

Lest we forget...



NEERLANDIA

EAGLE EXPRESS NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2023

Principal's Message

So far we've had an excellent start up to the school year! Our entire teaching staff attended the PCCE Christian Educators Conference in Leduc and had a great time of connecting and learning with other Christian teachers from across the province. It is my belief that this is one of the best quality PD sessions available, plus it has the rich Christian content to really support our teachers in further implementing the Christian perspectives and teaching into all of our subject areas.

With the new curriculum in elementary grades, it is a benefit to have this time to meet with other teachers and leaders to develop and implement year plans to intentionally create space for the content in all that we do.

We were also able to send some of our newer teachers to get trained in the program we all use, called Teaching for Transformation (or TfT). These learning experiences help us ensure the highest quality of education and opportunity for your children to learn and grow in our Christian school community.

We'd especially like to thank the Neerlandia Christian Education Society as well as our ATA local for their financial support to make this learning experience possible - we truly appreciate all that the NCES does to support the Christian Education in our school.

Mr. B. Seatter

Progress Reports

We will be sending home a print copy of Progress Reports with [Grade 1-9 students](#) on **Thurs., Nov. 23**. See last page of this newsletter for sample report.

All [Gr. 7-9 parents/guardians](#) have access to their child's marks, etc. at any time of the year via Power School.

Staff Update

Mrs. Laura Mast has extended her leave of absence. We hope she will enjoy this extra time with her family. That means that Mrs. Kerry Vanderwekken will complete this school year as our Grade 5 teacher. We are thankful that Mrs. Vanderwekken can fill this position.

Retake Day



Smart Photography will be here during the early morning of **Wed., Nov. 22**.

If your child attends Mon./Wed. Kindergarten classes they can have their picture taken on this day.

Early Learning (preschoolers) also have the opportunity to have their pictures taken on this date.

If someone missed picture day or want **Retakes**, please notify the office (780-674-5581) OR send an email to:

Debbie.Fisher@pembinahills.ca.

Each student will be given a picture form with their own unique code to order online – please keep this form.

All orders are done online and students have been given access codes on the first picture day. (There are discounted shipping fees up until Nov. 8, after that shipping fees will apply. Orders are shipped directly to home)

Assemblies/Events

Remembrance Day Assembly



Remembrance Day assembly will be held on **Thurs., Nov. 2**. This will take place in the gym at 10:30 am. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Poppies are available to all students – donations will be collected in each classroom.

FUNDRAISERS

Our NCES/Parent Council will be hosting a **pizza lunch** on **Thurs., Nov. 23**. Order forms will go home with youngest child of each family on **Mon., Nov. 13** and need to be returned **by Thursday, Nov. 16**.

NCES is also doing a Beef Jerky fundraiser. The cost is **\$10/75 g bag**. Payment can be cash/cheq or e-transfer to ncesboard@gmail.com (must specify what e-transfer is for (jerky) and student name) **50% of each bag** goes directly towards NCES funds.

Library will be selling **Gift Cards that need to be ordered by November 15, 2023** and cards will be here close to **November 30**.

Apple fundraiser – Thanks to everyone that purchased cases of apples. Close to **\$900**. Was raised for our Music Program. If you haven't stopped by to get your apples, please do so no later than Thursday, Nov. 2 (no school on Friday and the following week).

Neerlandia Christian Education Society (NCES) & Neerlandia Public Christian School Council (NPCSC) NEWS

The NCES board met on October 16. Here are the highlights of our meetings:

□ Construction of the playground equipment got back underway on October 11th. Trak Construction brought in 12" of fill to manage the drainage issues. The equipment is assembled and concrete has been poured. The site should be ready for students and the community to use in the very near future. A BIG thanks for everyone who has helped to make this possible including: Pembina Hills, Charlene Fleming, Government of Alberta –Community Facility Enhancement Program funding and donations from school families and community members.

□ There were 73 pails of BearTracks Ice Melt sold, raising just over \$850 for the school. A big shout-out to Aubrey Schatz who sold 17 pails of ice melt and won a Dairy Queen gift card for her efforts. An email will be sent once the time for pickup has been confirmed. We anticipate pickup being in early November. Thank you to everyone who was able to support this fundraiser.

□ Thanks to: Shawna Sotnikow, Cassy Krikke, Charlene Fleming and Joanne DeVries for running the NCES Hot Dog and Chocolate Milk hot lunch on October 25th. Our next hot lunch will be pizza on November 23rd (forms will be due in by November 16th).

□ Forms went home for the **beef jerky fundraiser** on October 25th. Forms will be due back November 23rd. Orders will arrive by December 15th and will make excellent Christmas stocking stuffers.

