



# WELCOME Back to School

## WELCOME TO A NEW ERA FOR SUN PRAIRIE SCHOOLS!

A close reading of the school district’s mission statement will show a very important four-word phrase to this school district: “To inspire and prepare.” With the opening of Sun Prairie West High School, the newly relocated Prairie Phoenix Academy High School, the newly renovated Sun Prairie East High School, and our reconfigured 6th–8th grade middle schools, this community is now entering into a new age of how we serve students and families at the secondary level.

As you know, our long-range facilities plan, which our community developed and presented to the Board of Education in 2015, also included the additions of Meadow View Elementary School and Token Springs Elementary School. Together, this community helped define our future. Now, we can utilize these facilities with innovative programming and exceptional staff to inspire and prepare our students in and out of the classroom. Both exciting and demanding, this historic year will be our first step in serving our students, our parents and caregivers, and our community in a new era of Sun Prairie Schools. And we are so excited to take these next steps with you.

Wishing you a wonderful 22-23 school year!

**Brad Saron**, Superintendent



**BE SURE TO  
CHECK YOUR MAIL**  
for our  
**SCHOOL EVENT  
CALENDAR!**



## FALL 2022

### IN THIS ISSUE

**BACK-TO-SCHOOL ESSENTIALS**

Pages 2–3

**SCHOOL NUTRITION**

Page 4

**KEEPING KIDS HEALTHY**

Page 5

**BUSING INFORMATION**

Pages 6–7

**SAFETY REMINDERS**

Page 8

**INFINITE CAMPUS**

Page 9

**SCHOOL CALENDAR**

Page 10

**BELL SCHEDULES**

Page 11

**OTHER NEWS**

Pages 12–13

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Page 14

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Page 15

**GET INVOLVED**

Page 16

[sunprairieschools.org](http://sunprairieschools.org)



Sun Prairie Area  
School District  
Futures depend on us...every child, every day.

## GRAND OPENING EVENTS

### CHECK OUT OUR NEW LEARNING SPACES!

We are excited to be hosting **FOUR** Grand Opening events this summer. Come tour our new comprehensive high school, Sun Prairie West High School, and see the renovations that took place at Central Heights Middle School, Prairie Phoenix Academy, and Sun Prairie East High School.

EVENT SCHEDULE		
Sunday, Aug. 28	12:30–2:30 pm	Central Heights
Sunday, Aug. 28	1:30–3:30 pm	Prairie Phoenix
Sunday, Aug. 28	3:00–5:30 pm	Sun Prairie West
Monday, Sept. 19	5:00–7:00 pm	Sun Prairie East

### CHROMEBOOKS

It is a high priority in our District to support our students in continued learning and in being good digital citizens. All students will undergo training on digital citizenship at the beginning of the school year. If they do not already have a Chromebook, they will receive one at their school once this training is complete. Students who still have old devices, chargers, hotspots, or other electronics should return them as soon as possible.



### YEARBOOKS

Watch for more information about how to purchase a yearbook for your student during the school year.

### SCHOOL SUPPLY LISTS

Lists for elementary schools and middle schools can be found on each school's web page, under the "Academics" tab by grade or subject. Middle and high school students can purchase school supplies such as notebooks, folders, and pencils based on personal organizational style and needs.



### FIELD TRIPS

We regularly incorporate field trips into students' learning experiences. Instead of filling out a separate permission form for every trip, you are able to check a box during the online registration process to cover all in-state day-long field trips for the year. You will still receive specific information about each trip before each event and can choose to opt out. The statement regarding field trips will appear like this in your online registration:

- Yes | I give permission for my child to participate in field trips via District transportation or via walking if within walking distance of their school.
   
 No



### ELEMENTARY BACK-TO-SCHOOL EVENTS

- **C. H. Bird** Ready, Set, Go • Wednesday, August 31, 5:00–7:00 pm
- **Eastside** Ready, Set, Go • Wednesday, August 31, 4:00–6:00 pm
- **Meadow View** Ready, Set, Go • Wednesday, August 31, 4:00–6:00 pm
- **Northside** Ready, Set, Go • Wednesday, August 31, 5:00–7:00 pm
- **Royal Oaks** Ready, Set, Go • Wednesday, August 31, 4:00–6:00 pm
- **Token Springs** Ready, Set, Go • Wednesday, August 31, 4:00–6:00 pm
- **Westside** Ready, Set, Go • Wednesday, August 31, 5:00–7:00 pm
- **Horizon** Ready, Set, Go • Tuesday, August 30, 4:00–5:30 pm
- **Creekside** Welcome Back Picnic • Tuesday, August 30, 5:00–7:00 pm

To see when Kindergarten Read & Greets are happening at each elementary school, visit our District website calendar.

