



EAGLE EXPRESS
NEWSLETTER
JUNE 2024

Principal's Message

Dear NPCS community,

With this being my last principal message at NPCS, it feels a little bit like I'm saying goodbye even though there are still four weeks to go. This school is amazing because of the staff, students, and parents/community members. The relationships I've formed with the people here have been more than I could have asked for.

It is my prayer that the parents and community members of NPCS will always remember this is truly one of the best schools a person can send their children to - I truly mean that. The staff here are talented, hardworking, and they care about each and every one of the children they teach. Every teacher has their own style and their own way of living out their faith in the classroom, but as the children go through all of the grades with all of the teachers, they are exposed to a wide variety of really strong, Christian, God-focused teachers who only want what's best for your child.

The support staff (EAs, Librarians, Office Admin Assistant) in this school are some of the most caring, diligent, and dedicated support staff you will ever meet. They show up every day looking to serve the teachers and students they work with and they constantly go above and beyond to make the experience unique for the students they work with. The hardest part about leaving will be leaving such an amazing group of people.

The part that brings comfort in leaving at this time is knowing that the school is in good hands run by such an all-star team of staff. NPCS will continue to thrive and be a place where God's work will continue.

Thank you for everything - my family and I will cherish the years spent here at NPCS.

Blessings,

Brett Seatter

2024/2025	Staffing Assignments
Grade	Teacher
Kindergarten	Mrs. Olthuis
1	Mrs. Henschel
2	Mrs. L. Strydhorst
2	Mrs. J. Rauscher
3	Mrs. K. Wierenga
3	Mrs. Thompson
4	Mrs. Sybesma
5 General	Sept. – Mrs. Kerkhof Jan./2025 - Mrs. Rentz
5 Math	Mrs. Lee
6	Mrs. De Waal

7	Mrs. Wruk
8	Mr. B. Wierenga
9	Mr. T. Wierenga
Music	Mrs. Ferster
JH and Inclusive Ed Coordinator	Mrs. Smith
Principal	Mr. Raju

Educational Assistants/Support Staff (2024-2025)

Mrs. Ramona De Vries
Mrs. Shirley Rauscher
Mrs. Lisa Seatter
Mrs. Kym Peters
Mrs. Annemiek Elzinga
Mrs. Char Nanninga
Mrs. Katie Blum
Mrs. D. Visser/Mrs. B. Gelderman
Library Assistants
Mrs. Nicole Wierenga – Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Carmen Ewasik - EL

Staff Farewells

As you are already aware, Mr. Seatter will be going to RF Staples as principal. We also have Mrs. Miranda Strydhorst resigning. We wish her well in her new

endeavours. We appreciated all she did as staff member and volunteer coach, committee member, etc. We will truly miss her. Kerry Vanderwekken, our Grade 5 teacher will also be a Grade 2 teacher at Westlock Elementary School for the upcoming school year. We wish her well and also want to say a big thank you for all the extra things she did including coaching elementary Soccer, etc. All the best in your future endeavours.

Just a few words about Mr. Seatter: When I put in my resignation letter a couple of months ago I had no idea that Mr. Seatter would also be transferred out of our school. I just want to say what a privilege it has been working alongside of him. He has been a great leader for our school. I wish him all the best in his new position as Principal of RF Staples School in Westlock. One thing he might miss is Mrs. Fisher nagging (reminding) him to write his Principal’s message, perhaps RF doesn’t even make the principal write in the monthly newsletters!!

Yes, and this will be the last newsletter that Mrs. Fisher will be writing. It is with mixed emotions that I leave this wonderful school. The reason I stayed for 37 years was because of the wonderful students, parents, community members and of course, the great staff. The staff have become like family members and I will for surely miss them. As Mr. Seatter wrote; we know that the school will be in good hands with the new administration; Mr. Raju as principal and Mrs. Nicole Wierenga as the Admin. Assistant. I also pray that God will continue to bless this wonderful school!

