Week At A Glance (WAAG) - March 23rd - March 27th

Looking Ahead (Events are subject to postponement or cancellation)
March 23rd, Six Flags Read to Succeed Program Begins
March 23rd, Deadline for Run Club Waiver and Contract
March 30th-April 3rd, Spring Break
April 6th, Classes Resume
April 7th, Run Club Begins
April 7th, District Awards Ceremony
April 8th, Alternate Schedule Day, Friday Schedule
April 8th, Fact Fluency Club Begins
April 14th, Home & School Meeting, 8:30am
April 15th, Ms. Kwon’s class recorder concert, 10:30-11:00am
April 15th, Mrs. Callaghan’s class recorder concert, 11:00-11:30am
April 17th, Mrs. Koenes’ class recorder concert, 10:30-11:00am
April 17th, Mr. Sanborn’s class recorder concert, 11:00-11:30am
April 17th, Six Flags Read to Succeed Program Ends
April 17th, Spring Crosstown Classic, NNHS, 3:30pm
April 17th, Movie Night

Important Links
Donate to the NEF Kid Booster Crisis Fund at www.nef203.org/donate
Report Cards can be accessed here.
Kindergarten Registration on the district website can be accessed here.
Summer School Information can be accessed here.
Virtual Backpack for District 203 can be accessed here.

IN THIS WEEK’S ISSUE
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* Resources Available To Prairie Families
MESSAGE FROM JT

Hello Everyone,
Hoping all of you are safe. What a week it’s been. Seems like only yesterday my biggest concern was whether we should postpone the Adult Social, now our normal daily lives have been, temporarily, radically changed. I just wanted to take a minute to say thank you and how impressed I have been with both the school and all of our families during this most trying of times.

The school district and staff worked together to not only make sure the safety of our students was maximized by staying home, but also put together an e-learning program in only a few short days so that their education can continue. We are fortunate to be in a community that values education and has devices for every child. Talking to other Prairie families that have relatives in other areas this is not the case in many districts. Many areas sent children home with only a few days' worksheets. Our teachers have been hard at work ensuring the kids not only have class work, but are engaged and in good spirits. You as parents have been phenomenal in managing working from home and helping your children accomplish their daily tasks. I know there were a few hurdles getting started on Tuesday but I loved how our community came together to obtain solutions to these hurdles. I have seen and heard of many helping each other on calls, emails and social media.
I am also so proud of our district and our Prairie families for the efforts to ensure that any families in D203 that need help meeting the basic needs of daily life are being helped. There has been great communication from Mrs. Wheeler on how to obtain help if needed. Please see a copy of her Talk 203 below and pass on to anyone in our district you feel could use the service. Right from the start I have been contacted by families willing to help those in need. We are never so strong as when we help those in need.

I know these are unprecedented times and experiences, but if we look in historical terms we as a nation have gone through such challenging times before and come out stronger than ever. I am sure we will do the same with this challenge. In the coming days stay strong and positive as you have done so far and please reach out to me if you are in need of anything. Myself and the Home & School board are here for you. I love each and every member of our Prairie family and I can’t wait for the day school resumes and I can see those happy faces racing in and out of school again!

Stay safe,
-JT

RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO PRAIRIE FAMILIES
From Mrs. Wheeler’s Talk 203 on 3.18.2020

Hello Prairie Families:

First of all, I just want to say hello and make sure you are all doing well given our current circumstances! This entire experience is new to all of us. It’s definitely a time of uncertainty and prompts many new feelings for everyone. Our best course of action is to maintain a positive and encouraging attitude in front of our kids.

I wanted to inform Prairie families in need of resources that are available during this time of isolation. Families may be wondering how they are going to make ends meet during this time or fear they may not have enough food for their children. Rest assured that as a district, we have some resources and tools for you to utilize, which I am including below:

Food:


- The district is setting up pick up locations for those students on the Free and Reduced Lunch list. More information from the district should come via email on those locations/hours.
  - Thursday, March 19th from 11:00-12:00 (pick up two days worth of meals)
Monday, March 23rd from 11:00 - 12:00 (pick up two days worth of meals)

Wednesday March 25th from 11:00 - 12:00 (pick up three days worth of meals)

- Meals will be available for pick-up at any one of the locations below:
  - Naperville Central High School – Front loop in the front of building
  - Jefferson Junior High School – Bus lane on side of building
  - Scott Elementary School– Front lane in front of building

- If you are unable to pick up the grab and go meals at that time, please contact dwheeler@naperville203. I will try to help with other needs as well if you contact me.