### MIDDLE SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE EVENTS FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS/CAREGIVERS

- **Central Heights Middle School** • Wednesday, August 31, 4:00–7:00 pm
- **Patrick Marsh Middle School** • Wednesday, August 31, 5:30–7:00 pm
- **Prairie View Middle School** • Wednesday, August 31, 5:30–7:00 pm

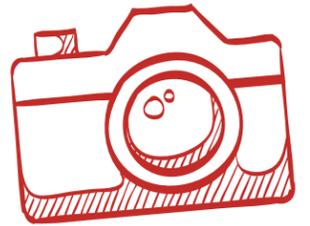
### HIGH SCHOOL REGISTRATION EVENTS

- **SP East High School Registration** • Monday, August 29, 8:00 am–4:00 pm
- **SP West High School Registration** • Wednesday, August 31, 8:00 am–4:00 pm
- **Orientation Nights by Grade**
  - **9th Grade Orientation** • Monday, August 29, 7:00 pm
  - **10th Grade Orientation** • Tuesday, August 30, 7:00 pm
  - **11th & 12th Grade Orientation** • Wednesday, August 31, 7:00 pm

*Note: Students should attend orientations at their high school. Events are held separately at Sun Prairie East High School and Sun Prairie West High School.*

### SCHOOL PICTURE DAY

We are partnering with Empire Photography for school pictures. Details regarding each school's picture day will be sent to you soon.



# BACK TO SCHOOL



### UPDATING CONTACT INFORMATION IN INFINITE CAMPUS

We ask families to provide us with up-to-date contact information before the start of the school year. To do so, log in to Infinite Campus and click on the "Online Registration" button on the bottom left of the page. We know phone numbers and email addresses change, and we want to be able to contact you in the case of an emergency. You can also sign the new permission slip and handbook agreement forms as a part of this process.



### STUFF THE BUS 2022

Stuff the Bus, a Sunshine Place program, works to provide backpacks and school supplies to children and youth in the Sun Prairie Area School District.

**For more information or to help the Stuff the Bus committee meet its fundraising goal, visit:**  
[sunshineplace.org/services/child-outreach/stuff-the-bus](http://sunshineplace.org/services/child-outreach/stuff-the-bus)

### BACKPACK DISTRIBUTION DATES

Tuesday, August 9	11:00 am–1:00 pm	C. H. Bird Elementary
Wednesday, August 10	4:00–6:00 pm	Northside Elementary
Thursday, August 11	11:00 am–1:00 pm	Westside Elementary
Thursday, August 11	4:00–6:00 pm	Sheehan Park

# CHECK OUT OUR SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAM

# KEEPING KIDS HEALTHY



**Nutritious breakfasts and lunches are key to student learning. It is proven that well-fed bodies make for sharp minds. We want your student to enjoy fresh fruits and vegetables, dishes made from scratch, and new and interesting cuisines with us every day! Our meals are carefully planned to meet the caloric needs of students while remaining low in fat and sodium, free of trans fats, and limited in artificial ingredients or dyes. Additionally, we offer a variety of menu items so students are empowered to make the right decisions when dining with us.**

**BREAKFAST AND LUNCH MENUS**, including nutritional information, may be accessed by visiting your school web page under "Quicklinks."

## SCHOOL MEAL PRICES FOR THE 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR

To put money in your student's account, you can make a deposit in the Infinite Campus Parent Portal under the "Payments" tab. Payments can also be mailed or dropped off at the District Support Center, 501 S. Bird Street, Monday through Friday, 8:00 am-4:00 pm. Meal prices can be found on our District webpage.

