



**Neerlandia
Eagle Express
Newsletter
Aug. 31, 2016**

Spiritual Fruit

Welcome back to a new school year. We have been working hard as a staff and with our Neerlandia Education Society to prepare for the Grand Opening of our new school building and for the 2016-17 school year. We are so excited and privileged to nurture our students, Christ's children, as they continue to learn, grow and develop.

This year we are going to continue working on Teaching for Transformation as we challenge our students to recognize, accept and develop the Fruits of the Spirit which we are given when we commit to faithfully follow Christ in all that we do. We will also be challenging ourselves and our students to see which fruits of the spirit help us the most as we continue our work as Earth Keepers, Beauty Creators, God Worshipers, Image Bearers and so on.

In Galatians 5: 22-26 the fruit of the Spirit is described:

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.

We ask that you support us in helping our students discover how the Fruits of the Spirit help them develop into the people they were created to be, so that we can all work together to help transform the world ever closer to the world which God intended. Your continued prayers and support make a world of difference.

Thanks be to God!
Lisa Gehring

School Wide News:

**GRAND OPENING
& WELCOME BACK BREAKFAST**

Thanks to everyone who came out this morning to help us celebrate the Grand Opening of our new school and for the Pancake Breakfast.



What a great kick-off to another school year it was!

It was wonderful to have our Minister of Education; the Honourable David Eggen, our School Superintendent; Ms. Colleen Symyrozum-Watt & other government officials 7 board members and Pembina Hills staff join us for this great celebration. It was also great to see so many parents, grandparents and other community members join us.

A BIG thank you to the Coutts Logging crew for cooking and to our NCES

(Parent Council), staff members & volunteers for setting up, preparing & serving the food.

Welcome to New Families & Staff

We are very excited that we have new students joining our school community for this school year. They were introduced this morning at opening assembly. We hope that everyone will help them feel welcome.

Also welcome to all of our other new kindergarten students (22 in total).

Staffing News

We are happy to announce that Mrs. Renee Rentz will be teaching grade 2, along with Mrs. Strydhorst this year. Mrs. Dallas Lee & her husband were blessed with a baby boy, Cameron at the end of June (he arrived a little early) and Mrs. Lee will be on Maternity leave from grade 2 for this 2016-2017 year. We hope all goes well for her (& family) and she will enjoy this new chapter of her life.

We are also excited to announce that Mrs. Geraldine Wierenga & Ms. Shania Van Beek will be joining our staff as Program Assistants. We would like to welcome them to our team!

NPCSC/NCES NEWS

The Neerlandia Christian Education Society would like to welcome back all staff, students and their families to the Neerlandia Public Christian School for another year! Our prayer is that each day we become more like the citizens God calls us to be, bearing fruit of the spirit and Learning to Serve in our greater community.

The NCES is managed by a board of seven parent volunteers and one community representative; we are passionate about Christian education and support the Christ centred education provided at NPCSC.

All families sending children to NPCSC are encouraged to purchase a **membership for \$300/year**; those that want to participate in our school community but do not send children to NPCSC (e.g. grandparents) can purchase memberships for \$150/year. Most of our fundraising happens through collection of Family and Associate membership fees; these funds are important to our school as they help us fulfill commitments including the following:

- Curriculum support through Prairie Centre for Christian Education membership
- Teacher attendance at the Christian Teachers Convention
- Transportation support for families living outside bussing boundaries
- Operating the Preschool program at NPCSC
- Bibles given to each Grade 9 grad
- Leader of the Band award
- Annual Welcome Back to School pancake breakfast

We covet your prayers and financial support; may the Lord continue to bless our school community throughout the 2016-17 school year!

School Board News

Board Organizational Meeting

I am honoured to serve for another year as Board Chair. Sheri Watson, trustee for Swan Hills, will join me as Vice-Chair.

Opening Celebrations

We are excited to welcome the Minister of Education, the Honourable David Eggen and his staff to Neerlandia and Pembina North Community School. The Board will have the opportunity to speak with the Minister over lunch about the challenges, celebrations and opportunities we have in Pembina Hills Public Schools.

