

# Minutes

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Neerlandia Public Christian School Council  
Tuesday, May 19, 2026 @ 7:00PM  
Location: NPCSC Staff Room

Present: Kirstie Schatz, Alanna Breikreitz, Victoria Kane, Laura Braucht, Cassie Wierenga,  
Juanita Henschel, Prakash Raju, Meagan Neill, Charlene Fleming  
Regrets: Sandra Olthuis, Julaine Greilach

1. Call to Order
  - 7:01 pm
2. Devotions- Cass Wierenga
3. Adopt Agenda
  - MSC
4. Approve NPCSC Minutes – March 16, 2026
  - MSC
5. Reports
  - a. Principal Report – Prakash
    - Attached
    - Satisfaction survey was given to students in grades 4-9
    - With regards to the 2025-26 satisfaction survey, there were no significant changes from the previous year
  - b. School Trustee Report – Victoria Kane
    - Attached
6. New Business
  - a. AGM
    - Scheduled for next Tuesday May 26, 2026
    - Jeremy from PCCE to present JOMO from 6:30-7:30. Meeting to follow. Charlene to call Jeremy to make sure he is all set.
    - Kirstie working on AGM packages
    - Prakash & Victoria to get their reports in
    - Childcare is taken care of. Charlene to check if the gym is available
    - Prakash to encourage staff to attend
    - Nicole will be sending out reminders
    - **MOTION:** Charlene motions NPCSC amends quorum to be minimum 7% in attendance for all future AGMs. MSC.
  - b. Pancake Breakfast Date
    - Thursday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026
    - More planning will be discussed during June's meeting

- c. August/ September Meeting Dates
  - August meeting – Friday, August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2026 @ 7pm
  - September meeting – Monday, September 21, 2026 @ 7pm
- d. Council of School Council Report
  - Attached
- e. ASCA Conference Report
  - Attached

**7. Adjournment**

- 8:28 pm

Next Meeting:

AGM: May 26, 2026 - 7:30pm

**Principal’s Report for NPCSC (with NCES parts)  
2026-05-19**

*Easter Assembly*

Our Easter Assembly, on April 16, was well attended by community members and we enjoyed some strong performances by many groups of students.

*Kindergarten Open House*

We had a Kindergarten Open House on May 4. Most of the new Kindergarten students from preschool were there, along with new families from Barrhead, and a few who have other children at the school. We were already aware that these students were planning to attend Kindergarten at our school.

*PCCE Leadership Cohort Gathering*

Thank you for allowing me to go to the PCCE LC Gathering in Bragg Creek. This year, the organizers continued looking at the Leadership Practices Matrix found in the Called, Connected and Committed guiding document. The focus was on the section called “Instilling Hope,” and we explored how to share authentic Christian hope in our Christian school community.

**The Leadership Practices Matrix**

	<b>Called</b> (vocation)	<b>Connected</b> (relationships)	<b>Committed</b> (journey)
<b>Vision</b>	<b>Leading Learners</b>	<b>Instilling Hope</b>	<b>Discerning Innovation</b>
<b>Culture</b>	<b>Recognizing Brokenness</b>	<b>Cultivating Belonging</b>	<b>Building Resilience</b>
<b>Faith</b>	<b>Nurturing Love</b>	<b>Fostering Magnanimity</b>	<b>Pursuing Reconciliation</b>
<b>Administration</b>	<b>Stewarding Resources</b>	<b>Embracing Interdependence</b>	<b>Directing Improvement</b>

I also had the pleasure of participating in worship times, being in God’s creation, and making connections with other Christian school leaders. It was an awesome conference for me to attend.

