



NCI Parent Council Monthly CAREing Chronicle

Be Informed...Be Involved!

Every parent is a member of the Parent Advisory Council

by **NCI PAC** on April 2, 2019

Message from PAC President:

If you say that someone or something has **come a long way**, you should mean that they have developed, progressed, or become very successful.

As I reflect on the last two years, our PAC has done just that - we've come a long way!

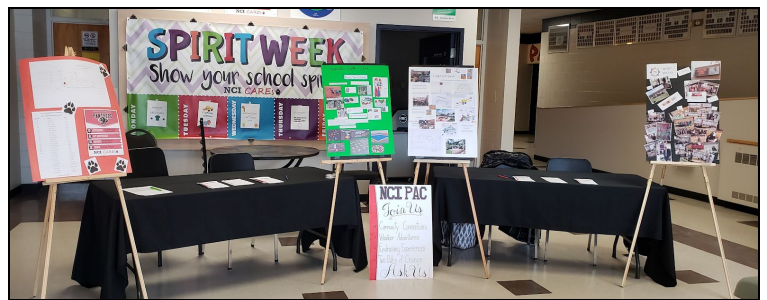
We have developed improved communications, relationships, and goals. We have progressed towards meaningful fundraising to compliment those improvements, and involve our community and schools. And we have been successful in developing connections, opportunities and recognition for our parent volunteers, our staff, and our kids. We have been a busy group and we know there is more work to do!

Our group has maintained that many hands make light work; not to mention there are fun opportunities of involvement and getting to share your creativity, passions and skills all while getting to know your neighbor. And our motto of staying informed and being involved brings fresh new ideas and perspectives into the fold of our school community.

For me personally, leaving a legacy is the long term goal along with having the opportunity to learn more about our volunteer and school communities. Everyone has a story to share, and I am blessed to have an opportunity to receive even a small chance to see and hear those stories at our table every month, or when many skills come together for another successful event. I've said it before, volunteering and giving back in some way is good for the soul!

As we move into April and set our Executive structures for NMS and NHS, I know there is a long way to go towards many of the larger goals. I look forward to working with new parents joining the group and those coming back to help move us through more development, progression and success.

Enjoy the read and take part in our contest!
There is much to do, so be sure to check out the calendar of events!



Band Program

Students in grade six have been exploring various instruments during music class at NCI. Has your child come home talking about being good at the flute or clarinet ...or loving the trumpet or trombone? Are they talking about signing up for Band?



The grade seven Band program is set up in the school schedule so that all students are able to participate. Throughout the school year, students will learn how to read music, play their instruments and appreciate music. Also, students will experience what it is like to perform. Please be advised that **the only year a student may enter the Band program is in grade seven.**



If a student chooses not to participate in the Band program, they will not be able to enter in grades eight to twelve. Please note that students opting out of the Band program will automatically be enrolled in an alternate program that will include Art, Digital Literacy, Guitar and Photography. Students will experience all four of these subjects in blocks of ten weeks.

This year, students in the art stream went on to a course called Futures in Business and then Start Your Own Business. With the opening of the new high school this fall, changes could be on the horizon so please stay tuned for more information on courses!

The following is current information shared by parents and the music teacher in order to inform parents of the decision that will need to be made and commitments that will be considered.

Cost for Rental/Ownership

- St. John's Music - Trombone example: Purchased new: \$400-\$800, used \$275-\$600; will ship (no charge) instrument to the student during summer vacation
- If a student switches instruments mid-year, a new contract is formed and monies paid is not transferable to the next kind of instrument.
- Rental agreement and payments continue through the summer months (practice through summer)
- Other items that might need to be added on are a music stand, oil or cleaning kit (\$20 extra)

Maintenance and Insurance Plan

- \$5.00/month in addition to the instrument rental; cleaning for a student-owned instrument ~\$70

Fundraising

- \$20 Discount Card sales - October - Mom's Pantry - Chocolates - January
- Fundraising is available to all students 7-12 as it helps to subsidize the costs for band trips (Gr. 9 is to Moosejaw for \$400 and the Senior trip every other year is around \$600)