□ Thank you to everyone who has paid their annual NCES membership. If you would still like to submit an optional membership, the cost is \$300/family or \$150 for grandparents/community members.

Payment options:

1. Cheque – make payable to NCES, mail to address above or drop off at school
2. E-transfer – ncesboard@gmail.com – please write your name in the memo

Thank you for your years of financial support. We could not support Christian education without you!

- NCES purchased soccer balls for each elementary classroom for use during recess.
- The NCES board enjoyed a pizza supper and team building time prior to our October meeting. It was interesting to learn who prefers to bake, cook or get takeout; which PCCE Throughlines resonate with each board member; and what board members hope to achieve during their terms. It was an excellent opportunity to build community on the board.
- The board reviewed bylaws and also a list of monthly NCES activities, to make planning future meetings easier and help new board members understand the workplan for the year!
- You are welcome to join our next NPCSC and NCES board meetings are scheduled for November 20, 2023 at 7pm.

On behalf of the 2023-24 NCES board: Sheri Strydorst (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)

PHSD Board News

Public School Boards Association of Alberta Membership

For the past year, Pembina Hills has been a member of the Public School Boards Association of Alberta (PSBAA) on a trial basis. PSBAA advocates specifically for the interests of public school boards, as opposed to separate and francophone school jurisdictions, private and charter schools, etc.

At the September 20, 2023 meeting, the Board considered whether or not to remain a member for the 2024 calendar year, as well as how many, and which meetings, trustees should attend on an annual basis. The Board decided to renew its membership for 2024 and to allow all interested trustees to participate in meetings.

Board Policy Updates and Representation

Board policies set out the way that the Board operates, including how trustees represent the Board and the division. During the October 25 meeting, the Board discussed which meetings trustees attend and how they are compensated.

The Board added Tamarack Health Council to *Policy 08 Appendix A*, after Pembina Hills received an invite in 2021 to join, Trustee Schnirer was directed to apply and was accepted, for membership.

Facilities Update Report

Director of Facilities, Tracy Tyreman, presented the Board with an update on the various projects undertaken by the Facilities and Maintenance department over the past school year. Neerlandia was highlighted as completed for the playground protective surface for phase 2!

Victoria Kane

Trustee
Pembina Hills West Ward 1

victoria.kane@pembinahills.ca

St. Nick Day



We will have our St. Nick Day celebrations on Friday, Dec. 1 during the afternoon. Once we finalize all the details we will send out information via School Messenger the week after fall break.

Classroom teachers will also be sending out information for their own class.

Sports



Volleyball

Jr. High Volleyball is wrapping up for the season. All teams have played well and brought home some medals already.

Our Gr. 8/9 Boys & Girls teams will be playing in Zone finals this weekend, Nov. 3 & 4. We hope they have a great time and safe travels to Hinton.

A **BIG THANK YOU** to the coaches:

Gr. 8/9 Girls team – Emily Greilach & Steve De Vries

Gr. 8/9 Boys team – Shelley Dykstra & Vanessa Duerr

Gr. 7/8 Girls team – Amanda Smith, Shawna Sotnikow & Cheyenne Grosman

Gr. 7/8 Boys team – Natalie Kerckhof & Laura Braucht

*Special thanks to Laura Braucht, Brett Seatter, Len Seatter & Howard Gelderman for driving bus for some of our trips.

Elementary Volleyball (gr. 5/6)

Players need to complete online field trip forms and pay a fee of \$20. before they can play away games.

Practices are mostly on Mondays (Nov. 13,20 & 27) from 3:45 – 5:00 pm

Nov. 1 – Dunstable & Swan Hills here at noon.

Nov. 15 – Mini tournament at Westlock Spirit Centre

Nov. 21 - Games at Westlock Elementary (3:45 – 5:15)

Nov. 30 – Final tournament at Westlock Spirit Centre (all day)

- Bus will be provided for away games and tournaments.

Any questions, please contact the coach: Mr. Brent Wierenga

stocking stuffers, birthday presents. Thanks for your support!

New this year-- we are able to take e-transfer for this at neerlandialibrary@gmail.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Nov. 1 – Elementary volleyball games here at noon

Nov. 3 & 4 – Gr. 8/9 Volleyball Zones in Hinton

Nov. 3- **Alternate Day, no classes**

Nov. 6 – 10: Fall Break (no classes)

Nov. 13 – NCES Pizza lunch order forms to go home

Nov. 14 – Science in Motion Robotics event – at NPCSC
(please return permission forms that were sent home with students by Nov. 13)

Nov. 15 – deadline for Library gift card orders

Nov. 15 – Elem Volleyball Mini-tournament at Westlock

Nov. 16 – Pizza orders to be returned to school.

