

Principal's Report to School Council March 5, 2025

Lori Vigfusson Principal New Horizons School

Swimming Lessons: Grade 3-5s are finishing up their swim lessons this week and next. Grades 1s and 2s will begin lessons in April. Forms and information will be sent out soon.

Surveys: Alberta Assurance Survey information was sent out to parents last week. In previous years, Alberta Education sent information out to parents but this year, Principals were required to disseminate the codes to families. This information, along with our Board Surveys, Stakeholder Forum information and other feedback collected helps set priorities for our Education Plan. Board Surveys will be sent at the end of March.

Report Cards/Powerschool: Term 2 report cards will be sent home digitally on Friday, March 14th to parents. They will then be available on the Powerschool parent Portal.

There have been issues with the parent portal app not updating marks but the desktop version is functioning properly. We have notified Powerschool of the issue and they are working on a solution.

Admissions: Admissions have closed and Intake day takes place on March 7. We had a large number of applicants and the admissions committee will meet to review applications over the next month.

Student Led Conferences: Student Led Conferences will take place on March 18 and 19th. Families can sign-up for a spot to have their student(s) show off their learning. Typically this coincides with our Scholastic Book Fair but due to scheduling conflicts, our book fair will take place March 11-13.

Amiskwaciy Dancers and Drummers: Students were so fortunate to have Dancers and Drummers from Amiskwaciy Academy in today to share their traditional knowledge with all students. We welcomed four dancers and seven drummers who performed. Thank you to Jenel Hrenyk for organizing and to Amiskwaciy Academy for offering this as a thank-you to our school.

Tech Update: We have decided to trial an upgraded version of Go Guardian for grades 3-9. This version provides features that allow teachers to scaffold instruction on digital literacy and integrates directly with Google Classroom. It also allows teachers to more easily identify students who require additional support, comment on student work, and help students minimize distractions during independent work.

Two Viewsonic Screens have been purchased to trial in classrooms. These are interactive screens that have a computer and wifi embedded. Our plan is to replace failed projectors with these more interactive options to help improve student engagement and classroom efficiency.

School Clubs

- Boys and Girls Basketball is wrapping up with final games being played this week and next.
- Handball is coming up, we are gauging interest and will have teams if we can make a team.
- Badminton will take place following Handball
- Reach had their regional tournament in February and our intermediate team will be representing NHS at provincials in Red Deer on April 12.