BREAKFAST	
Students	\$1.30
Adults	\$2.45
LUNCH	
Grades K-5	\$2.85
Grades 6-8	\$3.10
Grades 9-12	\$3.20
Adults	\$4.10
Milk	\$0.40
Extra Entree	\$2.90

## FREE AND REDUCED MEAL APPLICATIONS

Applications to qualify for free and reduced-price meals need to be filled out each year. Free and reduced meal eligibility not only gives you access to discounted meals but also enables our District to receive more educational funding based on our eligibility rates. Students also receive waivers on numerous fees. It is important to fill out an application if you believe you may qualify.

Applications are available online through your Infinite Campus parent portal, on the School Nutrition website, at all schools, or can be mailed or emailed to you directly. Call the Nutrition Department at 608-834-6544 or email them at [nutritiondepartment@sunprairieschools.org](mailto:nutritiondepartment@sunprairieschools.org) for more information.

## DID YOU KNOW?

The School Nutrition Program is offering a more diverse menu from different cultural backgrounds. Menus also include more healthy options such as daily salad bars at all schools so that students can incorporate more fresh fruits and vegetables into their diet.



## WOULD YOU LIKE TO DONATE TO OUR HUNGER HERO CAMPAIGN?

One of the best things about Sun Prairie is how our community comes together to help those in need. We have hungry students in our schools who need your help. If you or your organization would like to be a HUNGER HERO for Sun Prairie students, please visit our website or call the District Support Center to learn how to make a donation!



**Our Sun Prairie School Health Services Team is made up of two District Health Nurses and a Health Assistant at each school building. Together they work to remove health-related learning barriers and create a healthy and safe learning environment for all children.**

## BACK-TO-SCHOOL HEALTH TIPS FOR A HAPPY AND HEALTHY SCHOOL YEAR

- Make sure your child is current on vaccination requirements. The state of Wisconsin requires that all students entering 6th grade get a Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis) booster. Kindergarteners need a booster of the MMR, Polio, Varicella, and DTaP vaccines. Be sure that sufficient documentation or a signed waiver is on file with your child's school.
- Consult with your child's school nurse about any health updates or health needs your child may have for school this year.
- If your child will need to keep medication at school, it must be in its original, labeled container, and you must complete the Medication Administration form. For prescription medication either contact your doctor's office for their school medication form or print it from our website. Bring the completed form with the medication to school.
- Remind your child that handwashing is the number one way to prevent illness. Practice effective handwashing. Wash for at least 20 seconds, using friction, and wash the fronts and backs of hands and in between fingers. Soap and water are best, but hand sanitizer will do when those are not available.
- Make sure your child gets enough sleep. Start practicing healthy sleep habits, such as limiting caffeine after dinner, getting regular exercise, turning off electronic devices an hour before bedtime, and getting into a regular sleep routine.
- Be sure your child eats breakfast each day, at home or at school.
- For the most up-to-date information about COVID-19, please visit the District website and watch for email updates.



## QUESTIONS?

If you have questions or require assistance, email: [nutritiondepartment@sunprairieschools.org](mailto:nutritiondepartment@sunprairieschools.org) or call: 608-834-6544

## HEALTH SERVICES TEAM

### DISTRICT HEALTH NURSES

**DEBBIE BROWN**  
608-834-8106  
[dlbrown@sunprairieschools.org](mailto:dlbrown@sunprairieschools.org)

**ELIZABETH FEISTHAMMEL**  
608-834-8107  
[eafeist@sunprairieschools.org](mailto:eafeist@sunprairieschools.org)

### SCHOOL HEALTH ASSISTANTS

**C. H. BIRD ELEMENTARY**  
Linette Kasenow • 608-834-7306

**CREEKSIDE ELEMENTARY**  
Lindsay Collins • 608-834-7706

**EASTSIDE ELEMENTARY**  
Sheri Nelson • 608-834-7406

**HORIZON ELEMENTARY**  
Salina Carr • 608-834-7906

**MEADOW VIEW ELEMENTARY**  
Lisa Keller • 608-478-5006

**NORTHSIDE ELEMENTARY**  
Joy Foust • 608-834-7106

**ROYAL OAKS ELEMENTARY**  
Lori Coulthart • 608-834-7206

**TOKEN SPRINGS ELEMENTARY**  
Barb DeVenecia • 608-478-5106

**WESTSIDE ELEMENTARY**  
Halina Silva • 608-834-7506

**CENTRAL HEIGHTS MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
Tasha Harris • 608-318-8006

**PATRICK MARSH MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
Nan Pieper • 608-834-7606

**PRAIRIE VIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
Juanita Kranz • 608-834-7806

**SUN PRAIRIE EAST HIGH SCHOOL**  
Rhonda Gustafson • 608-834-6702

**SUN PRAIRIE WEST HIGH SCHOOL**  
Dan Goplin • 608-478-1706

**PRAIRIE PHOENIX ACADEMY**  
Veronica Vaughn-Chun • 608-834-6900

# BUSING INFORMATION



Sun Prairie Area School District staff members work collaboratively with our District transportation provider, Kobussen Bus Company, to keep students safe while riding the bus.

