosts PHASSAM

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## 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. Reports

### a. Principal Report – Brett

- i. Update on teaching assignments and projected enrollment (See attached)
- ii. Terry Fox Run
  1. Discussed joint options (and busing & route challenges) with Covenant School; and accessibility of gravel routes
  2. Possible solution: Have younger kids go to Covenant and old kids come to NPCS

### b. School Trustee Report – Victoria

- Board Ratified a 4 year collective agreement with the ATA following several months of negotiations, the agreement ends August, 2024.
- Approved, In principle, an international trip for BCHS Photography Class to go to New York.
- Barrhead Band Boosters made a presentation to the board as a delegation requesting the removal of instrumental fees from our Rates Annex on Board Approved Student Fees. We determined that the rental fees and rates should be determined at school level.
- We have a new principal in Swan Hills and a new associate Principal at RF Staples.
- Everyone had a great summer and are ready to kick off another great year, looking forward to next Friday's Pancake Breakfast! I'll bring my apron!

## 7. New Business

### a. NPCS 2023-24 meeting schedule

- i. September 18, 2023 – 7pm – Discuss Christian Ed Conference
- ii. November 20, 2023 – 7pm
- iii. January 15, 2024 – 7pm
- iv. March 18, 2024 - 7pm
- v. May 13, 2024 – 7 pm – AGM Planning meeting
- vi. May 21, 2024 – 7pm – NPCS and NCEC AGM

### b. Other

## 8. Adjournment at 7:46 pm

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## August 2023 Principal Report

Staffing:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Teacher</u>
Kindergarten (M/W/F)	Mrs. Olthuis
Kindergarten (T/Th)	Mrs. K. Wierenga
1	Mrs. Henschel
1	Miss Borzel (Mrs. Rentz on leave)
2	Mrs. L. Strydhorst
2	Mrs. J Rauscher
3	Mrs. Lee and Mrs. Thompson
4	Mrs. Sybesma
5	Mrs. Vanderwekken (Mrs. Mast on leave)
6	Mrs. De Waal
JH	Mrs. Wruk
JH	Mrs. Smith
JH	Mr. B. Wierenga
JH	Mr. T. Wierenga
Music/Band	Mrs. Ferster
Principal	Mr. Seatter
Support Staff	Mrs. Fisher, Mrs. M. Strydhorst, Mrs. Seatter, Mrs. N. Wierenga, Mrs. S Rauscher, Mrs. Blum, Mrs. Visser, Mrs. Elzinga, Mrs. Nanninga, Mrs. Peters, Mrs. Gelderman

- Enrolment is expected to be right around 240 students k-9 this year.
- We have two kindergarten programs again this year, with Early Learning students joining in the afternoon. This was modeled based on what other schools in Pembina Hills have already done and should go well with the number of students in each program and the way the teachers plan and structure their day. We are happy to have the Early Learning in the school this year rather than in the church basement. Kelly Ferguson is the Early Learning principal.
- K-3 has a new Science curriculum starting this year and gr 4-6 have a new Math and Language Arts curriculum. Teachers are ready to go and will be taking ongoing training

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and PD sessions throughout the school year to support proper implementation of the curriculum.

- We flipped grades 1-3 and 4-6 to better handle the classroom sizes for the classroom space. This was done right at the end of June. Although it's quite a change, it should make for better utilization of the space in the building.
- Some of the staff have already been in and have set up their classrooms for the year. They're very much looking forward to the school year :)

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