



Home & School Meeting, November 12, 2024
Multipurpose Room at Prairie, 9 a.m.

A. CALL TO ORDER

- a. CT 9:01am
- b. Attendance: MK, MBO, NS, WW, CB, CC , MH, MF, LD, AK, EN, AH, AC

B. WELCOME

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. [DRAFT H&S Meeting Minutes 10/8/2024](#)
- b. LD ii. CB

D. PRESIDENT REPORT

- a. Thank Yous
 - i. Author Visits: Jennifer Borja & Lonna Hancock
 - ii. Book Fair: Alyssa Connolly & Whitney White
 - iii. Coventures: Amy Heitzman & Emily Norton
 - iv. Family Connections: Kasey Gilliam
 - v. Health & Safety: Maaria Syed-Habib, Michaela Kent and Alicia Klabunde
 - vi. Marquee: Laura Goepel
 - vii. Room Parents: Mackenzie Henry & Katie Smreczak
 - viii. SFCP: Stu Hong and Mandy Loh
 - ix. Social Media: Bridget Karnick & Erica Bennett
 - x. Spirit Wear: Nicole Anderson, Michele Larson & Christine Navea
 - xi. Staff Appreciation: Food: Liza Schramm, Michelle Weisseg & all who donated
 - xii. Staff Appreciation: Gifts: Christine Cox, Laura Gniadek, Ryan Doornbos & Hillary Lafferty
 - xiii. Yearbook: Carolyn Buckingham, Lisa Crisup & Karen Kuhn
 - xiv. Also:
 - 1. Crosstown Classic: Janet Larchey, Whitney White and Leigh Sims
 - 2. Picture Retake Day: Karin Barden and Laura Muriello
 - 3. Veterans Day reception: Emily Norton, Heather Panfil, Courtney Harrington, and all who donated food
 - 4. Prairie Pavers: Kristin Turnbull
- b. General H&S Board Updates
 - i. See something, say something.
 - 1. Call (depending on urgency: 911, Mr. Zallis), [Tip203](#), [Let's Talk](#)
 - ii. [Focus 203](#) community engagement series - two separate sessions, two meetings for each session
 - 1. Session 1, Profile of a Learner: 11/19, 7 p.m. or 11/21, 9 a.m.
 - 2. Session 2, Shaping Innovation in Learning: 1/14, 7 p.m. or 1/17 at

- 9 a.m.
- 3. Click to [register](#).
- iii. Crosstown Classic—results coming
- iv. [GiftMart toy drive is now open](#)
 - 1. [Wishlists](#)
 - 2. Event will be held on Saturday, December 7th
- c. Prairie H&S Updates
 - i. Fun Run Fall 2025
 - 1. H&S (led by Crystal Coon & Megan Hower) is taking on communications, prizes, day of event, etc. Handling the event in-house will allow H&S to retain a larger portion of funds raised and we can select our own date. Event will look very similar but will be emceed by teacher volunteers.
 - 2. Platform change for online fundraising pages
 - a. Givesmart contract ends on 12/1. Our new contract would be going up to \$2600-2700 per year. Will be moving to CheddarUp; annual fee for the highest tier of service is less than \$300. Other district Home & Schools currently use this provider. CheddarUp will also be used for the Adult Social and we may use another site such as Zeffy to supplement our fundraising needs.
 - ii. Staff Gift Cards
 - 1. Platform change - see above
 - iii. Committee Chair January meeting
 - 1. Stay tuned 😊
 - 2. Will be sharing helpful tips
 - iv. Upcoming Events
 - 1. November 13: SFCP Bingo Night, MPR, 6:30-8 PM
 - a. Benefits West Suburban Food Pantry
 - 2. November 17: Staff Gift Card program opens
 - 3. November 20: Nicole Collier Author Visit - 1:30 PM (Grades 3, 4, 5)
 - 4. November 21: Family Magic Show - 6:30 PM
 - a. Two assemblies during the day, different show in the evening.
 - b. No need to RSVP
 - c. Will be held in the gym
 - 5. December 1: Last Day to Order a Prairie Dog Den Personalized Brick
 - 6. December 2: Staff Gift Card program closes
 - 7. December 2: Portillo's Community Dine-Out Night
 - a. Can also order ahead using code
 - 8. December 7: Jingle Bell Junction - 9 AM - 12 PM
 - a. Students will take part in a raffle for Jingle Bell Junction bucks
- d. Contact the board with any questions or suggestions:
 - i. Tia Claffy, prairiehs@gmail.com,
Colleen Troupis, prairiecopresident@gmail.com
 - ii. Carolyn Buckingham, prairieschoolvp@gmail.com
 - iii. Allison Kellogg, prairiesecretary@gmail.com
 - iv. Nicole Anderson, prairietreas@gmail.com

