



NEWSLETTER

October, 2023

Principal's Message

I am more than happy that the school division is in the process of re-affirming its divisional policy on *Respect for Human Diversity*. This speaks loudly to the continued need to ensure a safe and caring school for all children.

A community can easily be defined by how it treats its most vulnerable members. If ESNI is to consider itself a safe and caring school, every student must have a voice. Silencing one, is only the first step towards silencing others. This is the reason all ESNI students need to feel able to express themselves for who they are regardless of their looks, abilities, beliefs, gender, or race.

I am proud of our school community in this regard. Nevertheless, equity and wellbeing are never ending endeavors. Social justice and student wellbeing are foundational to our school goals for the next three years. Our objective is to continue working toward a school community, where students, parents/caregivers and staff are all valued through positive, respectful and inclusive dialogue. ESNI is a school for one, and all!

Always feel free to reach out to me or staff to discuss any concern or questions you may have.

Respectfully,

François Rémillard

THANK YOU!

A huge merci/thank you to all the parents who have answered the call for volunteers. The Meet the Teacher BBQ and the ESNI Snack Program depend on volunteers to be successful. Your gift of time is very appreciated!



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Student Citizenship

Parents should be proud of their children! A large majority of our grade 5-8 students are participating in social justice groups or school initiatives to help their fellow students or the school community at large. Some examples of what our students do:

- ❖ Lunch Monitors: Grade 7/8 students help our K-4 student over the lunch time with opening food containers and preparing students to go outside for recess.
- ❖ School Patrols: Ensure greater safety for students walking to and from school.
- ❖ Social Justice: Initiate awareness activities about justice and equity issues for students.
- ❖ Panthers Closet: Clean and organize the clothing repository for student and community use.

House System

Our house system is a very important venue for our senior student to provide leadership and create connections with our younger students. As an example, for our Truth and Reconciliation assembly and activity, our older students helped younger student write a reflective message on orange painted rocks. These rocks were placed in the front of the school as a commemoration of residential school survivors. It also signals the need for us to learn from our past to go forward in a spirit of reconciliation.

Each house grouping represents an important element of Indigenous teaching and knowledge. These teachings will be infused in student learning and activities. The house system is an opportunity for students to express these indigenous teachings and wisdom. Every student is a member of one of the following groupings:

Eagle/Love	Bison/Respect	Beaver/Wisdom
Sabe/Honesty	Turtle/Truth	Bear/Courage
Wolf/Humility	North	East
South	West	



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St. Norbert Parent Advisory Council (SNIAC)

It was nice to see new faces at our last SNIAC meeting!

Our next St. Norbert Immersion Advisory Council is on Tuesday, October 24th at 6:30 pm, in school's conference room. Free childcare is available for parents who wish to bring their children. For those who cannot attend in person, please follow the link bellow to the meeting. We will also send out the link to the school community a few days before the meeting.

We invite all parents/guardians to attend, in person or virtually. Your participation in your child's school is important, and we value your contributions and involvement. Feel free to contact me for more information (Francois.Remillard@srsd.ca).

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 279 014 981 456

Passcode: VkGPZv

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

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Snack and Milk Program

Students have taken a more active role in helping out with the snack program, however we are still looking for parent volunteers to assist us with the delivery of the program. Please contact the office if you have time to help and wish to volunteer (sni@srsd.ca).

The snack program provides fruits, vegetables, hard boiled eggs, dairy products, etc., to student throughout the day. This is all thanks to a grant from our partners at the Child Nutrition Council of Manitoba.



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Panther's Closet

Students are busy setting-up the Panther's Closet. It is already functional but is going through some restocking thanks to multiple donations from parents. Clothing donations can continue to be made in the foyer of the school.

Important Reminders for Parents and Caregivers

- **Please contact the office before 2:30 pm to inform us of any changes to your child's pick-up routine.** Last minute changes could lead to confusion or errors in pick-up. Student safety is paramount.
- We always require that parents or care-givers check-in **at the office and not go directly to their child's classroom.** For student safety reasons, we need to know who is in the school at all times.
- Please avoid the Skip the Dishes orders for your child. These lead to issues and problems for staff.

Important Dates

October 3 rd	No school – Provincially mandated
October 9 th	No school – Thanksgiving
October 20 th	No school – MTS PD Day
October 24 th	St. Norbert Parent Advisory Council
October 25 th	School Pictures



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From the School Division

As part of our Early Identification process, Seine River School Division enlists Vision and Hearing Screening in the fall of each school year. The purpose of both screening processes is to identify children who may have or are at risk to develop educational difficulties due to undiagnosed loss of hearing and/or vision. Hearing screening is done for our K-Gr.1 students as well as for those who are new or where new concerns have been identified. Vision screening is done for our Gr.1, Gr.3 and Gr.6 students as eyes change over time as children grow.

If either of the screeners indicates follow-up is recommended, families will be notified by:

- A letter from their Regional Audiologist, for a follow up appointment for further hearing assessment

- A letter from the school, with information to take to an Optometrist for further vision assessment

Seine River School Division believes that supports begin with the student in the classroom and expands to include varying levels of supports and assessments according to the individual needs of the student, as identified by the classroom teacher. Supports within each school may include Resource teachers, Guidance Counsellors, and at each High School, Alternative programming teachers. In school support may also include, at the request of the school team, input/assessments/programming from our Divisional Clinicians, comprised of Speech & Language Pathologists, Occupational therapists, school Psychologists, Social Work Clinicians, and a Physiotherapist.

If you have any questions, please contact your school Principal.