## BUS TAGS

All eligible bus riders must have their bus tags on their person when riding the bus. Drivers will ask to see bus tags and may deny rides to students they don't recognize if those students don't have a bus tag. If your child needs a replacement bus tag, please contact the school secretary. Students who carry smartphones can take a picture of their bus tag to show the driver.



- Secondary students will receive their bus tag at the Back-to-School Kick-Off.
- Elementary students will receive their bus tag at the Ready, Set, Go.

## BUSING ELIGIBILITY

Busing services are provided to elementary, middle, and high school students who do not live within walking distance of their schools. For students to receive busing services, they must meet the following distances requirements:

- **Elementary School:** Must live more than 1 mile from school
- **Middle School:** Must live more than 1.5 miles from school
- **High School:** Must live more than 1.5 miles from school

You can verify your household's busing eligibility by using the Boundaries and Walking/Busing Areas interactive map located on our website. Students with disabilities are provided transportation services in accordance with their Individualized Education Program (IEP).



## KOBUSSEN CONTACT INFORMATION

**BRINDA THOMPSON**  
Terminal Manager  
608-825-8700 ext. 5509  
brinda.thompson@kobussen.com

**JOJO SPOEHR**  
Lead Dispatcher  
608-825-8700 ext. 5510  
jojo.spoehr@kobussen.com

**TYARA BATES**  
Special Education Dispatcher  
608-825-8700 ext. 5526  
tyara.bates@kobussen.com

**SKY CHRISTOPHERSON-TEUBERT**  
Router  
608-825-8700 ext. 5512  
sky.cteubert@kobussen.com



## BUS DRIVER SPOTLIGHT RICH SPENCER DOBSON

"I have been a driver for Kobussen for eight years now. Before I came here, I was a teacher for 15 years. I never expected to work with kids again, but here I am. I continue to use my teaching skills on the bus with the kids and when training incoming and continuing drivers. My greatest joy at Kobussen is seeing the seniors on my bus graduate and follow their career or college path."



## BUSING FAQs



### HOW DO I SIGN MY CHILD UP FOR THE BUS?

You don't have to! All students in grades K-12 who are eligible to/from their primary household are automatically routed. If you need transportation to/from a secondary household or childcare provider, please visit the website to learn more about those requests. Busing for 4K students must be requested through the 4K office, at 608-834-6672.

### WHERE CAN I FIND MY CHILD'S BUSING INFORMATION?

Parents can view their child's busing information for the regular school year through the Infinite Campus Parent Portal at least two weeks prior to the start of school. The District will also communicate busing information around the same time.

### MY CHILD MISSED THE BUS, OR THE BUS IS RUNNING LATE. WHOM SHOULD I CONTACT?

Please contact Kobussen at 608-825-8700. If the bus arrived and left the stop before the scheduled pick-up time, they will send the driver back to pick up any students who were missed. Families are encouraged to have their child waiting at the stop at least 5 minutes prior to the scheduled pick-up time.

### I HAVE A CONCERN ABOUT OTHER CHILDREN ON THE BUS AND/OR MY CHILD'S BUS DRIVER. WHOM SHOULD I CONTACT?

Your first point of contact should be your child's school principal for any concerns regarding student behavior on the bus. The principal can talk with your child and any other students involved in the incident and determine if any disciplinary measures need to be taken. If you have a concern regarding your child's bus driver, please contact Kobussen at 608-825-8700. They will review the concern and contact the appropriate District personnel.

### I THINK MY CHILD MAY HAVE LEFT SOMETHING ON THE BUS. WHOM SHOULD I CONTACT?

Kobussen has a lost and found for all items left on the bus. Bus drivers usually keep lost items on the bus for a few days and then turn them in at the terminal. If your child has lost an item, don't forget to check with Kobussen. You may call or stop by the terminal to check the lost and found.

