WAAG March 8th-March 12th

Monday, March 8th
National School Social Work Week Begins

Tuesday, March 9th
K and 1st Grade MAP Testing (AM/Remote Learners 8:30-10:45am and PM 12:15-2:00pm)
Dan Gutman Author Visit for 4th and 5th grade at 1pm
Slate Ballot for 2021-2022 Executive Board due by 3pm
Home & School Meeting at 3pm
2nd Grade Impact Art! Club Meeting (Mrs. Anderson’s Zoom Room) at 3pm

Wednesday, March 10th
K and 1st Grade MAP Testing (AM/Remote Learners 8:30-10:45am and PM 12:15-2:00pm)

Thursday, March 11th
School Board Candidate Forum at 7pm

Friday, March 12th
Deadline to submit 5th grade pictures for Fine Arts Night
Spirit Day—Wear Green to show your Prairie Pride

Looking Ahead:
Monday, March 15th—Board of Education Meeting 7-9pm
Tuesday, March 16th—Book orders due for Dan Gutman’s Houdini & Me
Friday, March 19th—Crazy Socks Day, Report Cards Posted
Monday, March 29th—Monday, April 5th—No School for Spring Break
Tuesday, April 6th—No School due to Institute Day, Election Day
Monday, April 12th—Sunday, April 18th—“Up, Up and Away” Book Fair

IN THIS WEEK’S ISSUE:
* MAP Testing Information
* New: Home & School Meeting 3/9 at 3pm
* New: It’s National School Social Work Week, March 7-13
* New: Honor a Naperville 203 social worker
* New: Virtual Author Visit w/Dan Gutman (4th & 5th grade)
* New: Celebrating World Down Syndrome Day-“Knock Your Socks Off” 3/19
* New: General Home & School Slate Ballot for 2021-2022
* Recordings of the Optimistic School Community Live Discussions
* Voter Guide for School Board Election
* District 203 Board of Education Virtual Candidate Forum
* The Spring Book Fair is Coming!
* Last Call: Fifth Grade Request-Photos Needed
* New: What is going on in the community? (Updated 3.3.21)
* Tech Help for Prairie Students
* Family and Community Resources
* Abbreviations and Acronyms

See below for details of the above items.

**MAP TESTING INFORMATION**

**General Testing Information:**
Additional information on the MAP assessment will be forthcoming from Dr. Patrick Nolten, our Assistant Superintendent of Assessment and Accountability. However, we wanted to share the anticipated schedule for assessment at Prairie. Specific testing dates for each grade level can be found in the table below. This assessment will be administered while students are in-person.

[MAP Testing Schedule](#)

**Testing for Remote Learners:**
Arrangements have been made to bring our remote students in for testing as well. Additional information should have been received by our remote families via a Talk203.

**Arrival:**
Remote Learners coming into the building for testing will enter Door 11B (by the gym) at 8:15, after students who are in-person have entered. **Testing will begin promptly at 8:30.** Students are required to be wearing their masks once they are out of the car.

Please follow social distancing and remain 6 feet from other students in for testing. We will take temperatures, provide an opportunity for students to use hand sanitizer and/or wash their hands at an adjacent bathroom. Students testing will enter the gym where we have desks set up in a socially distanced arrangement and will use the same desk each day.

**Supplies:**
Please don’t forget to bring
- Chromebook or Ipad
- Headphones
- A free reading book
- Mask
- Water Bottles
- A Writing Utensil

**Dismissal:**
Students who are remote will be **dismissed at 10:40 out of 11B**—the same door they entered. Again, please ensure social distancing and safety protocols are maintained.

**Self-Certification Forms:**
If you have not submitted your child’s self-certification form, there is a form linked [here](#) and we will have some available the days students come in for testing.

If you are able to complete them prior to the day's testing, please email them to Jennifer Roque, RN [jroque1@naperville203.org](mailto:jroque1@naperville203.org) and School Nurse Jill Accardo [jaccardo@naperville203.org](mailto:jaccardo@naperville203.org). This will save an extra step on that day and limit contact.

**Make-up Days:**
While we encourage students to be in on their assigned day/time, if for any reason your child is not able to attend on their assigned grade level day, please reach out to Ms. Brandes with details. She will help families to learn about arrangements for make-up testing dates and times.

**HOME & SCHOOL MEETING 3/9 at 3pm**
Join us for our next H&S meeting on Tuesday, March 9th at 3:00pm. As always we will have a raffle prize drawing for those who attend. The zoom link is noted below. We will require that you have your first and last name and camera on during the meeting for security. We will also be recording our meeting. We look forward to seeing you there!

