



# Neerlandia Eagle Express NEWSLETTER June 2017

## Who We Are at NPCS

It is hard to believe that another excellent year is almost over. As I write this final Principal's Message of the year I want to pause and celebrate the opportunity we have to nurture our students in their faith journeys and as learners. The opportunity to help our students discover that our God is the God of all things and is present in our ordinary lives, is a huge blessing to each of us.

It is a powerful message of hope for our students as they discover that they are truly never alone.

One of the many blessings which supports us in this work is our membership in the Prairie Centre for Christian Education (PCCE), which is made possible by the support of the NCES (Neerlandia Christian Education Society).

Our connections with PCCE have introduced us to the idea of teaching for transformation (TfT). This means, in addition to regular devotions and Bible Studies, our teachers are challenging our students to connect their learning to the work we are called to do by God; that of slowly transforming our world to be closer to the world which God intended.

In the Bible, God calls us to

- Look after creation (**Earth-keeping**)
- Each other (**community building, justice seeking & servant working**)
- Enjoy creation (**beauty creating, order discovering, creation enjoying**)
- All in a way which gives honour and praise to our Creator God (**image reflecting, idolatry discerning & God worshipping**)

The words I have placed in brackets are part of the common language of TfT – called **throughlines**. Please drop by our office where these descriptors are displayed on a bright-colored rainbow banner which reminds us of God's powerful symbol of His promise to love us and grant us grace.

\*Rainbow – And God said, <sup>16</sup>**Whenever the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and all living creatures of every kind on the earth.**” (Genesis 9:12-16)

So, once again, we say thank you to each of you for the support you give students and staff of Neerlandia Public Christian School. It makes all of this possible as we have our students 'learn to serve' in God's world.



*Have a great summer! We hope to see you all at our Welcome Back Pancake Breakfast on Wed., Aug. 30, 2017.*

*Lisa Gehring, Principal*

## Staffing News

- ❖ We regretfully announce that Mrs. Vold will not be able to return in the fall as our Grade One Teacher. We hope & pray that God will continue to heal her and give her strength so she may return at some point and time. Please keep her and her family in your prayers!

❖ We are glad to announce that Mrs. Renee Rentz who taught grade 2 last year will be able to teach our grade 1 class this year. Mrs. Dallas Lee, who was away on maternity leave will resume her part-time position teaching Grade 2 along with Mrs. Strydhorst.

## Bussing News:

For our **returning families** that live outside of the boundaries a letter was sent in regards to payments, etc. The **deadline for transportation fees** is **June 30<sup>th</sup>**. Any child that has not returned the forms and/or fees by this date, will not be allowed to ride a Pembina Hills bus for the upcoming school year.

We have a list started as to who has returned forms and paid and there are still several families that have not done so. Please go directly to Transportation office to take care of this, or bring in a cheque or cash to the school office.

\*Note: If you 'meet the bus within the boundaries then the form must be completed and returned, even if fees are not applicable.

If you have questions about the information here please contact Transportation Supervisor Shantelle Haitel at 780.674.8509 or [shantelle.haitel@phrd.ab.ca](mailto:shantelle.haitel@phrd.ab.ca).

## 2017/2018 Program Plans

We have been busy trying to make up a timetable for the 2017 - 2018 school year. We recognize that there were many rumours at one point and we wish to reassure everyone that there are no major changes planned.

Next year we will be having some combination classes in the grades 4 - 8 classes to accommodate a couple of our small class sizes. For example, we have combined grades 4 - 6 to make a literacy block, with at least two teachers and a

program assistant working with smaller groups of students, for the first two blocks of the day and grade 7 - 8 Language Arts class which allows for a greater diversity when having discussions and supports the learning of all students.. We have also made some different combinations of our PE classes. For this year only, grade 6 is invited to join the junior high Fine arts options (four periods per week) but will not be part of the CTF options or any junior high fieldtrips or sports teams.

If you have any questions please contact the administration. We are looking forward to another excellent year.

## N.C.E.S. NEWS

### Out of Boundary Bussing Fees

All out of boundary families should have received a letter from NCES (Neerlandia Christian Education Society) if they are required to pay out of boundary fees in order to have their child(ren) attend Neerlandia Public Christian School.

We are aware these fees are a significant cost (\$450. per student/\$225. for kindergarten student).