### *Christian Education Week and Grandparents and Special Seniors Tea*

April 27-May 1 was Christian Education Week at NPCS. We started the week with a chapel on Monday, with songs, reading from a book, and a message that were in line with our theme: "Notice, Wonder, Love." We had Telus World of Science – Science in motion present to students on Tuesday. On Wednesday, we had our Grandparents and Special Seniors Tea, MCed by our Gr 4 class, with presentation by many grades. Thank you to Kirstie for sharing on behalf of the NCES. We had a Home Groups get together on Thursday, where we got to practice Noticing, Wondering, and Loving God's creation. We ended the week with another assembly on our theme: "Notice, Wonder, Love."

### *CTMs Wrap Up*

We have been Collaborative Team Meetings (CTMs) to build learning improvement plans in our classes. Grade 5-9 teachers and kindergarten to grade 4 teachers met in CTMs to discuss trend that we see in our classes and look at ways we can improve student learning based on what we have seen. Our last planning meetings were on April 21 and 22. Our wrap up meetings for this year will be at the beginning of June. We are planning to continue with this methodology next year.

### *June 5 – Transition planning day*

Staff members will meet to look at plans to ensure a smooth transition for students from one class to another.

### *Field Studies*

We are looking forward to having our students leave on various field studies over the next few weeks

### *School Fees Schedule for 2026-27*

There will be no change in our school based fees next year, as compared to this year.

### *PHSD 2025-26 Satisfaction Surveys review*

Our satisfaction surveys were very positive again this year.

### *Staffing and Budget for 2026-27*

NPCS will experience a staffing reduction and discretionary budget reduction again this year. Teaching staff funding is currently planned to go down by 0.06 of a full time teacher next year, and EA hours are down 600 hours next year. Our discretionary budget is down \$19 000 next year, but our Nutrition funding will go up by \$9000 next year.

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**Board Chair Victoria Kane  
Board Report - May 2026  
Neerlandia Public Christian School Council**

**Budget Framework:** PHSD's projected operational funding for 2026-2027 is \$60,857,649 — an increase of approximately \$3.6 million, or 6.3%, compared to estimated actuals in 2025-2026. The largest driver of this increase is additional grant funding to support a negotiated teacher salary increase of slightly over 9%.

The division projects nearly 3,700 students in 2026-2027, including 325 full-time students through Vista Virtual School. Overall enrollment is relatively stable, with slight declines in some community schools (this is offset by continued growth at Vista Virtual School).

- **A notable change for 2026-2027:** PHSD is moving toward a site-based decision-making model for school budgets. Principals and school leadership teams will build their own school budgets within their overall funding envelope, rather than receiving a prescribed staffing allocation and needing central approval to move funds between categories. *This change responds directly to feedback from school leaders and is grounded in Administrative Procedure 20-50 School-Based Decision Making.* Individual school budgets will be submitted to the Division office for consolidation. The Board will consider the final divisional budget for approval at its June 10th, 2026, regular meeting. (Which is being moved from May 26th, 2026 because of the announcement of \$405,000.00 (3 FTE) in our division.)

**Bill 25:** Received Royal Assent - Will be working over the coming months on aligning Policies and Admin Procedures. Ready for implementation for September 1st, 2026. We will be updating the councils on all of the updates come September.

**New Superintendent :** The Board of Trustees formally announced the appointment of **Raime Drake** to the position of Superintendent. This appointment concludes a robust and comprehensive provincial recruitment process aimed at identifying a candidate capable of navigating the current educational landscape. We have full confidence that she will foster a culture built on trust, collaboration, and a shared purpose, while turning our collective priorities and high expectations into measurable success for every student.

## Council of School Council Report

Meeting Date- May 5, 2026

-As we take turns chairing, it was my opportunity for May. Well attended.

-A review of the ASCA conference was given. Kirstie was the only one to attend in person, while 2 other chairs and 1 trustee attended online. It was encouraged for schools to attend in person and use the ASCA grant to cover these costs.

-We heard from Raime Drake regarding the Annual Satisfaction Survey Results, Curriculum Update, and the Free to Play Grant.

Satisfaction Survey: The paper did a great job giving an overview of results for the division. All individual reports can be given to council by Principals.