- For families of infants that have run out of formula- call the number on the back of the formula container and explain to them that the virus has impacted your ability to find and purchase any formula. They will send a free case free of charge (applies to Enfamil, Similac, and GoodStart)

Looking for a food pantry? Here is a link that will allow you to quickly access one!

http://communityhungernetwork.org/AreaPantries/area.pantries.html

**Internet:**

Don’t know how to make ends meet and pay for internet? Comcast is offering free internet to families who are in a difficult financial situation. Hit the “Apply Now” button on the link provided

https://www.internetessentials.com/covid19

**ComEd:**

ComEd is not currently providing electrical services for free, however, they are not disconnecting electricity in the event you can’t pay your bill. They will continue to charge for services, but flex spending options can be made available upon request through May 1st.

https://www.comed.com/News/Pages/coronavirus.aspx
**Nicor:**

Just like ComEd, Nicor is not going to cut off gas to anyone because they are not able to pay their bill. They will continue to charge, but flex spending options can be made available upon request through May 1st.


While I am not expert in navigating these new systems, I hope to be a support to you. If you are in need, please, let us know so we can find ways to connect you to resources.

Warmly,

Dawn Wheeler, MSW, LCSW
Social Worker, Prairie Elementary School
(630) 420-3893

**NEF LAUNCHES KID BOOSTER CRISIS FUND**
*From the Talk 203 on 03.16.2020:*

In these unprecedented times, the Naperville Education Foundation (NEF) has created a Kid Booster Crisis Fund, an emergency fund providing immediate access to financial assistance for students and families in need.

The Kid Booster Crisis Fund will help students that have been impacted by COVID-19. Possible use of funding includes:

- Financial support related to housing
- Meals for weekends and evenings
- Transportation needs

Donate at [www.nef203.org/donate](http://www.nef203.org/donate)

This crisis fund will directly help our most at-risk students, including the 15% of Naperville 203’s 16,500 students who qualify for free and reduced lunch, and the 1% of our students who are homeless. These are the families in our community who are most vulnerable to the overall impact of this virus.

This fund is a part of NEF’s existing Kid Booster Anonymous Fund. Kid Booster helps students in times of need and always has. This fund is accessed by the district’s social workers to meet the needs of the most at-risk students in our community.
They access this fund when no other source of funding can be found. It’s the safety net for our students.

Donations can be made online at www.nef203.org/donate or via checks made payable to NEF and mailed to NEF, 203 W. Hillside, Naperville, IL 60540.

On behalf of our Board of Trustees, who want to ensure that every student in the district can take advantage of opportunities to make the most of their education, we thank you for your generous support.

The Naperville Education Foundation is a not-for-profit 501(c)3 Illinois corporation, supporting Naperville 203.

For questions, contact the NEF office at nef@naperville203.org.

JOIN H&S AS A CHAIRPERSON FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR
The following committees need a chairperson or co-chair for the next school year. Please follow the link to see descriptions for each committee.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1-RrIEWfcL2_uHnwHDABXvjwJ8hmaj9JWHWWr3yNAI6q8/edit?usp=sharing

Please contact Emily Kozlowski at prairieschoolvp@gmail.com if you would like to sign up for one of the positions. Thank you!

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION
If you know of any families with incoming kindergarten students, please remind them to make sure they have registered their student using the online registration via the district website: https://www.naperville203.org/Page/4848.

Early registration allows us to have an accurate number to plan for sections and materials.

SIX FLAGS READ TO SUCCEED PROGRAM
Interested in going to Six Flags? The Read to Succeed Program will begin March 23rd. Reading logs are now digital; the link will be personalized and sent to your teachers to share with a code. If you would like to see the reading log go to: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1KbdP2JDQDHT4qOVTkBNN4SrDqO5ZeIxB/view?usp=sharing

The teachers have been notified about registering their students. Students will need to read 140 minute per week.
The program will end April 17th.

**SPRING RUN CLUB**
The Spring Run Club will be starting April 7th and will meet every Tuesday and Thursday in the month from 7:30-8:00am ending on April 30th. The Run Club is open to students in 3rd, 4th and 5th grades.

The Spring Crosstown Classic will take place on Friday, April 17th at 3:30pm at Naperville North High School. The contract and waiver are due to Ms. Olsen or Mr. Fries by March 23rd.

Please direct questions to Ms. Olsen (meolsen@naperville203.org) or Mr. Fries (mfries@naperville203.org).