Debbie Fisher

School Supply Lists 2024-2025

School Start supply lists will be sent home with report cards. This is not a mandatory program – we will also be sending home regular supply lists (shop on your own) with report cards. These lists will also be posted on the NPC’s webpage by the end of June. List of possible school fees will also be posted on NPC’s webpage.

NIV Adventure Bibles will be provided **free to all Grade 2** students and **new students** in Gr. 3-9. These are gifts from NCES.

Alternate Year Calendar Dates 2024-2025

We will send out a school messenger with attached document of all the Alternate Days in our 24/25 calendar. This will also be posted on webpage.

Forms & Fees 2024-2025

This year we will continue using School Engage/Power School to handle online registrations, demographic verification forms (all students) available after August 19. Please update as soon as possible as there are forms connected that we need right away in September.

Parents will need to have access to their PowerSchool Parent Portal. Parents need their User Name & password.

School Messenger: we will continue to use this system to send out important messages via email throughout the school year.

Transportation Forms

For the upcoming school year 2024-2025 they will not be accepting any paper forms, **all registrations must be done online**. You can contact Transportation Dept. for more information (780-674-8509)

Transportation forms including **F5-01B** are now available. There is no charge for NPCCS students as we are an alternative Christian program. We encourage parents to take care of this by the end of June as the sooner you register the better to ensure a seat on the bus. Instructions for registering for transportation in the upcoming school year is found on the Pembina Hills website under Transportation -> Register to Ride.

PAT & Jr. High Exam Schedule

Gr. 6 & 9 students will be writing exams over the next couple of weeks. On Tues., June 19 – Gr. 6 Soc. Studies & Thurs. June 20 – Gr. 6 Science.

Jr. High exams will be written earlier than usual because of the PAT exam schedule (see note below)

Jr. High students are expected to attend afternoon classes as most of the exams are written in the morning.

There will still be some regular classes & CTF classes taking place. We will share the Jr. High exam schedule via School messenger.

*Each year Alberta Education publishes the dates of Provincial Achievement Tests (PATs) for all students in grades 6 and 9. This year, the exams are scheduled to be **completed by June 20**. It is important for students to understand that PATs do not measure everything that they need to know, understand, and be able to do in each subject area. Teachers will be scheduling in class, year end assessments and projects that will allow students to demonstrate their learning in a variety of ways, beyond the scheduled dates for PATs.*

Class Pics & Kindergarten Grad Pics

Monday, June 10: Smart Photography will be here to take the **Class pictures** and also the **Kindergarten Grad photos** first thing in the morning. We will let the **K Grads go first** as some of them (Tues/Thurs. K Wierenga class) have to come in specifically for the Grad pics. When these orders are complete they will be mailed out directly to homes (not the school).

June Field Trips

We have several field trips coming up for the month of June. Classroom teachers will be sending home detailed notes with dates & times. All of the forms & fees will be posted online via PowerSchool. Please check regularly to ensure your child has proper forms completed & fees paid. Several of these trips will require parent volunteers. We have been informed by the RCMP if we require parents to obtain a criminal record check that they require a letter from the school requesting this. Please contact the office if you are planning on getting one. We require the Volunteer form 4-60 completed and the intervention record check and this is now done online. You need to send email to CFS.IRCNorth@gov.ab.ca to request the form. You will then complete and they will return to you and then you need to share with the office.

GRADE 9 GRADUATION CELEBRATIONS

Our Grade 9 celebrations will be happening on Friday, June 21st. See schedule below:

4:00 pm – class & family photos

5:00 pm – Meal for invited guests (parents/guests)

6:30 pm – Ceremony (open to public)

*yes, we are celebrating earlier than usual so please mark this on your calendars.

NPCSC/NCES News

PHSSAM Concession: NCES will be hosting the concession at the grade 4-6 elementary track meet on June 6. We will serve various food and snack items from the school kitchen. This will be an NCES fundraiser. We want to say a BIG thank you to all the volunteers that came in to help out.