Curriculum Update: Grade 4-6 will continued phased entry, with Grade 5/6 Social implementation this Fall. Grade 7-9 will be starting an optional implementation for Grade 7/8 in the Fall. It is encouraged to start Math so it is phased in each year and fully implemented by the time Fall Grade 7 students reach Grade 9.

Free to Play Grant: PJHSD applied for this grant through Westlock Community Foundation. Received \$50,000 to be spread across the division. As it was just released, Raime will be doing more research about what we can use this money for. It is noted to be used for play structures that are non permanent. I asked the question if it can be used for Fit Set Ninja (See ASCA Report), and she will look into this. The Outdoor Learning Store is another great option for ideas.

-Reminder to schools that our Report to the Superintendent is due by September. (I send in my Chair AGM Report in May)

-Reminder to Principals that a review of the schools Education Plan should be given each September.

-Next Meeting Dec 1, 2026 at 5:30pm PHSD Office.

## ASCA Conference Report

April 25, 2026

I was pleased to attend the ASCA Conference in person for the first time, along with approximately 100 Board Chairs and 8 School Trustees.

The sessions I chose were around Policy and Procedures, as well as Board Planning.

Policy and Procedures:

-As a reminder, school councils are governed by the Education Act, and Fundraising Societies are covered by the Societies Act.

-We are doing many things well! It was great to hear confirmation that we are performing as we should be, with a few minor changes to fully align with requirements.

-It is required for School Councils to have a Teacher Representative of the Council. This is a consistent teacher, who reports to the Council each meeting, on what is happening within the school and what may be needed in terms of support. This is IN ADDITION to the Principal. In lieu of a teacher attending an evening meeting, they may submit a written report to Council to be highlighted at the meeting.

**ACTION: Obtain a consistent NPCSC Teacher Rep each year, for NPCSC. Talk to Prakash about the best possible way to do this.**

-School Councils should have "Policies and Procedures" because they are governed by the Education Act, where Fundraising Societies have Bylaws because they are a non profit.

**ACTION: Change the name of NPCSC Bylaws to "Policies and Procedures"**

-Quorum: There is no standard or requirement. It can be changed to fit the needs of every location.

It was noted that a staff parent needs to attend and vote as a parent and not a teacher. If they cannot be bipartisan, they should abstain from voting. If a trustee is also a parent, they should refrain from voting all together, as they have a higher level of knowledge than the general public.

**ACTION: Discuss appropriate quorum for NPCSC and make changes to policies and procedures and Bylaws as necessary.**

-ASCA has no formal nomination process for board members. Each location can make their own policies and procedures.

-It should be noted that no timeframe for AGM is required, and should follow the practices of the Societies Act and date of inception.

ACTION Laura spoke with the GOA and we are ok doing our AGM when we have been, because it is consistent and won't cause an issue. I would suggest moving it to one week after the PHSD budget is released, as lately it has been later, so the budget is no longer presented at the school AGM. My recommendation would be to move it no later than the first week in June.

-Social Media Requirements: While we are encouraged to put up NPCSC communication in as many places as possible, it is required that communication is closed off for Social Media Posting and Commenting.

**ACTION: Turn off posting and commenting capabilities for the public, on our NPCSC Facebook Page.**

School Council Plans:

This session was good smaller, less organized School Councils. We are doing a very good job of planning throughout the years and beyond. As long as we continue, we will be serving our school in the best possible way.

This was a fantastic day. I highly recommend NPCSC sends a Chair or Vice Chair to this conference in person every year. The networking that happens is invaluable. It was great to meet so many from other schools, share ideas and build connections.

A separate idea: Look into Fit Set Ninja to visit the school This is an outdoor obstacle course traveling business. Many of the schools in the area have already had them out and speak highly of them. This would be a fun end of the year gift to the school from NCES, or the possibility of it being covered by the Free to Play Grant.

Thank you for the opportunity to attend this conference!

Kirstie Schatz