E. VICE PRESIDENT REPORT

- a. Send Carolyn announcements on Wednesday for inclusion in the next Sunday's WAAG.

F. TREASURER REPORT

- a. Review current year account reconciliations, P/L reports and transaction detail reports
 - i. Account Balances
 - 1. Savings - \$5,562.17
 - 2. Checking - Bank \$61,960.96 - Book \$45,116.02
 - ii. Monthly Reports [October 2024 Financials](#)
 - iii. Approval of Reports
 - 1. MH 2. CC
- 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](#)

G. SECRETARY REPORT

- a. Correspondence
 - i. Staff
 - ii. Thank-yous
 - 1. Hannah Arzadon
 - a. Thank you so much for recognizing World OT Day and for the gift card. It is very much appreciated. I am grateful to support Prairie students and staff.
- b. Attendance Raffle - Friendsgiving
 - i. Winner: Mary Beth O'Connell

H. PRINCIPAL REPORT

- a. Thank You
 - i. Thank you for our wonderful fall parties. Students had a wonderful time and we are thankful for our volunteers for organizing such a fun afternoon for our Prairie Dogs.
 - ii. Thank you to Ms. Brandes, Ms. Musgrave, Ms. Olsen and our student council members for planning such a wonderful Veterans Day program for our students, staff and families.
- b. Lunch and Play
 - i. Lunch and Play has returned for the 24-25 school year. Lunch and Play is a time for a parent/guardian to join his or her student during lunch as well as to assist students during recess by providing additional supervision as well as potentially leading organized play with groups of students. The program will run on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. The program will start the week of November 11th.
- c. Prairie BIG Dogs

- i. We're excited to share that our fifth-grade students are off to a great start with the Prairie Big Dogs program! In just two weeks, they've been working closely to mentor Kindergarten and first-grade students, helping them learn about the goals and expected behaviors for recess. Through weekly interactions, the fifth-graders are leading fun, engaging recess games and activities while also guiding younger students in problem-solving and improving unexpected behaviors. This program is fostering leadership skills, building a sense of responsibility, and promoting positive peer interactions across grade levels. We are so proud of our Big Dogs for their dedication and the positive impact they're already having on our school community!
- d. School Improvement Goals
 - i. A School Improvement Plan (SIP) is a roadmap our school creates to guide our efforts in providing the best possible education for your child. It identifies specific goals, strategies, and actions that we will take to enhance student learning, strengthen our instructional practices, and support the overall well-being of every student. Our current plans run through the 2025-2026 school year. Our three year building goals in literacy, math and SEL are as follows:
 - 1. Literacy 3-Year Assessment Goal: By the spring of 2026, 82% of students will meet or exceed expected achievement on the ELA section of the IAR assessment.
 - 2. Math 3-year Assessment Goal: By the spring of 2026, 76% of students will meet or exceed expected achievement on the mathematics section of the IAR assessment.
 - 3. SEL 3-Year Assessment Goal: By the spring of 2026, 86% of students will have a sense of belonging at Prairie Elementary school as measured on the Panorama Survey.
- e. State Designation
 - i. Beginning in 2018, each Illinois school began receiving a Summative Designation, a measure of progress in academic performance and student success. The designation is based on the formula the state has created and is based on proficiency, growth, attendance data, as well as participation in the 5 Essentials survey. The state assigns a percentage to each of these areas. Our summative rating for the 23-24 school year is Commendable. This designation is given to a school that has no underperforming student groups, a graduation rate greater than 67%, and whose performance is not in the top 10% of schools statewide. With the exception of two elementary schools (Scott and Ellsworth), the remaining elementary schools all received a commendable designation.