Online Parent Payment System

Pembina Hills is trying to move cash collection from the classroom and the school office to online. Last year 37% of Neerlandia parents registered for the online payment system. Paying online instead of sending a Ziploc with change saves time, accounting, and deters mistakes. Please consider registering!

PHPS Information

To keep up to date on what is happening across Pembina Hills consider subscribing to the **PHPS News** - bottom right on the home page for PHPS. You can also connect to PHPS and many of our schools through Facebook or Twitter.

Jennifer Tuininga
Board Chair, Trustee Barrhead North
Jennifer.Tuininga@phpschools.ca
780-674-6579

NEW BELL SCHEDULE

We will be following a bit of a different schedule for the upcoming school year.

Our start and end times remain the same but our recess and noon breaks will be a bit different:

Morning Warning Bell: 8:25 am
Classes begin: 8:30 am
Morning Recess: 10:44 – 10:59
Lunch Break: 12:15 – 12:30 – students have time to eat their lunch and then elementary students are allowed to go outside from 12:30 – 1:00 pm
Afternoon Recess: 2:15 – 2:30 pm
Dismissal Time: 3:47 pm
Busses leave at approx. 3:55 pm

*These times apply to all instructional days, except for 6 early dismissal days, students will be **dismissed 1 hour earlier** on the following dates: Sept. 28, Oct. 26, Nov. 30, Feb. 22, Mar. 22, & April 26 (all Wednesdays but not necessarily the last Wed. of the month and none in the months of Dec., Jan., May or June).

FORMS! FORMS!! FORMS!!!

NEW Student Fees Form - please attach this payment sheet along with your student fees.

If you do your fees online, please indicate of this form.

We encourage parents to try this method of payment.

Information on new **ONLINE PAYMENTS** is available on our school's webpage

<http://www.neerlandiaschool.ca> or <http://www.npcs.ca> or Pembina Hill's webpage if you need to get started.

*Family Plans are available for families that attend a school within Pembina Hills with total of all student fees greater than \$300.

Family Plan form – only use if applicable, these can be picked up in the office or form can also be found on Neerlandia School's web page.

Family Plans need to be paid by Sept 30th to be eligible for the special rate.

Student Demographic Verification forms and **NEW FOIP forms** will be sent home with each child. Please make any corrections to your personal information such as address/phone number, etc. Please sign these forms (both sides of paper) and return to school a.s.a.p. (*if you are a new family that just registered you will have already completed this information and don't need to fill out)

Student Insurance: All students pay a \$1.00 insurance fee that is included with the instructional fees and that covers the student for accidents that happen at school

or during school events, however, if you are interested in additional insurance coverage (\$14.50 to \$33.50 per year depending on plan selected) please ask for information at the school office or go to the Kids Plus Accident Insurance website: www.kidsplus.ca or call their toll free number: 1-800-556-7411.

Parent Volunteers Form: As always, we will be relying on volunteer help again this year. Please see attached form **VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP SHEET 2016/2017** and return to school if you are able to help in any areas.

We need volunteers to help with the **Home-Ec Cooking classes**. CTF classes such as Home-Ec will run every Day 3 of our rotational schedule from 1:38 – 3:47 p.m. It has been determined that we will be offering Cooking classes for Trimesters #1 (Sept. 2-Nov. 22) & Trimester #2 (Nov. 30 – Mar. 7). Please return forms a.s.a.p. so we can contact people to set up a schedule.

New 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. This year the amount of liability insurance has also gone up to \$2 million so please check with your insurance company to make sure you have this coverage before filling out driver's form. We have copies of the 4-61 Driver's forms in the office or you can download from our webpage (Parents Tab – take home notes)

CONCESSIONS/MILK

Our Jr. High Student Council will again run a Concession Stand and will be selling some lunch & snack items to Jr. High students only during lunch hours.

Our Elementary students can purchase punch-out Milk Cards from the office for a cost of \$10.00 that entitles them to 10 purchases of white or chocolate milk. Gr. 6 students deliver milk to the elem. classrooms each day before lunch. Jr. High students can purchase directly from the Gr. 6 classroom. All proceeds of the milk sales go to support Gr. 6 field trips.

