



NCI Parent Council Monthly

CAREing Chronicle

Be Informed...Be Involved!

Every parent is a member of the Parent Advisory Council

by NCI PAC on February 7, 2019

Message from President:

As we start the second semester and tough out the long days of winter ahead of us, I draw my attention to the fact that June will be here before we know it; the many important causes that need our time and attention feels as long as the winter before us. I Love to Read, Valentine's Day, Heart and Stroke, Festival de Voyageur, Grade 6 and 8 Camps or the Optimist Festival - and the list could go on. I started to wonder....why volunteer? Why bother giving my time when life already throws so much our way? I am sure there are other parents who will help out? How can I possibly fit in more?

In an ever changing world, where change is the constant norm, why volunteer? To **volunteer** is to give of yourself in service to a cause. It is about freely giving your time to help an organization, your community, or an individual. To **volunteer means** to act on behalf of something or someone else.

Volunteers are integral to our society. However, there's much more to being a **volunteer** than giving back. Not only is **volunteering important** because it helps to better your community, it also helps to better you as an individual. **Volunteering** is a free way to feel good about yourself.

- Volunteering helps counteract the effects of stress, anger, and anxiety. ...
- Volunteering combats depression. ...
- Volunteering makes you happy. ...
- Volunteering increases self-confidence. ...
- Volunteering provides a sense of purpose. ...
- Volunteering helps you stay physically healthy.

Volunteering provides many **benefits** to both mental and physical health. NCI PAC is a flexible and adaptable way of **volunteering** while contributing to the kids in our community. There are many ways to participate that fit into your schedule - put up a poster while grocery shopping, chat with a local business owner for hot lunch support, sell event tickets for an hour, set up tables and chairs at the next bingo, or stand at a PAC kiosk for a half an hour to share experiences with other parents, and be at the school to serve lunch to the kids once a week. The possibilities are endless.

Forge ahead in the pages that follow - review what's coming, grab a cup-a-Joe, see what we need and where we are going....be informed about what's at risk, stay aware and participate where you can - for the benefit of you and your family.

Our parent community is open and welcoming, not to mention a lot of fun! Good luck with this month's clue!

New High School Update

Did you happen to follow all the chatter on social media around the time the division asked for input on a name for the new high school? Did you think it should be named after someone who had made an impact on the community in days gone by? Were you one of the many that thought it should stay as Niverville Collegiate institute with hopes to carry on tradition, the logo and branding? Not sure what names were included in the 100 name suggestions put forward to the board-appointed Naming Committee...but the safe choice was made, one that aligns with the Board's desire for the school name to retain its distinct community identity - Niverville High School (NHS) it shall be.



NCI Parent Council is pleased to welcome Mrs. Kimberley Funk as the first Principal of the new high school in Niverville. Mrs. Funk has been the Vice Principal of Landmark Collegiate since 2013 and will transition into her new role this month. Previous to Mrs. Funk's current position, she was Guidance Counsellor at Steinbach Regional Secondary School from 2010-2013. Mrs. Funk will bring teaching experience to her new role, having taught at Mitchell Elementary School and Mitchell Middle School from 2000-2010, and at Niverville Elementary School from 1994-1999.

Want the most up-to-date information on the build? Aerial photography, construction information and more!

New School Webpage – <https://niverville.hsd.ca>

Council members needed!!!

- We need a new Parent Council Executive for the new high school and replacement members for the middle school executive - All nominations due by February 28th. Email nciparentcouncil@gmail.com with your interest.
- Niverville Middle School (NMS) - Chair and Treasurer open
- Niverville High School (NHS) - Chair, Vice, Secretary and Treasurer open; meet with new principal around April
- Volunteers needed for the proposed Lunch Program/Food Committee - no coordinator means no program at the middle school!
- Volunteer required to oversee the Staff Appreciation June 3rd - they deserve it!
- Elections take place at the **March 4th meeting at 6pm in the NCI library**
- NOTE: *Without Parent Councils at each school, play ground enhancement and hot lunch programs, purchases like electronic signs, awards/scholarships will no longer be in place.*



Say What?! - No Cafeteria?