## DISTRICT CONTACT INFORMATION

**RHONDA PAGE**  
Business Services Manager  
608-834-6512  
rspage@sunprairieschools.org

**LISA SPRINDIS**  
Transportation Coordinator  
608-834-6511  
lasprin@sunprairieschools.org

## KOBUSSEN BUSES

1500 Forward Drive  
Sun Prairie, WI 608-825-8700  
Hours: 6:30 am-5:30 pm



# BACK-TO-SCHOOL SAFETY REMINDERS

# INFINITE CAMPUS

The Sun Prairie Area School District is committed to providing students, staff, and visitors a safe, welcoming environment. Here are a few conversation ideas for you and your students to have before school begins.

## GENERAL

- **Communicate with your child, addressing any fears or concerns about returning to school.** Discuss “what if” situations, such as “What if you get on the wrong bus?”
- **Talk with your child about the emergency drills they participate in at school.** All students practice fire/evacuation, severe weather/shelter, and active threat drills throughout the year. Please reinforce the importance of following these procedures when there is an emergency.
- If you believe there are unresolved issues from the previous school year that may continue to affect your child’s experience at school, **follow up with the teacher or principal.**
- **Remind your child not to go anywhere after school unless they first check with a parent or caregiver.** They should never go home with a friendly neighbor without parent/caregiver permission. Remind your child to travel with friends whenever possible.
- **Ensure that your child knows their telephone number and address,** contact numbers for trusted adults, and how to call 911 for emergencies.



## TRANSPORTATION

- Discuss transportation issues—How will your child get to and from school?
- Safety reminders—Cross streets at marked crosswalks, obey the school crossing guards, and don’t dart out into traffic.
- Bike riding—Discuss best routes, wear a helmet, and be visible. Lock your bike in the designated place.
- Have a back-up plan in case you’re delayed and can’t pick up your child on time. Where should your child go? Who should they contact? What should they do? Decide on age-appropriate solutions.

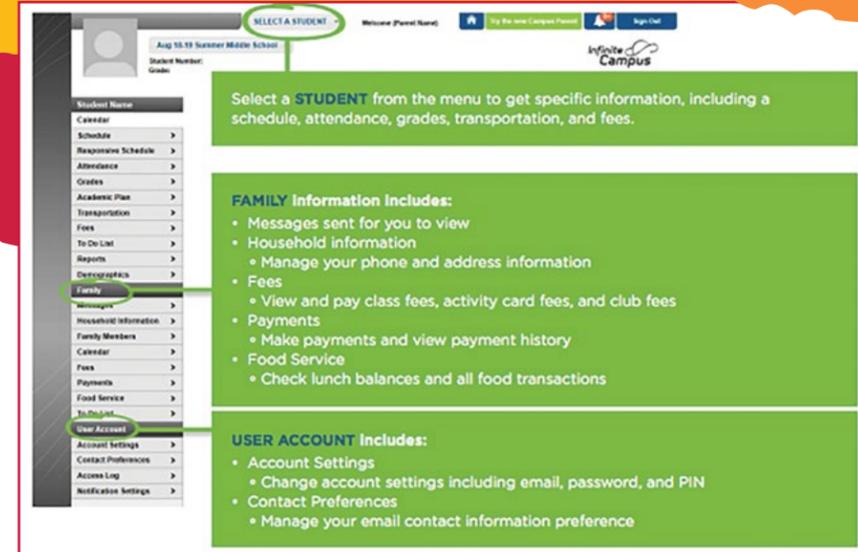
## DRIVER SAFETY

- Remember to slow down, observe 20 mph school zone speed limits, and look out for children who may dart out into traffic. Remind your teen drivers that the school parking lot should be navigated carefully.
- Please obey all signage displayed at the schools.
- Please do not attempt to pass other parked cars where there is no space for passing. Please wait.
- Please respect buses, particularly when children are loading and unloading. Always stop for buses with flashing red warning lights!

## SECURE ACCESS TO OUR SCHOOLS

Safety and security are our number one priority, so all exterior doors to our schools will be locked during the school day. If you visit, please push the call button on the audiovisual intercom located on the front of the building next to the main doors. Please introduce yourself to office staff and state the reason for your visit. Once you are buzzed inside, all visitors will need to provide photo identification. You will then receive a badge to wear during your visit.