BUS NEWS

Please note there has been a change to the rules for extra students riding on buses.

Only registered students are allowed to ride on their designated buses.

This means that students will not be allowed to ride another bus for events such as birthdays, sleep overs, vacations etc. **If the student is not registered on that bus, they will not be allowed to ride.**

Families wishing to have their student(s) registered on more than one bus or at a stop other than their home, due to special family circumstances will be required to complete an "Alternate Site Request Form" and send it in to our transportation office for approval as they must meet certain criteria. Please see our website for more details.

BUS PARKING

Due to delays with our parking lot and bus lanes, the busses will be parking in front of the old Neerlandia Service Centre (across the street from Neerlandia Christian Reformed Church).

We ask that all parents, visitors, staff, etc. please park in the old grocery store parking area or by the church parking lot.

If you do park by the Service Centre during school hours, please make sure your vehicle is moved before busses arrive and depart. Off limits: 8:00 – 8:30 am and 3:30 – 4:00 pm. Thanks for your patience and understanding with this matter.

TERRY FOX RUN:

We hope everyone marks **Wed., Sept. 28** on their calendars, that being the date of this year's annual TERRY FOX RUN.

We are excited to hear that the Covenant Canadian Reformed School will be planning this event for us this year so we will keep you posted of

start time, etc. or check our website closer to the date.

Neerlandia School is turning 100!

Are you interested in our schools history? Are you excited about our schools future? We are looking to form a committee to organize a celebration of NPC's 100th birthday, which will take place in 2017! Please consider volunteering your time and talents! Please contact Char Nanninga via text/phone if interested at [780-674-0441](tel:780-674-0441) or contact any other NCES member. Thank you!
The Neerlandia Christian Education Society

LIBRARY NEWS

NEERLANDIA LIBRARY REGULAR HOURS BEGIN

WEDNESDAY

AUGUST 31

Monday-Thursday

9:00AM-4:30PM

(open during noon hour)

Wednesday Evenings

7:00-9:00 PM

Open Friday September 2nd and 9th

9:00AM-4:30PM

Library Closed

Monday September 5

Chocolate bars have arrived! Order sheets will be sent home with students in Grades 4-9 today. Please continue to support your library through this annual fundraiser.

Calendar Change!

On the **PRINTED COPIES** of the newsletter that were sent home with students on Aug. 31 it mentioned a CHANGE of days because of a Gr. 6 Math PAT that AB Education brought back for the 2016/2017 year. This has now been CHANGED to June 20, the gr. 6 students will write both part A & B on the same day. Therefore, May 12 WILL BE AN ALTERNATE DAY as it was originally

planned in our schedules & student planners. Thurs., Dec. 22 will be a regular **INSTRUCTIONAL DAY** and the Christmas Concert will be on Wed., Dec. 21.

SORRY FOR ANY CONFUSION THIS MAY HAVE CAUSED!

FUNDRAISERS

We will be having Neerlandia Library Society **chocolate bar sales** happening during the month of Sept. and our Jr. High Boys Basketball team will be again selling coupon books (last year they were called SUTP), the new name is ADMazing Sales books.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Important date for Jr. High Band students:

**** St. John's Music** representative will be here on **Tues., Sept. 6 at 7:00 pm for a Band Rental meeting**. This will take place in the Band Room and is important for parents of Band students to attend if they wish to rent an instrument for this school year.

Sept. 1 first day for Kindergarten students

(1/2 day orientation sessions)

Sept. 2 – all school, Home Group activities (2:30 – 3:47)

Sept. 5 **Labor Day holiday**

Sept. 6 First full day for Kindergarten students

Sept. 6 Band Rental Evening, 7:00 pm in Band room

Sept. 16 **Alternate Day, no classes**

Sept. 22 -X-Country event for some Jr. High students

Sept. 23 **Alternate Day, no classes**

Sept. 28 Early dismissal day, students dismissed 1 hour early (2:47 pm)

Sept. 28 Terry Fox Run at the Neerlandia Covenant School (AM)

- regular classes to take place in the PM

Sept. 29 – Jr. High Soccer at Fawcett

Sept. 30 **Alternate Day, no classes**