As part of our commitment to working in partnership with you, NCES has decided to **cover \$150. per child of the bussing fees (\$75. for kindergarten).**

The fee will still need to be **paid in full** to Pembina Hills by the end of June.

Once you have your receipt we have a couple of options you can choose from in order to receive your refund.

- 1) Text a picture of your receipt to Char Nanninga ([780-674-0441](tel:780-674-0441)) and a cheque will be mailed to you.
- 2) Drop off your receipt at the school office and a cheque will be mailed to you.

If you have any further questions please contact our Chairperson- Steve DeVries: [780-307-3200](tel:780-307-3200), or Char Nanninga 780-674-0441  
Neerlandia Christian Education Society

## School Board News

- **93% of respondents satisfied with overall quality of education in PHPS** The school division surveys students in Grades 4 to 12, parents, and division staff each year about PHPS. Schools and the division consider this feedback as they develop their annual education plans. For specific data on NPCES survey results see the NPCES education plan found on the PHPS website.
- **Bus Stop Alternate Site Fee Introduced** The division provides bus service for rural students to one bus stop location. Parents may apply for service to an additional stop location (alternate site) under certain criteria. The school board passed a motion that starting the 2017-18 school year, parents will be charged an alternate site fee of \$50 per student, per location.
- **Superintendent recruitment** The school board has been working with Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) consultant Jim Gibbons in the recruitment and hiring of a new superintendent. Principals and Senior Administration were consulted in the creation of the ideal candidate profile. The posting ended on May 23<sup>rd</sup> and the board will be proceeding with the reviewing of the applications and shortlisting for interviews.

Jennifer Tuininga  
Board Chair, Barrhead North Trustee  
[Jennifer.Tuininga@phrd.ab.ca](mailto:Jennifer.Tuininga@phrd.ab.ca)  
780-674-6579 [www.phrd.ab.ca](http://www.phrd.ab.ca)

### Be a leader in your community - become a school board trustee

School trustee elections are coming up this fall. If you're passionate about kids and public education, you may want to consider running for school trustee.

To learn more about the role of a school trustee and how to become a candidate visit [www.phrd.ab.ca](http://www.phrd.ab.ca) and click on Election 2017. Nomination day is September 18, 2017, and Election day is October 16, 2017.

## SCHOOL/START SUPPLY KITS

**Neerlandia Public Christian School** will once again be offering the starter packages to purchase your school supplies (K-Gr. 6) for the 2017/2018 school year.

There are a few simple steps to ensure your child will receive standardized brand name products (specified by each teacher).



We will be sending you a specific grade level supply list on June 5. Forms will need to be filled out & returned by June 23 OR you can do them online

[www.schoolstart.ca](http://www.schoolstart.ca)

Ph: 1-800-580-1868

Please make cheques payable to **School Start (not NPCS)**. The supplies will be packaged and delivered directly to your home before the start of the school year.

**This is not a mandatory program** and regular supply lists will go home with Report Cards at the end of June.

Jr. High students will also receive a supply list with their report cards.



## GRADE 9 GRADUATION

We will be celebrating Gr. 9 Graduation on the Friday, June 16.

- Parents are asked to bring the students to the school by **5:15** for photos before the meal.
- Parents & invited guests will share a meal with the grads at 6:00 pm.
- **EVERYONE** is invited to the Gr.9 Grad program to take place at 7:30 pm.

This will be held in the school gym.

## Jr. High Exams

Our Gr. 9 students will write PAT exams on June 26-29. The Gr. 7/8 students will begin their exams on June 23 and will finish on June 28.

Exam schedules will be available for Jr. High students. Jr. High Report cards will be mailed out on June 30.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### PHSSAM:

Our Gr. 4-6 students will have the opportunity to participate in track & field events at Eleanor Hall School in Clyde on Thurs., June 8.

### JR. HIGH BAND RECRUITMENT:

Our Gr. 5/6 students will have an opportunity to meet with a representative from St. John's Music to discuss different Band instruments and rental program. This meeting will take



place in the Band Room at 2:30 pm on June 6.

### JR HIGH BAND CONCERT:

Our Jr. High Band students will have a concert on June 15 at 3:00 pm. Everyone is welcome to join us in the gym.

