

MINUTES

Neerlandia Public Christian School Council
Monday, January 29, 2018 @7:30pm

Present: Kim Sybesma (Vice Principal), Jennifer Tuininga (school trustee), Howard Gelderman (teacher rep), Annemiek Elzinga, Charlene Nanninga, Amanda Batty, Lee Anne Schmidt, Steve DeVries, Randy Strydhorst, Adam Crabbe
Absent: Janice Wierenga

1. Call to Order

2. Devotions—Adam Crabbe

3. Adopt Agenda

4. Review and Approve Minutes—Minutes approved

5. Business from Minutes

- a. Superintendent Garbutt—Steve reports that Superintendent Garbutt is planning to attend next months meeting. All members encouraged to attend if possible.

6. Reports

- a. Principal/Student Council—Kim reported. As attached. Requested feedback for strengths and weaknesses of school and same given.
- b. School Trustee— Jennifer reports. As attached. Jennifer also mentions that there is a meeting scheduled with MLA Vandijken regarding upcoming policies for UCP.

7. New Business

- a. 2018/2019 NPCS Calendar—Board reviewed calendar and supportive of same. Comment made that it would be nice if all schools could coordinate days off so that bus drivers aren't occasionally driving largely empty buses.
- b. BCHS Council—Drug Information Evening—Steve reports that on February 26th at 7:00pm in Drama Theatre in Barrhead School there is an information evening for parents and community members.

8. Correspondence

9. Adjournment

Next Meeting — February 27, 2018 @ 7:30pm

Devotions—Lee Anne Schmidt

Closing —Randy Strydhorst

Principal's Report for the Neerlandia Christian Education Society.
January 29, 2017

1. We ended 2017 with a wonderful Christmas Assembly, followed the next day by carolling in the foyer.
 2. January is a time, across Pembina Hills of gathering input for our upcoming planning days. Phone surveys of parents are done by both Alberta Education and Pembina Hills. Teachers are surveyed by both organizations as well. Pembina Hills and Alberta Education also survey students in grades 4, 7, and 10. In smaller schools, such as Neerlandia, all students from grades 4-9 are surveyed. In addition to this, Pembina Hills also surveys the rest of our staffs.
 3. Our Professional Development is then aligned with this. In NCES we have been working on literacy, especially with LLI and ERI. We have also been working on numeracy through the work we are doing on developing mathematical fluency (math facts) using Kim Sutton's 10 Block Model. On Wednesday, we will be going to 2 different places for our PD Day. The grade 1-5 teachers will be going to BES for a session on Guided Math. The rest of the staff will be going to Busby to continue some of the work we have been doing with other small Pembina Schools. They will be talking about progress reports, have time to continue to collaborate on literacy and numeracy, and will be learning more about the history of Treaties in our country. This knowledge about First Nations is part of the work we have to do to prepare for the upcoming curriculum changes and teacher quality standards.
 4. Tonight, as part of this information gathering process, we would like to have you reflect a little bit on your priorities as a Christian Education Society and School Council.
 - a. What are the things that you love about this school?
 - b. What would you like us to do more (or less) of?
 - c. The current Pembina Hills Priorities are literacy, numeracy, diversity and student-teacher relationships. What is your advice to the us and to the Board, Are they the right priorities?
 - d. In our school, of course, we also have a focus on integrating the regular curriculum with God's words and works- which we are NOT planning on changing since it is our mandate
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MINUTES

Neerlandia Christian Education Society
Monday, January 29, 2017 @ 9:00pm

Present: Kim Sybesma (Vice Principal), Howard Gelderman (teacher rep), Annemiek Elzinga, Charlene Nanninga, Amanda Batty, Lee Anne Schmidt, Steve DeVries, Randy Strydhorst, Adam Crabbe

Absent: Janice Wierenga

1. Call to Order

2. Adopt Agenda—Add 6C- New Membership, Add 6D—Speaker, Add 6E—Funding request. Agenda adopted with changes

3. Review and Approve Minutes—Minutes approved

4. Business from Minutes

- a. Retiring Member Thank-you—Lee Anne was thanked for getting this done.
- b. Movie Night—Annemiek reports that we can get both new movies and old movies through Pembina Hills. She had two suggestions that she thought would be a good fit; Breadwinner, and Wonder. Lee Anne suggested “I Can Only Imagine” as an option if it was appropriate for children. **ACTION—Annemiek, Amanda and Kim** will handle organizing a movie night.