As some may be aware, the floor plan for Niverville High School appears to be lacking a designated dining area for students. The lunch time ritual is not only important for obvious physiological reasons, but also a significant social convention, sharing in the company of friends and colleagues is inherent to relationship building and social skills development.

Superintendent Randy Dueck assures that some ideas are already in the works to address the need for a lunch time space: “As we have developed and

designed the new school we have identified the open space that is bordered by the multi purpose room, the entrance and the kitchen as one location where students might eat lunch.” Mr. Dueck further explains that the finishing touches, in particular the choice of furniture would need to be adequate to provide the right eating environment for students: “It is also quite likely that we could have tables set up in the multi purpose room where students could eat their lunch.”

It seems peculiar that a cafeteria would not be an automatic factor into a school designed for maturing students, but Mr. Dueck explains, “the Public Schools Finance Board (PFSB) does not provide any funding for a school cafeteria throughout the province.” HSD faced similar issues when it came to building Clearspring Middle School and the addition to the SRSS. Mr. Dueck further notes that PFSB is more limited than it was some 40 years ago, stating, “it is clear from PSFB that there is not enough funds to even construct all of the classrooms needed in this province.”

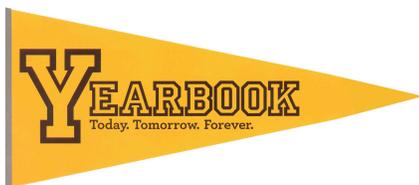
The PAC expects to learn more in the coming months regarding lunch time routines and possible meal options at NHS as Principal Funk prepares for her role and shares her plans and vision for the school. Are you interested in providing input when it comes to the new high school? Please come out to the next PAC meeting!

What about the middle years you might ask? Mr. Koester shared with PAC that for the middle school NMS, Son City will continue to offer a weekly Tuesday lunch menu for grade 5-8 students. PAC has the opportunity to plan an additional lunch offering at NMS if there are coordinators and volunteers to make it work. There will not be staff resources available so it needs to be completely parent run or it won't happen! We need volunteers by the March 4th meeting so please consider how you, or someone you know, can help!



NCI Yearbooks!

Advance sales available to all students in all grades- \$45. Order yours now!

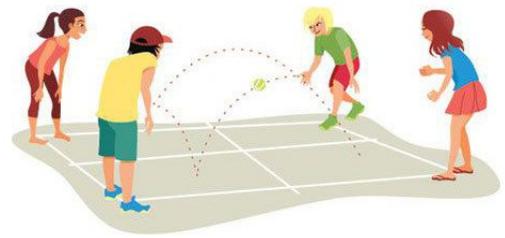


This will be the last yearbook as NCI - it will be a memorable keepsake for all students especially the last graduating class of NCI 2019.

Fees for yearbooks payable on the Parent Portal. Don't delay!

Green Space Update

Parent volunteer Lyndsay Eidse has big dreams for the green space at NCI...soon to be Niverville Middle School. Dreams of a horizontal climbing wall, painted games on the tennis court pavement and additional recess equipment. Please come out to see her vision boards and get more information at the Celebration of Learning PAC kiosk on March 14th!



Parent Portal

Isn't it nice to take care of permission forms online and not have them lost in a snowbank on the way to school or have the dog eat it? Have you received an email about outstanding fees and conveniently paid for them online? Have you used it for reporting absences?

HSD Parent Portal – <https://powerschool.hsd.ca>

PAC Communication Committee

Are you a wordsmith? Do you enjoy reading the newspaper or doing crossword puzzles? You just might be what our committee is looking for! The Parent Council Communication Committee is looking for people to research and submit stories for this publication as well as help out behind the scenes designing pamphlets, posters and writing ask letters. Email the PAC at nciparentcouncil@gmail.com if you'd like more information or to express your interest in volunteering. Your story idea recommendations are also appreciated! Stay informed - Get involved!