AGM: NCES/NPCSC held our AGM May 21 in the Science Lab. We were pleased to welcome Superintendent Brett Cooper as a special guest. Trustee Victoria Kane also brought an update from the division. Thank you to all families who attended.

Board Members: At our AGM we bid farewell to Sheri Strydhorst who served a dedicated 6 years on our board, as well as Diane Thiessen who served 1 year. Thank you to these ladies for their wonderful work! We welcomed Cassie Wierenga and Alanna Breitreitz onto the board to fill these vacant positions, both for 3-year terms.

As NPCSC says goodbye to not one, but two incredible staff members this year, we'd like to extend our sincerest gratitude to Mr. Brett Seatter for his years leading as principal. We wish him all the best in his new role in Westlock.

As a board, we'd like to say Congratulations to Debbie Fisher on her retirement. She has been a huge part of helping NCES/NPCSC over her many years at the school, helping schedule, communicate, organize, and so much more. We wish her all the best in this new chapter!

JUNE 17: Our final NCES meeting of the school year will be June 17, 7pm at NPCSC. We welcome you to join.

As summer approaches, we wish all families a great summer, and thank you for your involvement in the school over the last year!

2024-25 Board Members: *Kirstie Schatz, Charlene Fleming, Laura Braucht, Shawna Sotnikow, Sandra Olthuis, Char Nanninga, Cassie Wierenga, Alanna Breitreitz*

Pembina Hills' Board News

Board Reinstates Transportation to a Requested School

After a great deal of deliberation, the board passed a motion to reinstate transportation to a requested school in accordance with administrative procedure 50-01 and applicable fees in Rates Annex 4.

I want to thank all the parents, community members and staff of Neerlandia Public Christian School who shared their thoughts on the transportation conversation. Your openness, insights and voices are valued.

Education Plan Approved

For the next three years, Pembina Hills will continue to support these three priorities: Student - Staff Relationships, Literacy and Numeracy and Support for Staff (Collaborative structure/Culture).

Highlights of Budget Approved for 2024-2025

- 1) A balanced budget, following a few years of planned deficits to reduce our reserves to the level mandated by Alberta Education.
- 2) School operations are not expected to change significantly.
- 3) Instructional staffing levels are very similar to prior years; several education support positions have been added to address the increasing numbers of students with complex needs.

June Hours

Monday - Thursday
9:00 AM - 4:30 PM

Open Friday,
June 14 & June 21

A huge thank you to everyone who supported the Scholastic Book Fair. We made over \$1000 for our library.

No **new books** can be checked out after **June 17th** for the classes and all student books need to be returned by June 20th.

Our Summer Program is being planned. It will be "CATCH THE READING BUG". There will be books and crafts and games, sensory bins and challenges, each matching the theme of the day.

July 4 - BUG FEST

July 11 - BEE HAPPY

July 18 - LADYBUG HUG

July 25 - HUNGRY FOR CATERPILLARS

August 1 - A SPIDERY DAY

August 8 - AWESOME ANTS

August 18 - BEAUTIFUL BUTTERFLIES

August 22 - LIGHT UP WITH FIREFLIES

June Calendar:

June 6 – PHSSAM (Gr. 4-6 Trackmeet here)

June 7 – Staff PD Day, no classes

June 10 – Class pictures & Kindergarten Grad pics

June 12 – Gr. 6 Edmonton field trip

June 14 – Gr. 1 Edmonton Zoo trip

June 13 – 20: Jr. High Exams & PATs

June 20 – Gr. 2 Fort Edmonton trip

June 20 – Gr. 3 Telus World of Science trip

June 21 – Gr. 9 Grad celebrations

June 24 – Jr. High Band & Awards assembly, 1:30

June 25 – Gr. 9 Edmonton trip

June 25 – Gr. 2 swimming (10:00 – noonish)

June 25 – Wear your favourite sunglasses day

June 26 – Gr. 1&3 (swimming, AM) & Gr. 4-6 swimming (PM) at Barrhead Aquatic Centre

June 26 – **LAST STUDENT DAY**