**Thank you for making it a habit to have your identification with you every time you visit!**

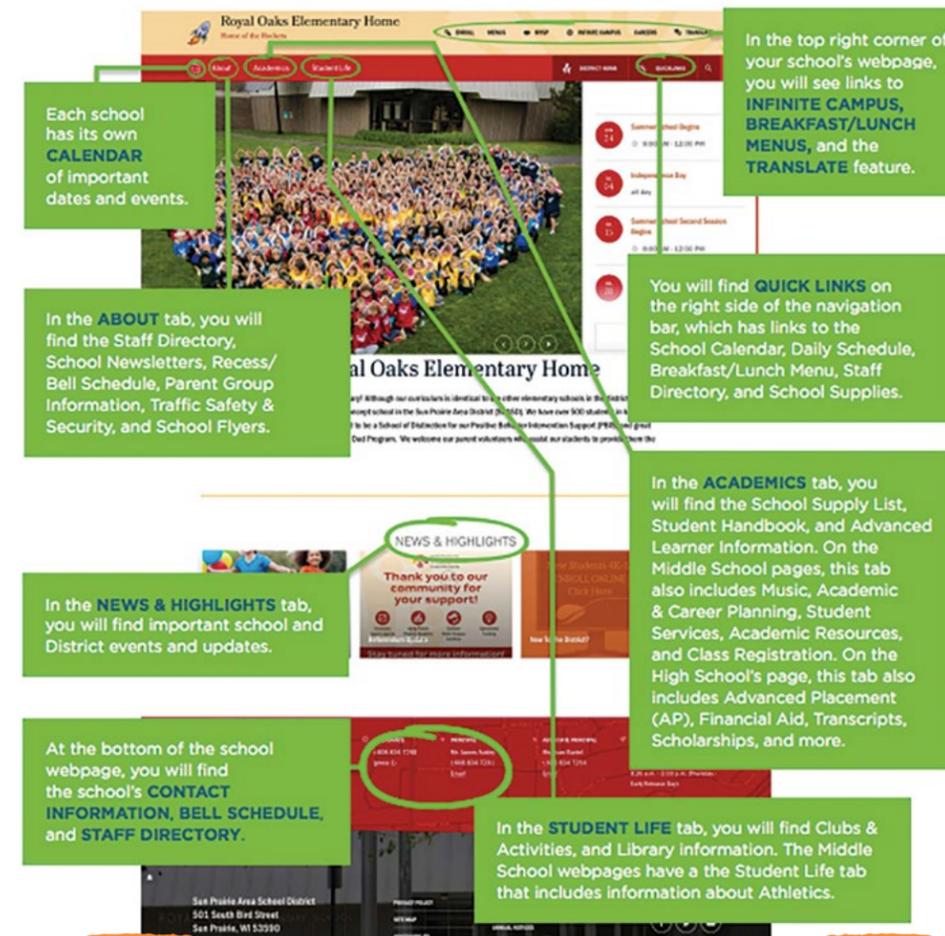


We use Infinite Campus to collect and store student information. This is the best place to find information about your student’s progress. Let us give you a tour of Infinite Campus so you know some of the features that it offers:

**TIP:** Please keep your Infinite Campus contact information current, as we use this information to contact families in the case of an emergency. We also ask caregivers to provide student health and medication information.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Student report cards are available electronically on Infinite Campus after each semester.

## SCHOOL WEB PAGES



Your school web page is a great place to find information. From the lunch menu and school newsletters, to contact information and important dates, you should be able to find key information at your fingertips. Let us give you a quick tour of a school web page:

**NOTE:** The District has a comprehensive website that is also a great source of information. Please check out sunprairieschools.org when you have questions about the District.

High schools and middle schools have additional information on their web pages.



# SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

## 2022-2023

# ODDS & ENDS

# BELL SCHEDULES



**REMINDER:**  
This year, the first day of school is **SEPTEMBER 6, 2022**, for K-12 students and **SEPTEMBER 12, 2022**, for SP4K students.

