



Home & School Meeting, March 11, 2025  
Multipurpose Room at Prairie, 9 a.m.  
Join the [Zoom](#)

A. CALL TO ORDER

- a. CT 9:00am
- b. Attendance
  - i. In person: MF, AK, KS, NS, LD, MO, WW, MK, AC
  - ii. Via Zoom: DB, LC, ML, RD, AH, KF

B. WELCOME

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. [DRAFT H&S Meeting Minutes 2/11/25](#)
  - i. LD
  - ii. KS

D. PRESIDENT REPORT

- a. Thank Yous
  - i. Art Awareness: Laura DeFalco, Michaela Kent and all volunteers
  - ii. Art From the Heart: Rebecca Bailey, Maggie Rubin, Kat Stark
  - iii. Birthday Books: Sarah Daniluk & Kat Stark
  - iv. Book Fair: Alyssa Connolly & Whitney White
  - v. Coventures: Amy Heitzman & Emily Norton
  - vi. Directory Spot: Michelle Weisseg
  - vii. Family Connections: Kasey Gilliam
  - viii. Garden Club: Jenny Bouchier-Hayes & Sarah Sommer
  - ix. Marquee: Laura Goepel
  - x. Prairie Adult Social: Ryan Doornbos & Elaine Wendorf
  - xi. Room Parents: Mackenzie Henry & Katie Smreczak
  - xii. Social Media: Bridget Karnick & Erica Bennett
  - xiii. Spirit Wear: Nicole Anderson, Michele Larson & Christine Navea
  - xiv. Staff Appreciation: Food: Liza Schramm & Michelle Weisseg
  - xv. Staff Appreciation: Gifts: Christine Cox, Laura Gniadek, Donna Heine
  - xvi. Yearbook: Carolyn Buckingham, Lisa Crisup & Karen Kuhn
- b. General H&S Board Updates
  - i. Scheduling Updates/Innovative School Experience
    - 1. Board Meeting 3/10
    - 2. [Landing page](#)
    - 3. [Continuously updated FAQs](#)
  - ii. 203 Board Elections
    - 1. [Recording](#) from 3/4 League of Women Voters Candidate Forum
    - 2. Election Day 4/1 (during spring break, vote early)

- 3. 5 candidates running; 2 open positions
- iii. General H&S Exec Slate
  - 1. Spots still open; vote during April Prairie H&S meeting
- iv. 3/17: Kindergarten Preview (non-attendance day for current kindergartners)
- v. Youth Mental Health First Aid training, 4/24 & 4/26
  - 1. Details [here](#)
  - 2. Sign up to come
- vi. Crosstown Classic
  - 1. Save the date: 10/18 (Saturday), location TBD
- c. Prairie H&S Updates
  - i. Adult Social, 2/21 recap
    - 1. THANK YOU!
    - 2. Over \$17k in net proceeds were raised
  - ii. Art from the Heart
    - 1. Possible print run - more info to come
  - iii. Garden Club
    - 1. Chairs secured
    - 2. Garden bed update
    - 3. Registration for spring at noon today
  - iv. Prairie Day
    - 1. Save the date: 5/22 (Thursday)
      - a. Schedule being finalized and will be communicated shortly
    - 2. Rain date: 5/23 (Friday)
    - 3. Equipment update
      - a. Committee chairs are in the process of purchasing new equipment and looking for new vendors for the dunk tank and inflatables
  - v. SFCP
    - 1. STEM Fair 4/24
      - a. 6:30-8pm in the MPR
      - b. Information packets are going home this week. Interested students are asked to register by 3/24. Prizes will be distributed, all participants receive a medal. If not participating, students can still attend to view other students' projects.
  - vi. Brick installation - will occur during spring break
  - vii. Kane County Cougars Reading Program
    - 1. 2/16-4/12
    - 2. Games: Saturday, May 10 @ 6:30 p.m. or Sunday, May 18 @ 1 p.m.
    - 3. Tickets can be secured online using code provided
- d. Contact the board with any questions or suggestions:
  - i. Tia Claffy, [prairiehs@gmail.com](mailto:prairiehs@gmail.com),  
Colleen Troupis, [prairiecopresident@gmail.com](mailto:prairiecopresident@gmail.com)
  - ii. Carolyn Buckingham, [prairieschoolvp@gmail.com](mailto:prairieschoolvp@gmail.com)
  - iii. Allison Kellogg, [prairiesecretary@gmail.com](mailto:prairiesecretary@gmail.com)
  - iv. Nicole Anderson, [prairietreas@gmail.com](mailto:prairietreas@gmail.com)

#### E. VICE PRESIDENT REPORT

- a. Please submit WAAG entries by noon on Wednesday for next week's WAAG.