PAC Financials

September 30, 2018 Bank Balance	\$2805.44
2018 Program Support	2018-19 myBluePrint (\$60)
Funds raised as of Dec 30, 2018	\$840.18
Total Bank Balance as of Jan.31, 2019*	\$3585.62
Planned Program Support at Feb 28, 2019	2018 Grad Awards (\$500) 2019 Rain Garden (\$500)

**account activity not shown includes 2018 Bingo start-up expenses and related fees*

Programs, purchases and events don't 'magically' happen - PAC is the 'magic!' Come be a part of it!

BINGO ! Luck O' The Irish!

Saturday, March 9th

NCI Gymnasium

Doors open at 6:00 PM

Starts 7:00 PM



LGCA License # 7459-BI-30820

Volunteers are needed to help make this event a success. Please consider helping with:

- Sponsorship asks (Goals: recess equipment, enhanced green space and Sept '19 NHS Grand Opening)
- Set up, bingo card sales and checkers
- Baking for canteen items - rice krispy squares and cookies needed
- Put up local event posters in surrounding communities and local boards
- Green/Irish decorations are needed



Did you Know...?....

When the game reached North America in 1929, bingo was originally called "beano". It was first played at a carnival near Atlanta, Georgia. It was a country fair game where a dealer would select numbered discs from a cigar box and players would mark their cards with beans. They yelled "beano" if they won. New York toy salesman Edwin S. Lowe renamed it "bingo" after he overheard someone accidentally yell "bingo" instead of "beano." Lowe hired a Columbia University math professor, Carl Leffler, to help him increase the number of combinations in bingo cards. By 1930, Leffler had invented 6,000 different bingo cards. Lowe's company was sold to Milton Bradley in 1973 for \$26 million. Lowe died in 1986.

Stay in Touch!



School Email - nci@hsd.ca

PAC Email - nciparentcouncil@gmail.com

Bookmark the school website! <https://nci.hsd.ca/>

@NCIHanover #NCICARES





NOW THAT YOU READ THE NEWSLETTER...CONTEST TIME!!
 The first person to email NCIPARENTCOUNCIL@GMAIL.COM
 with the answer will win one FREE CUP of COFFEE from Bistro 290! Q:
 "What was used as the first bingo 'chip?'"
 (HINT: Bingo was not the original name of the game!)

VOLUNTEER

all that's missing is U!

Calendar of PAC Events

Event	Date	Volunteer Details
Student Social Event	ON HOLD TBA - venue donation needed	10-20 volunteers
Bingo!	March 9 - 7:00-9:00 p.m.	10-20 volunteers (canteen, setup)
Celebration of Learning	March 14 4:00-6:00 p.m.	4 volunteers for the kiosk (½ hr shifts)
May Band Concerts	Gr.5 - May 8 7:00 p.m. Gr.6 - May 9 7:00 p.m. Gr.9-12 - May 23 7:00 p.m.	4 volunteers for the kiosk each night
Sr. Year Drama Production	May 29-31	4 volunteers for the kiosk
June Concert	Gr. 7 & 8 - June 3 7:00 p.m.	4 volunteers for the kiosk
Gr. 4 Parent Welcome Night	June TBA	4 volunteers for the kiosk
Staff Appreciation	June 3	Stay tuned for details, volunteers needed to coordinate and donate food/baking
Tri-School Track and Field	June 6	6 volunteers (2 shifts; 9am-12, 12pm-3)
NCI Farewell (Grad 8-11)	June TBA	10 volunteers
NHS Grand Opening	TBD	10 Volunteers

VISIT OUR PARENT COUNCIL WEBPAGE AT <https://nci.hsd.ca/parents/pac/>