I. TEACHER REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

- a. We are thankful for the snack cart in the lounge being refilled. It is always unexpected and we love it! We hope everyone is enjoying the wonderful fall weather we have been having!

J. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Verbal
 - i. Book Fair (Alyssa Connolly)

1. The fall book fair raised approximately \$2,100 in proceeds
2. Mrs. Clarke selected \$1,400 worth of books to be added to the Prairie library collection (100 books)
- ii. Yearbook (Carolyn Buckingham)
 1. The yearbook committee will be holding a Training on December 2nd on Zoom; will be meeting with the Walsworth rep who will demonstrate placing photos in spreads.
- b. Written reports attached.

K. NEW BUSINESS

- a. None

L. UPCOMING EVENTS

- Wednesday, November 13: SFCP Bingo Night, MPR, 6:30-8 PM
- Sunday, November 17: Staff Gift Card program goes live
- Monday, November 18: [Board of Education Meeting](#) - 7 PM
- Tuesday, November 19: Report Cards [Available](#)
- Wednesday, November 20: National Education Support Professionals Day
- Wednesday, November 20: Nicole Collier Author Visit - 1:30 PM (Grades 3, 4, 5)
- Thursday, November 21: Family Magic Show - 6:30 PM
- Wednesday, November 27: Loaves & Fishes Virtual Food Drive Ends
- Wednesday, November 27 - Friday, November 29: NO SCHOOL – Thanksgiving Break
- Sunday, December 1: Last Day to Order a Prairie Dog Den Personalized Brick
- Monday, December 2: Portillo's Community Dine-Out Night
- Monday, December 2: Staff Gift Card program closes
- Wednesday, December 4: 4 & 5 Gr. Band & Orchestra Demo Concert - WJHS 7:00 PM
- Saturday, December 7: Jingle Bell Junction - 9 AM - 12 PM
- Tuesday, December 10: Home & School Meeting - MPR - 9 AM
- Friday, December 20: Winter Parties - 1:30 PM
- Monday, December 23 - Monday, January 6: Winter Break for Students

M. MEETING ADJOURNMENT 9:37am

1. LD 2. CB

H&S Committee Reports

Month: November 2024

Committee: Adult Social

Chairs: Ryan Doornbos & Elaine Wendorf (prairieadultsocial@gmail.com)

Social is booked for February 21st from 7-10pm at Cress Creek Country Club.

Committee: SFCP

Chairs: Stuart Hong & Mandy Loh (prairiesfcpl@gmail.com)

Wednesday, November 13 is our first Prairie Family Bingo Night! Feel free to drop by the MPR any time between 6:30 and 8:00 PM – or stay the whole time! Fun prizes will be given away throughout the night!

Committee: Author Chair Visits

Chairs: Jennifer Borja & Lonna Hancock (prairieelementaryauthorvisits@gmail.com)

We have concluded our first author visit of the school year and it was a success!

Committee: Family Connections

Chairs: Kasey Gilliam (prairiefamilyconnections@gmail.com)

The Pumpkin Contest was well received this year and prizes were delivered. Lost & Found is overflowing and currently getting donated/reorganized. I could use volunteer support if there are others who would enjoy helping out here.

Committee: Assemblies

Chairs: Matt Wilhelm & Laura Goepel (prairieassemblies@gmail.com)

We are getting ready for our upcoming daytime assemblies and family night show on Thursday, November 21st. The show is Tim Hannig's Pro Kids Show. The daytime shows will be at 12:30 & 1:30. The family night show starts at 6:30 with doors opening at 6:15. Please enter through door 11B. I am in the process of getting some flyers printed to send home with students. Tim requires one flyer to be sent home a week in advance, and another flyer to be sent home on the day of the show. My co-chair Laura Goepel will be helping to distribute flyers in teacher mailboxes.