



## **N'kwala School – Parents Club**

Friday, September 19, 2025

Hello N'kwala Parents/Guardians and UNB Members,

The First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC) is currently providing support to schools who are interested in creating a parents club. This initiative is intended to help achieve the club's goal of supporting First Nations parents and the important role they play in the education of their children. The term "parents" intends to be inclusive of grandparents, family members, and other caregivers who contribute to the lives of First Nations children. Funding is provided to support this. The grant can be used to support activities such as in-person and virtual parent gatherings, guest speakers for parent workshops, and books/games/resources to encourage parental involvement and learning. This parents club can provide a wide range of support to our students. Some activities that can be part of this club include:

### **Activities to bring parents and schools closer together, such as:**

- Hosting parent luncheons or evening events in schools, with guest speakers or other learning activities, possibly including participation from children, parents, teachers and Elders.
- Providing supports to promote parent participation in school activities, such as childcare assistance, meals, refreshments, transportation to the school, etc.
- Sponsoring workshops or sessions with the school to share information about to help children with homework / home learning activities.
- Organizing family board game nights, or family recreation activities, or family arts and crafts nights, etc. held at the school.
- Efforts to promote parent volunteerism in schools, possibly including funding criminal record checks, or training for parents, or prizes/gifts to recognize volunteers.
- Purchasing books of interest to parents to locate in the school.
- Setting up a space for parents to visit in the school, possibly with refreshments and scheduled opportunities to "meet and greet," such as "coffee and cookie with the principal," or "coffee and muffins with other parents," or "meet the special education teachers," etc.
- Hosting of graduation celebrations and sending certificates from the Parents Club to graduates.
- Organizing parents and grandparents to read one-on-one with children in classrooms.
- Other relevant activities.

### **Activities to help parents support their children to be successful in school, such as:**

- Delivering kits for home-based science / art / baking projects to families.
- Sharing strategies for student success through community and club networking/exchanges.
- Taking children and their parents on field trips to universities, science centres, or career fairs to promote career and education planning (or sharing information about virtual tours).
- Inviting guest speakers on education topics, e.g. students with disabilities or diverse abilities.

- Sharing resources to support parents in addressing challenges with the school, such as racism, bullying, temporary suspensions, expulsions, etc. Activities to strengthen First Nations cultural learning, such as:
- Inviting a First Nation community leader, author, or artist to lead a workshop with families. • Offering workshops on topics such as learning on the land, virtual storytelling, etc.
- Supporting language activities for students and families.
- Holding an art or photo contest.

**Activities to support parents to be school leaders, such as:**

- Holding regular meetings to discuss education topics and concerns.
- Organizing opportunities for parents to get involved in school decision-making.
- Providing training for parents to be coaches (e.g. coaching certification for Basketball BC).
- Providing leadership training to support parents being advocates.

**Activities to promote family health, such as:**

- Inviting guest speakers to speak on healthy living topics.
- Supporting a community kitchen.
- Holding workshops focused on healthy foods and cooking, skills such as canning, etc.
- Organizing outdoor learning activities with families, such as family hikes.

**Activities to celebrate and support family togetherness, such as:**

- Organizing family photo sessions.
- Using Kahoot (a free game-based learning platform) to hold a quiz night online (where you can make your own quiz or use the ones already available).
- Hosting evenings for scrapbooking, baking and learning new crafts.
- Promoting parent/student bonding through recreation events.

**Activities to promote improved attendance, such as:**

- Hosting workshops on the importance of school attendance, using the Attendance Toolkit • Sharing information about current guidelines for when students should stay home for illness and when they are well enough to go to school – a particularly significant issue now. • Working with the school to involve parents in reviewing attendance policies to ensure they are relevant, feasible and well understood.
- Organizing incentive programs to promote attendance (see the Attendance Toolkit for ideas related to incentive raffles for families)
- Preparing and sharing materials to encourage parents to promote regular attendance.

If you would like to lead, or become a member of a parents club for N'kwala School, please let me know and I'd be happy to get that process started.

Please reach out to me at any time if you have any questions or concerns:

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Respectfully,

Travis Klak, Principal, N'kwala School