Run Club flyer:  
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Nc380kbBRRNvvwCmQu87Qc2ELtgtj0rk/view?usp=sharing

Run Club Contract:  
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1QvSFlMqZbp5t4foB3ZhilgKc6gldKsow/view?usp=sharing

Run Club Waiver:  
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1QiiYB9VeN4qvACsK0gJrUOungUWlqIa/view?usp=sharing

**DISTRICT AWARD NOMINEES**
Each year the district recognizes the contributions of staff and community volunteers at their Awards Event. The following individuals have been recognized for their outstanding contributions to Prairie:

- Classroom Teacher – Mrs. Clarke (LC Director)
- Service Personnel Certified – Mrs. Dalton (LSC)
- Team Award – Instructional Support Team – Ms. Brandes, Mrs. Bartman, Ms. Wheeler, Mrs. Accardo, Mrs. Heilicser, Mrs. Cardenas, Mrs. DeSantis, Mrs. Stokes, Ms. Heiden, Mrs. Alberts, Ms. Arzadon, Mrs. Newell, Mr. Jessen, Mrs. Dixon, Mrs. Crawford, Mrs. Ramsay, Ms. Gonzalez, Mrs. Jankowski
- Administrator – Ms. Brandes (Assistant Principal)
- Service Personnel Non-Certified – Mr. Gulczynski (Head Custodian)
- Rebecca Smith Andoh Memorial Award – Mrs. Atkins (LC Assistant)
- Early Educator – Mrs. Boesso (Music)
KANE COUNTY COUGAR READING CLUB TICKET ORDERING INFORMATION
Beginning March 3rd, all readers who have completed the program can begin purchasing their tickets for the Kane County Cougars game on Sunday, April 26th at 1:00pm. Ticket order forms can be accessed here: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1iZjKRD5YisT-GAPRMoOfeDVcl9Y93dOd/view?usp=sharing

Please note when ordering: If you do not scroll down the page and enter the section provided in the ticketing email then it will automatically randomly assign you a section that probably isn’t with Prairie families. **DO NOT** hit submit before double checking you entered the correct section for Prairie families.

THANK YOU FROM THE BOOK FAIR COMMITTEE
Thank you to all of our volunteers and families for participating in our most successful Prairie spring book fair ever! It is always wonderful to see the students so excited about books!

During the fair the Prairie community purchased over $1500 in books for Dieterich Elementary School. The books have been delivered, they were very grateful and wanted to pass on their thank you as well.

DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP REMINDER
Thank you for all your support during our e-Learning time! We truly appreciate your time and patience. With students working online during e-Learning, please take a moment to remind your child about being a good digital citizen. More information about digital citizenship can be found here on our district’s website.

Other resources to assist with promoting good digital citizenship are listed below:

- Google’s Be Internet Awesome  
  https://beinternetawesome.withgoogle.com/en_us/
- Google’s Interland game for students  
  https://beinternetawesome.withgoogle.com/en_us/interland
- BrainPop Jr. Internet Safety (primary grades)  
  https://jr.brainpop.com/artsandtechnology/technology/internetsafety/
  - Log-in Information
    - Username: prairiebp
    - Password: pop68
- BrainPop Digital Citizenship (intermediate grades)
  [https://www.brainpop.com/technology/digitalcitizenship/](https://www.brainpop.com/technology/digitalcitizenship/)
  - Log-in Information
    - Username: prairiebp
    - Password: pop68
- Remind students to THINK when online!

  ![THINK](image)

  Before you speak:
  THINK

  T = Is it True?
  H = Is it Helpful?
  I = Is it Inspiring?
  N = Is it Necessary?
  K = Is it Kind?

Thank you,
Prairie Staff

**ABBREVIATIONS & ACRONYMS**

Have you been reading the flyers that are sent home with your child and are not sure what some of the abbreviations/acronyms stand for? Here are some of the most common abbreviations used at Prairie:

MPR - Multi Purpose Room. Large room adjacent to the lounge area at the entrance of the school. Used for lunch and meetings.

LC - Learning Commons, the library area.

Y/O: Youngest and/or Only.
You will find this abbreviation on order forms and other papers that come home to your child throughout the year. This means only one sheet has come home for your entire family. Prairie uses this to help save paper, when possible.

H&S: This is the abbreviation for Home and School.

WAAG: Week At A Glance
This is the abbreviation used for the electronic newsletter that is emailed to Prairie families on Sunday afternoons, sponsored by Home and School. Entries can be
Specials:
This refers to art, music, PE class and the LC (Learning Commons) at Prairie.

SFCP: School Family Community Partnership.
The School Family Community Partnership is an organization composed of staff and parent volunteers working together at every school to provide activities for students, families and community members for the purpose of enriching the students’ experiences and supporting each school improvement plan.

PSAC: Public Schools Administrative Center, located at 203 W. Hillside Road, Naperville

Please contact Emily Kozlowski at prairieschoolvp@gmail.com with any questions about or submissions to the WAAG. Deadline for submissions are Wednesdays by noon, for posting in the following week’s WAAG.

Here are some links you may find useful:
http://www.naperville203.org/prairie
www.facebook.com/prairiehomeandschool
http://www.prairiehands.org
Twitter: @Prairied203