[https://naperville203.zoom.us/j/97940493893?pwd=dCt3ZEiTT0I2RTRqOnZKejBPOEdHQT09](https://naperville203.zoom.us/j/97940493893?pwd=dCt3ZEiTT0I2RTRqOnZKejBPOEdHQT09)

Meeting ID: 979 4049 3893
Passcode: 636664

**IT’S NATIONAL SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK WEEK, MARCH 7-13**
National School Social Work Week is March 7-13. Home and School is recognizing our school social workers Mrs. Dawn Wheeler and Mrs. Erin Keough with a gift. We are so thankful to each of them for all their hard work with Prairie students and the Prairie community! If you would like to contact Mrs. Wheeler or Mrs. Keough to let them know how much you appreciate them, their emails are dwheeler@naperville203.org and ekeough@naperville203.org

HONOR A NAPERVILLE 203 SOCIAL WORKER
Naperville 203 social workers work hard every day in support of Naperville 203 students and their families. They help identify potential barriers to students' academic success and social-emotional well-being, collaborate with and refer families to community agencies, provide crisis intervention and much more.

In the past year, our social workers' already challenging job has been amplified, showing even more clearly how important their role in the school community is. We've seen social workers think outside of the box and persevere with creativity and genuine caring to help our students and their families during a time of so much uncertainty for so many.

Give a social worker a HIGH FIVE for going above and beyond by making a donation to NEF now in their honor. Donate at https://nef203.org/highfive. See list of all school social workers including Prairie's own Mrs. Dawn Wheeler and Mrs. Erin Keough.

We will notify the social workers of the donations made in their honor (the dollar amount of the donation will not be shared) this week as a part of National School Social Work Week March 7-13. Thanks to matching sponsor, Healthy Driven Linden Oaks Behavioral Health, your donation goes even further! Linden Oaks will match the first $2,500 in donations in support of school social workers.

Hear from Liz Wrobleski, social worker at Ann Reid and Elmwood, discuss how "more families than ever before [are reaching out]" and thanks donors for "your dedication to this community."

Your tax-deductible donation will thank and honor social workers and support NEF’s district-wide programs at the same time. Any questions, contact Amy or Wendy at nef@naperville203.org.

VIRTUAL AUTHOR VISIT W/DAN GUTMAN (4TH & 5TH GRADE)
Prairie is excited to virtually welcome award-winning author Dan Gutman on Tuesday, March 9, at 1:00 p.m.! Mr. Gutman will talk with students about his career as an author and discuss his new book, Houdini and Me.

To guarantee a signed copy (bookplate) of this book, please place your order online via this link by Tuesday, March 16. Books will be delivered to Prairie after March 16. Feel free to reach out to Tracy Simmons (tracyjsimmons@gmail.com) with any questions.

**CELEBRATING WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY: “KNOCK YOUR SOCKS OFF” ON 3/19**

World Down Syndrome Day is celebrated on March 21st. This is a symbolic date to celebrate those individuals with Down syndrome as it represents Trisomy 21, the medical term for Down syndrome, which is the third replication of the 21st chromosome. We wanted to encourage staff, students, and families to take part in the “Knock Your Socks Off” campaign that is celebrated around the world. Everyone is encouraged to wear crazy socks (brightly colored, mismatched, printed, layered, etc.) to give awareness to the syndrome. Since March 21st falls on a Sunday this year, we would ask that the Prairie Community wear their crazy socks on Friday March 19th to show their acceptance, respect and the inclusion of those with Down syndrome. If you have any questions, please reach out to Mrs. Alberts at salberts@naperville203.org.


**GENERAL HOME & SCHOOL SLATE BALLOT FOR 2021-2022**

The General Home & School Executive Board for next school year will be voted on at the April 7th meeting. The following candidates would be elected to a one year term:
- President - Dani Bourgeois
- Vice President - Tammy Schultz
- Secretary - Emily Kozlowski
- Treasurer - Melanie Lucero