- b. Exec Board slate voting closed at 9 a.m.
- c. Current committee chairs, please complete the [Intent to Return form](#) ASAP

#### F. TREASURER REPORT

- a. Review current year account reconciliations, P/L reports and transaction detail reports
  - i. Account Balances
    - 1. Savings - \$5,562.36
    - 2. Checking - Bank \$60,643.42 - Book \$59,726.80
  - ii. Monthly Reports [February 2025 Financials](#)
  - iii. Approval of Reports
    - 1. LD    2. KS
- b. [2024-2025 Budget](#)
- c. Forms
  - i. Deposit form is available in the Prairie office - cash needs 2 signatures
  - ii. Check Request Form - [Printable](#) or [Google Form](#)
- d. All deposits need to go through Prairie office with 4-part deposit form
- e. Cannot reimburse tax - [Tax exemption certificate](#)
- f. Committee Chairs - Please fill out the [Budget Committee Planning Form](#) if you haven't yet

#### G. SECRETARY REPORT

- a. Correspondence
  - i. Staff
  - ii. Thank-yous
    - 1. Sam Dunne (Prairie School Social Worker): Good morning, I wanted to extend a heartfelt Thank You for the gorgeous flowers and thoughtful card and gift card. I feel so appreciated by the Prairie home and school community. I am grateful to have this opportunity to be a social worker at Prairie this year. I appreciate your kindness.
    - 2. Becky Rittgers (District Social Worker): Good Morning, thank you for the beautiful flowers for School Social Work week. I appreciate the kindness.
- b. Attendance Raffle - Quigley's Gift Card
  - i. Winner: Laura DeFalco

#### H. PRINCIPAL REPORT

- a. Please reach out to Mr. Zallis if you have any feedback about Parent/Teacher Conferences, specifically regarding conferences being remote versus in-person.
- b. Next Monday is Kindergarten Preview; this is a no attendance day for current kindergarten students. Prairie is currently slated for 3 sections of kindergarten in the fall. Although Mr. Zallis has received indications that we could have up to 80 students, only 64 have registered for Kindergarten Preview. Mr. Zallis mentioned the ongoing challenge school districts are experiencing in hiring kindergarten teachers, as college graduates are commonly receiving a Grade 1-6 endorsement. Please register your incoming kindergarten students with the district, and reach out to friends with incoming kindergarteners to allow more time for hiring if the grade splits into four sections.

- c. Class lists being compiled for the 2025-26 school year. The parent input form will be closed on Friday at 3pm. Requests are not retained for future years.
- d. The 5 Essentials Survey was sent out to parents; Prairie needs 20% of parents to participate in order to view the results. Currently the response rate is at 2%.
  - i. This information helps with planning purposes for administration as well as Home & School (SFCP Committee).
  - ii. Please complete one response for each building where you have a student; both parents are able to complete
- e. Washington will be hosting its "Moving On" ceremony on the same day as Prairie Day. We were not previously aware of this date and we had communicated the Prairie Day date to Washington. We will be moving forward with Prairie Day as scheduled.
- f. Prairie is hosting summer learning this summer and next summer. Please be aware there will be extra traffic in the neighborhood during June and July. The park district is also hosting after school programs. Individuals will be asked to leave the playground during summer school recess. Mr. Zallis will send out recess schedules once it's known.
- g. The possible schedule change that was mentioned as part of the Innovative School Day initiative will not take place for the 2025-26 school year. The board has delayed their vote and more information will be shared at future meetings. Our school schedule for next year will remain the same as this year (doors open at 8am, instruction begins at 8:15am, dismissal at 2:30pm).

#### I. TEACHER REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

- a. Just a quick thank you for a wonderful spring Book Fair! Students loved all of the choices and visiting. We hope everyone has a wonderful spring break!

#### J. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Written reports attached.
- b. Verbal reports
  - i. Spiritwear ([prairiespiritwear@gmail.com](mailto:prairiespiritwear@gmail.com))
    - 1. Spring spiritwear sale is open now through March 21st. Details coming home in folders this week and a Talk 203 will be sent out with a link to purchase. The spiritwear sale features some new designs from our very own art teacher, Ms. Fiedler.

#### K. NEW BUSINESS

- a. An infographic containing drop-off procedure information will be shared with the Prairie community. The information will also be shared at kindergarten preview. Home & School is also working with administration to ensure we have appropriate signage.
- b. Prairie Social Worker Ms. Dunne will be our guest at next month's General Home & School meeting. Ms. Dunne will be presenting information from the book "Yardsticks", a guide benchmarking typical developmental characteristics among children.

#### L. UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sunday, March 16: 4th and 5th Grade All-District Orchestra Festival at NCHS - 2PM
- Monday, March 17: Kindergarten Preview (\*\*non-attendance day for current kindergartners)
- Thursday, March 27: 2nd Grade Performance - 6 PM
- Monday, March 31- Friday, April 4: NO SCHOOL - Spring Break
- Monday, April 7: School Resumes
- Monday, April 7 - Friday, April 11: National Assistant Principals Week
- Sunday, April 12: Kane County Cougars Reading Program Ends
- Tuesday, April 15: Home & School Meeting with Special Guest, Prairie School Social Worker, Sam Dunne - MPR - 9 AM
- Monday, April 21: Fifth Grade Visits WJHS - 9 AM
- Wednesday, April 23: Administrative Professionals Day
- Thursday, April 24: 5th Grade Panoramic Picture Day - 9 AM
- Thursday, April 24: STEM Fair at Prairie, 6:30 PM - 8 PM (Setup begins at 6 PM)
- Friday, April 25: Coffee with the H&S Board and Principal - 9 AM
- Tuesday, April 29: Band Concert - WJHS - 7:30 PM
- Wednesday, April 30: Gr. 4-8 Spring Orchestra Concert - WJHS - 7:30 PM

M. MEETING ADJOURNMENT 9:44am

a. LD    b. KS

## **H&S Committee Reports**

### **Month: March 2025**

None