Band Clothing/Attire:

- All band students must wear black on the bottom and a black band shirt (additional \$16)

Band Performances

- Attendance is part of their final mark; Three each year: December Christmas Concert, February Optimist Festival at the Convention Centre and Spring Concert in May

Parent Volunteer Opportunities

- May selection night - February Optimist Festival (to drive the large instruments into the city)
- Mom's Pantry fundraiser organizing and distribution of orders)

**Gr. 6 Band Instrument
Selection Evening Dates:**
May 21 and 22, 2019
4:00PM - 7:00 PM
Location: NCI Band Room
(By Appointment,
call before April 30th)

Luck O' The Irish Bingo Report



A big thank you to our volunteer crew of 17 people that helped with set up and clean up for our fun event! Many hands make light work and we appreciate you!

161 people came out to try their luck on this fun game of chance!

Our blackout bingo prize winner was Kristin Wlasicuk. She got a blackout in 58 numbers and won the \$50 consolation prize as well as a swag pack valued at \$358.

A big shout out to the businesses and individuals that donated towards the prizes (cash and/or product) for each game: Joyce Harnett of Mary Kay, Tim Hortons, Allison Hornung, Flirt, Heather Miller of Steeped Tea, Kendra Dawn's Hair Salon, Absolutely Homemade, Emerald Tree Accounting Services, Gauthier Dodge, Benny Woligroski, Cookie Kids, Anya's Salon, Tanya Cretain and Curtis Eide, Kevin and Tracy Dodge, PennCo, Done and Average Joe's.



Stay tuned for our Next Bingo!

**Saturday,
October 19, 2019**

New High School Update:



As printed in the Niverville Citizen, March 15, 2019

Following a review of applications, the Hanover School Division board has awarded the position of Niverville High School vice-principal to Graham Sereda, a senior years teacher at Niverville Collegiate Institute (NCI). Sereda will work alongside the recently appointed principal, Kimberly Funk.

“I put my name forward because I thought it was such an exciting opportunity to basically lead a brand-new school and to set a new culture,” says Sereda. “And even just to re-examine assumptions in education, like, ‘[How] do we assume a school should run?’ So I’m super excited that we have this chance to look at things and say, ‘Is this the best way?’”

Since he learned of his appointment on March 5, Sereda has met with Funk and is looking forward to upcoming conversations regarding enhancements they can make to student learning and staff culture. After their initial meeting, he’s confident they’ll complement each other in their roles. He believes that one of the reasons he was awarded the position was due to the way his educational philosophies line up with hers.

“We are very much in alignment with our priorities for the school and so I’m really excited to work together with her,” Sereda adds. The duties of vice-principal will only fill part of his time. The balance of his time at the Niverville High School will be determined before the new school year begins this coming fall.

Sereda began his teaching career at NCI in 2010. In 2013, he became the lead teacher for the school’s science department and later began assisting in the Turning Point Learning Program, an alternative education initiative introduced at the school a number of years earlier. The program caters to Grades 11 and 12 students who Sereda describes as “academically capable but disengaged for one reason or another.” The program focuses less on classroom time and more on community building and internships at local businesses for hands-on learning experiences.

Sereda, a St. Vital resident, says that he’s grown to love small-town life since teaching in Niverville. He doesn’t discount the idea of a move to the community in his family’s future. “I went to a big urban high school [as a teen] and so it was really neat coming here and teaching in a small rural school,” muses Sereda. “Just to see the differences between the types of schools, I found that I love this setting. At grad time, for every single kid that walks across the stage, I know something about them. I might even know their families... so I really like that.”

Officially, Sereda’s new position doesn’t begin until September, which gives him plenty of time to consider his dreams for the new school. “This is a really great step for the town, I think,” he says. “I’d really like this school to be more than just a school. I’d love it to be more than just a place where kids go because they’re legally mandated to. I want it to be a place where kids want to go and want to spend time.”