### KNIGHTS OF THE RAD TABLE:

Our **Jr. High Drama Class** will be presenting this Play on June 7.

There will be two 1 hour performances – one **at 2:30 pm** and one **at 7:30 pm**. Everyone is welcome to attend! This will take place in the Drama/Band Room.

### JR HIGH AWARDS DAY:

➤ **Jr. High Awards** will be presented to students for academic achievement, sports & fine arts and also the Gr. 6 Citizenship award will be presented by our School Trustee. \* Gr., 9 Citizenship Award will be presented at Grad ceremonies.

➤ This assembly will take place in the gym **at 2:30 pm**. Everyone is welcome to attend.



JUNE  
FIELD  
TRIPS

- Gr. 4 students have two more **swim** dates at Westlock Pool, June 6 & 13. (1:00 – 3:45 pm each day)

- Kindergarten students will be visiting the **Edmonton Valley Zoo** on June 13.
- Kindergarten will also have their **year-end party** in Barrhead on Tues., June 20.
- Gr 1-3 **Fort Edmonton Park** trip – June 23 (8:30 – 4:30 pm)
- **Year-end Fun Swim** will take place at Westlock Pool on June 26. Grades 1-3 will swim from 1:00 – 2:00 pm and Grades 4-6 students from 2:00 – 3:00 .

\*Please return all the necessary field trip forms and payments for the above mentioned trips were applicable (\*online payment has been set up for these trips)

Our Gr. 9 students just returned from their Whirlwind tour of Edmonton. (May 30/31). Here's a pic of them!



### 2017-2018 School Calendar

A list of important dates for next year will be sent home with students. These dates will also be posted on our NPC's webpage and will be in student agenda books.

## LIBRARY NEWS

### JUNE LIBRARY HOURS

#### Monday-Thursday

9:00AM-4:30PM



#### Wednesday

#### Evenings

7:00PM-9:00PM

#### All-Day Friday,

#### June 23

9:00AM-4:30PM

Thank you for supporting the **Scholastic book fair**. It was a huge success this year. We will be able to order over **\$1000.00 in new books** for our library.

### Used book and Magazine sale

The library will be hosting a used book and magazine sale starting June 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Magazines .25 Books .25** or fill a bag for \$3.00

The last day for students to check out library books will be **June 8<sup>th</sup>** and all **library books need to be returned by June 19<sup>th</sup>**. Please help us by sending

**all the books back on time!** If you have a family card you can continue to check out books.

We do plan on having a **summer program** at the library again this summer. Some of our theme days will be; "Super Heroes", "Lego", "Stars and space", "Minute to Win it" and more. Starting July 6<sup>th</sup> the library will be open from 9AM to 6PM every Thursday.

Come to the Neerlandia Parade on July 1<sup>st</sup> and check our Neerlandia Library Float!

## June Calendar of Events

- June 1 – Jr. High Zones Trackmeet, St. Albert
- June 2 – **Alternate Day**
- June 6 – Band Recruitment, 2:30 pm  
- Gr. 4 Swim (1-3:45) Westlock Pool
- June 7 – Drama Play, 2:30 & 7:00 pm
- June 8 – PHSSAM(Gr. 4-6) – Eleanor Hall School
- June 9 – **Alternate Day**
- June 13 – Kindergarten Zoo Trip  
- Gr. 4 Swim (1-3:45) Westlock Pool
- June 15 - Jr. High Band concert, 3:00
- June 16 – **Alternate Day**  
- Gr. 9 Grad celebrations, 7:30 pm
- June 19 - Gr. 6 PAT – L.A. (PART B)
- June 20 – Gr. 6 PAT – Math
- June 20 – Kindergarten Year-end Party
- June 21 – Jr. High Awards, 2:30 pm
- June 22. – Gr. 6 PAT – Soc. Studies
- June 23-28 – Jr. High Exams (see schedule)
- June 23 – Gr. 6 PAT Sci.  
Gr. 1-3 Fort Edmonton trip
- June 26 – Gr. 9 PAT – Soc. Studies  
- Year-end fun swim: Gr.1-3/Gr. 4-6
- June 27 – Gr. 9 PAT – LA (B)
- June 28 – Gr. 9 PAT – Math
- June 29 – Gr. 9 PAT - Science
- June 29 – **last day of classes**
- June 30 – last day for staff