5. Reports

- a. Financial—Randy reports. He had budgets available for the board to review. He mentioned that preschool costs are higher than budgeted because of a late payment and also less students. Steve mentions that teacher expenses are lower than anticipated and wondered if some expenses haven't been entered. Randy also said that there are several small amounts outstanding from fundraiser where people purchased items and were to have been contacted to pay later. Board determined it was too late to try and correct at this time. Bussing expenses were discussed again and that several of the families we have contracts with are behind in repayment. **ACTION—Adam** volunteered to contact families re: same
 - i. Tax Receipts—Randy reports they are almost done. Requests help to stuff envelopes in a week. **ACTION—Steve, Charlene and Lee Anne** volunteered to help with same.
 - ii. Audit—Randy aware same needs to be organized.
- b. Preschool—Steve reads preschool report. Amanda motions to pay Natasha three hour wage. Adam seconds. Motion approved. **ACTION—Steve** will contact Natasha re: wage and ensure she is paid. Randy mentions we will pay Jill according to new student fees. Steve mentions we need bylaws for preschool. It is suggested a bylaw surrounding student health and contagious disease should be written. **ACTION—Steve** will discuss with Jill and see areas that are important. Possibly could have a separate meeting to just discuss bylaws.
- c. Outdoor Classroom—Annemiek reports that a subcommittee will meet next week.

6. New Business

- a. Hot Lunches—Steve reports that Debbie has suggested several dates in February. Board determines that Feb. 20 is best date as all students should be around. **ACTION—Amanda, Steve, Charlene, Annemiek, and Lee Anne** all willing to help.
- b. PHSSAM—This event is happening June 7th. NCES usually handles concession. Steve states the Coop has a BBQ available that he could ask to borrow.
- c. Membership Letters—Steve reports that we have less memberships coming in since Pembina Hills quit requesting student fees, and we requested fees at same time. **ACTION—Steve** will draft a letter to send out.

- d. Speaker—Kim reports that several parents called and were concerned about Native American speaker and what sort of information would be presented. The board was asked whether they or their children had any concerns. Several board members stated it was positive but concerns about spiritualism were also brought up. Kim and Howard both appreciated that they were made aware of parent concerns regarding the speaker.
- e. Funding Request—Kim reports that a family is going through a difficult time and staff requests funding from NCES for their son to go on the ski trip. Discussed whether it was appropriate to use funds for single student and whether it would set a precedent. Discussion then came up about purchasing a team bus to reduce costs for students/parents and costs surrounding private vehicles and bussing. Randy motions that NCES pay for ski trip for Grade Nine student. Annemiek seconds. Motion approved.

7. Correspondence—Mail in mailbox for treasurer

8. Closing

9. Adjournment

Next Meeting—February 27, 2018 @9:00 PM

Devotions—Steve DeVries

Closing—Randy Strydhorst

Neerlandia Pre-school Report - January 29, 2018

As you were aware, we have a little boy (Talin) in pre-school who was eligible for PUF funding (money available for children who have been identified with a severe disability or delay). The PUF money is distributed through Pembina Hills, and they have used it to hire Natasha Wierenga for the three hours a week that pre-school is in session. Her presence has made an enormous difference in the class as she is able to shadow Talin and anticipate when he will be needing assistance; this has helped keep the classroom disruptions to a minimum. Natasha started at the end of November but because the paperwork did not go through, she was technically not hired yet and her first day was unpaid by Pembina Hills. I am wondering if the NCES would consider paying her for the three hours she worked that day. I am not sure of her wage, but you could contact her for that information.

I am anticipating one more student to join the class starting February 7th. Her family is returning from Australia and she has been attending pre-school there. I will ask that they pay the monthly rate of \$72.00 per

month for the three remaining months. The class will then have 14 students and will be considered full.

Other than that, we have been busy learning letters, numbers, and rhyming; playing at centres, going to the gym and snacking.