Want the most up-to-date information on the build? Aerial photography, construction information and more!
New School Webpage – <https://niverville.hsd.ca>

Green Space at NMS

Volunteer parent Lyndsay Eidse, Active Learning and Green Space committee chair, shared these vision boards at the PAC Kiosk as a visual guides for parents to keep the conversation going about what the playground of NMS could evolve to include.



Superintendent Randy Dueck confirmed that Hanover School Division, like all other school divisions in Manitoba, does not receive any funding from the Province (Public Schools Finance Board) for areas outside of the physical school building. Hanover School Division does, however, grant outdoor learning projects \$2,500 upon application by the school once project plans are in place.

This leaves non-profit organizations like PAC responsible for applying for grants and fundraising to provide outdoor learning spaces that contribute to healthy and active lifestyles for our children while they are at school. Plans can include developmentally and age appropriate play pieces or landscaping that will encourage increased movement and socialization. We can think outside the box, beyond play structures, to sports equipment, seating & shady areas to climbing frames or walls.

It is our hope to work with our School Trustees to look into this funding gap. Further conversations with our provincial representatives will also need to take place if progress is to be made like in Alberta where they grant \$250,000 towards new playgrounds.

If you have ideas or would like to help on this committee, please attend our meeting in September! We'd love to hear from you!

PAC Financials

September 30, 2018 Bank Balance	\$2805.44
2018 Program Support	2018-19 myBluePrint (\$60)
Funds raised at Dec 30, 2018	\$840.18
2019 Program Support at March 31, 2019	Rain Garden (\$500) 2018 Grad Awards (\$500)
Funds raised at March 31, 2019	\$1163.50
Total Bank Balance as of Mar.31, 2019*	\$3683.50
Planned Program Support at March 31, 2019	2019 Grad Awards (\$500) June Staff Appreciation NCI Farewell Division of remaining funds between NMS & NHS
Planned Fundraising	Gr. % Tri-Track Canteen ~\$700 approx.

Parent Portal

Getting used to it? Have you received an email about outstanding fees? Have you moved? Keep your information up-to-date at the office and online. HSD Parent Portal – <https://powerschool.hsd.ca>

Middle School Lunch Update



There was very few responses from parents/community members to organize a weekly Pizza Day at Niverville Middle School (NMS) this fall. Currently, pizza day is run by the student council. PAC has been informed that there will be no middle years student council so it will need to be run by volunteers.

- tables are set up every week on Thursdays
- pizzas arrive (delivered) about 10 mins before noon
- Grade 5 and 6's get an early purchase lineup (5 mins or so)
- The rest of the school sales start at noon and are finished by about 12:20

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all that's missing is U!

Son City lunches on Tuesdays will remain as they were this year, listed on the school website. All volunteers require up to date forms on file with the main office.

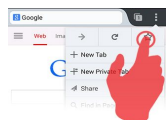
We would need 6 to 8 adult volunteers from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 pm to run a pizza day each week. Lunch Coordinator/Volunteer Coordinator are key roles for the school year. Please consider volunteering or mention this need to your friends, family or senior community members that might have flexibility with their time want to be involved.

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 is the name of the new High School's Vice Principal?"

Last month's winner: Maime Paez

Calendar of PAC Events

Event	Date	Volunteer Details
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
Staff Appreciation	June 3	Parents needed to make sandwiches or bake sweet treats
Tri-School Track and Field	June 6 Rain Date June 13	6 volunteers (2 shifts; 9am-12, 12pm-3) BBQ and coolers needed as well (with transportation)
Gr. 4 Student & Parent Welcome	June 11 AM and Evening	5-10 volunteers
NCI Farewell Lunch (Grades 8-11)	June 14 - Noon Hour	6 parent volunteers to help set up, BBQ & manage lunch tables from 10:30 am to 2pm; Corporate sponsors needed
NHS Grand Opening	TBD	10-15 Volunteers
Fall Meet The Teacher	September 3 4:00-6:00 pm	4 volunteers for the kiosk - ½ hr shifts
PAC Annual Organizing Meeting	TBD	
Harvest Bingo	Saturday, October 19 at 7:00 pm	10-15 Volunteers

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