Nov. 20 – NCES/NPCSC. meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Nov. 22 – Wacky Socks Day

Nov. 22 – Retake Pictures (starts 8:30 am until done)

Mon/Wed. Kindergarten & Preschool students included

Nov. 23 – NCES Pizza lunch (must be pre-ordered)

Nov. 23 – deadline for Beef Jerky Orders
(delivery date: Dec. 15)

Nov. 17 – **Alternate Day, no classes**

Nov. 22 - deadline for Remembrance Day posters/poems

Nov. 23 – Elem. Volleyball in Barrhead (3:00 – 5:00)

Nov. 23 – Progress reports to go home with Gr. 1-9

Nov. 24 - **Alternate Day, no classes**

Nov. 30 – Elementary Volleyball tournament at Westlock Spirit Centre

Nov. 30 – Library gift cards to arrive

Dec. 1 – St. Nick Day (PM)

Looking ahead: NPCSC Christmas Concert – Wed., Dec. 20 at 7:00 pm at the Neerlandia Christian Reformed Church sanctuary.

NEERLANDIA LIBRARY NEWS

November Library Hours

Monday-Thursday

9:00AM-4:30PM

**Note-Library Closed for Fall Break November 3-12.

Library will be open 1 day during the break on

Thursday, November 9 9:00AM-4:30PM

Rhyme Time- Rhyme time started Wednesday, October 18. It will run every

Wednesday (EXCEPT November 8 th) until December 13th. The program is designed for 3 year olds but everyone is welcome. It runs from 10:15 - 11:00 AM. No pre-registration is necessary.


Gift Card Fundraiser Order Forms are available at the library.

Place your gift card order by **November 15, 2023** and the cards should be back here by November 30th. Gift cards make great Christmas gift,





Our school's progress reports will be sent home on November 24th.

Achievement Indicator Legend	Growth as a learner	Nov	Mar	Jun
<p>Emerging (Em): The student has not yet demonstrated achievement of the identified Learning Outcomes (LOs). Evidence reveals the student's level of knowledge, understanding and skills are at an introductory level. The student's path to achievement of identified LOs is at risk. Intervention is necessary.</p> <p>Beginning (B): The student has begun to demonstrate achievement of the identified LOs. Evidence reveals the student's partial competency with knowledge, understanding and skills. The student's path to achievement of identified LOs may be at risk. Intervention is recommended.</p> <p>Developing (D): The student has acquired competency with the identified LOs. Evidence reveals the student's basic competency with knowledge, understanding and skills. The student's path to achievement of identified LOs is satisfactory.</p> <p>Mastering (M): The student has applied mastery of the identified LOs. Evidence reveals the student's proficiency with knowledge, understanding and skills. The student's path to achievement of identified LOs is well developed.</p> <p>Extending (Ex): The student has integrated and made complex connections with the knowledge and skills related to identified LOs. Evidence reveals the student's ability to transfer the knowledge, understanding and skills in multiple and/or novel contexts. The student's path to achievement of identified LOs is advanced.</p> <p>ISP: This outcome is assessed using the Instructional Support Plan. NA: Not assessed.</p>	Demonstrates a positive attitude			
	Contributes to class discussions			
	Demonstrates respect for others			
	Works well with peers			
	Makes appropriate use of class time			
	Completes homework and assignments			

 Some outcomes may not have been introduced or assessed in this reporting period. These outcomes contain the "NA - Not Assessed" indicator.

Mathematics

Outcomes:	Nov	Mar	Jun
By year end: Students interpret place value within 100 000.			
By year end: Students apply strategies for addition and subtraction within 1000.			
By year end: Students analyze and apply strategies for multiplication and division within 100.			
By year end: Students interpret fractions in relation to one whole.			
By year end: Students illustrate equality with equations.			
By year end: Students relate geometric properties to shape.			
By year end: Students determine length using standard units.			
By year end: Students interpret angles.			
By year end: Students analyze patterns in numerical sequence.			
By year end: Students tell time using clocks.			
By year end: Students interpret and explain representations of data.			

 Listed outcomes are *by year end*. Your child's teacher is providing a snapshot of your child's understanding for each outcome to date. Some outcomes are stretched throughout the year and may not have been fully covered at this point. A "beginning" or "developing" indicator at this point reflects your child's learning along a path that will continue through June. Individual comments will provide further insight into your child's areas of strength and identify next steps for learning.

If you have any questions, please reach out to your child's teacher.