**RECORDINGS OF THE OPTIMISTIC SCHOOL COMMUNITY LIVE DISCUSSIONS**

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Optimistic School Community live discussions. If you were unable to attend you may watch the recordings of all three [here](#).
VOTER GUIDE FOR SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION
Here is the voter guide with information regarding the upcoming District 203 School Board election on April 6th. In it you will find information on registering to vote, how to watch the candidate forum on March 11th and the candidates' responses to questions posed jointly by the League of Women Voters of Naperville and District 203 General Home & School. The League of Women Voters of Naperville sent the questions to all of the candidates on February 5th and they were given the deadline of February 19th to respond. The voter guide went out on February 24th in an effort to get the information out to the community before early voting starts on February 25th. The voter guide was purposefully left as a Google document so that it could be updated if needed with new responses. The League of Women Voters of Naperville is a non-partisan political organization. General Home & School does not endorse candidates. Email Emily at prairiehs@gmail.com if you have any questions.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1egAxxQ50S9uLj7jIlp9so63YbK2R42CUXO_meKHN2jE/edit?usp=sharing

DISTRICT 203 BOARD OF EDUCATION VIRTUAL CANDIDATE FORUM
This event is sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Naperville and Naperville District 203 General Home & School. Naperville voters are invited to attend an online forum at 7 p.m. March 11, 2021 featuring candidates for the Naperville School District 203 Board of Education.

The candidate forum is free, but guests must register in advance.

Follow this link to register: https://rebrand.ly/54zg6vq
Following registration, guests will be able to save event information to their digital calendar.
The forum will also be live-streamed on the League of Women Voters of Naperville Facebook page:
https://www.facebook.com/leagueofwomenvotersnaperville

The forum will be recorded and available online afterward on the League of Women Voters of Naperville YouTube channel:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYE64ojtgWXSyXyXdbToKqQ
Unlike a debate, a forum involves a neutral, trained moderator from outside the district who presents questions to candidates for their live responses. The League of Women Voters of Naperville is a non-partisan organization. Home & School does not endorse any candidates. Election Day is April 6, 2021.
THE SPRING BOOK FAIR IS COMING!
The spring book fair will be held virtually the week of April 12th and once again we will be partnering with Anderson’s Book Fair Company. We are currently looking for students who would be willing to do video book reviews, the ones we did in the fall were so amazing! If your child is interested please email Emily at emily_uofi2002@yahoo.com or Maggie at margaret.rubin@gmail.com with your child's name and grade.

LAST CALL: FIFTH GRADE REQUEST-PHOTOS NEEDED
Attention Fifth Grade Families, the fun continues as we celebrate our final year at Prairie. We need your help with PHOTOS for the Fine Arts Night Montage.

There will be a special event in May for the fifth graders called, Fine Arts Night. We are creating a "through the years" slideshow including pictures from Kindergarten through 5th grade. We need your support to make this a true masterpiece by sharing your photographs with us. The pictures can be individual or with groups. Some great examples are photos from classroom parties, field trips, Prairie park district teams, and special events (like Prairie Day, Movie Nights, and Prairie Fest). We would like to ensure EVERY fifth grade student is included multiple times in this special annual tradition. We will incorporate as many pics as the layout and music allows.

Here's how you can submit your pics -
A. Email your high resolution pics with the child's first and last name and teacher to Kari Walker at karipogue@gmail.com.
B. Submit your hard copy pics in a labeled envelope (child's first and last name and teacher) as well as labeled on the back of the photos and place them in the appropriate bins outside of the main office. If your student is not in person, please drop off at the office, and the office staff will put in the Slideshow bin.

We would truly appreciate your photos by Friday, March 12th. Thank you for your help. If you have any questions, please contact Kari Walker at karipogue@gmail.com.

WHAT IS GOING ON IN THE COMMUNITY? (UPDATED 03.03.2021)
Jacque Clermont is the Director of Community Relations for the district. She puts together information regarding events going on in the schools as well as in the community. This is a wonderful reference for families to find out what is going on and opportunities that are available. Please use the link to see her most recent report.
TECH HELP FOR PRAIRIE STUDENTS
Prairie Tech support is available to all students when needed during remote learning. If your student’s Chromebook or iPad are in need of some tech TLC, please visit the Student Tech Help page for many easy solutions that can get your student back on track quickly. Tried to resolve the situation but still need assistance? Please enter a help desk ticket to Prairie’s computer support team using this link: Parent/Student Help Desk Ticket.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES
Click this link to access a variety of family and community resources. This document will be updated as new resources become available. Please contact Dawn Wheeler, Prairie School Social Worker, directly for assistance.

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 many meetings.

LC - Learning Center, 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 submitted to prairieschoolvp@gmail.com.

Specials:This refers to art, music, PE class and the LRC (Learning Resource Center / Library) 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 Nicole Kmetz 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
- Twitter: @Prairied203