**SEPTEMBER 2022**  
5 Labor Day  
6 First Day of School (K-12)  
12 First Day of School for SP4K  
30 No School • Staff Professional Development

**OCTOBER 2022**  
13 Family/Teacher Conferences, 4-8 pm  
• No School for SP4K  
14 No School • Family/Teacher Conferences, 7:30-11:30 am

**NOVEMBER 2022**  
8 End of 1st Quarter  
18 No School • Staff Professional Development  
23 No School  
24 No School • Thanksgiving  
25 No School

**DECEMBER 2022**  
26 No School • First Day of Winter Break

**JANUARY 2023**  
3 First Day Back from Winter Break  
16 No School • Martin Luther King Jr. Day  
24 End of 2nd Quarter/1st Semester  
27 No School • Staff Professional Development

**FEBRUARY 2023**  
16 Family/Teacher Conferences, 4-8 pm  
• No School for SP4K  
17 No School • Family/Teacher Conferences, 7:30-11:30 am

**MARCH 2023**  
20 No School • First Day of Spring Break  
27 First Day Back from Spring Break

**APRIL 2023**  
6 End of 3rd Quarter  
7 No School • Staff Professional Development

**MAY 2023**  
26 No School • Staff Professional Development  
29 No School • Memorial Day

**JUNE 2023**  
2 Last Day of School for SP4K  
9 End of 4th Quarter/2nd Semester  
Last Day of School (K-12)  
• Elementary Dismissal at 11:10 am  
• Middle School Dismissal at 12:05 pm  
• High School Dismissal at 12:15 pm  
• Prairie Phoenix Academy Dismissal at 11:50 am  
**High School Graduation**

We have three weather days built into this schedule that we will not need to make up should we have inclement weather or other reasons for closing. If we have to close more than three days, we will make up days on **April 7** and **May 26**. If we go beyond five days, we will add instructional minutes to school days.

SEPTEMBER 2022						
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FEBRUARY 2023						
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OCTOBER 2022						
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MARCH 2023						
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NOVEMBER 2022						
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APRIL 2023						
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30						

DECEMBER 2022						
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MAY 2023						
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JANUARY 2023						
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JUNE 2023						
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**LEGEND:** No School - Holidays No School SP4K

## PEACHJAR FLYER DISTRIBUTION

Peachjar, an electronic flyer communication tool, shares information about important school activities and events. It saves our schools a lot of paper and reduces copy costs by thousands of dollars.



To view school-approved e-flyers, click the Peachjar button on your school's web page. You also will receive weekly emails containing your school's Peachjar flyers.

Your family's email address is loaded directly into Peachjar and updated weekly, so there is no need to sign up. If multiple family members want to receive this information, go to Peachjar.com and add your name and school.

**DID YOU KNOW?**  
*By using Peachjar, the Sun Prairie Area School District has saved 15,800,964 sheets of paper and 1,898 trees.*

## HAVE YOU DOWNLOADED THE SPASD APP?



Our app allows students, staff, and caregivers to quickly and easily access breakfast and lunch menus, school calendars, District news, Peachjar flyers, and Infinite Campus. Infinite Campus provides information regarding grades, attendance, and more. To download the app, scan the QR code above or visit the Apple App Store or Google Play Store.

## GET YOUR DIGITAL TICKETS FOR EAST & WEST HIGH SCHOOL EVENTS!

Ticket sales for all high school athletic events for Sun Prairie East and Sun Prairie West are now cashless through Ticket Spicket. If you are attending a Sun Prairie Athletics event, please be sure to purchase tickets in advance and show them at the door for immediate entry to the event. To access Ticket Spicket, visit the Athletics and Activities section of our website or scan the QR code to the right for your school.



The Secondary Boundary and Bell Time Task Force met over a period of 13 months, conducted a community survey, and analyzed the results to recommend the following bell times for the 2022-2023 school year:

### ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

7:40 am-2:40 pm (Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri)  
7:40 am-1:30 pm (Thurs)

### MIDDLE SCHOOLS

8:25 am-3:35 pm

### EAST & WEST HIGH SCHOOLS

8:35 am-3:45 pm

### PRAIRIE PHOENIX ACADEMY

8:45 am-3:20 pm

### SP4KIDS

(4-YEAR-OLD PROGRAM)

### DISTRICT SITES

#### MORNING SESSION:

7:40 am-10:23 am (Mon-Fri)

#### AFTERNOON SESSION:

11:42 am-2:40 pm (Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri)

#### EARLY RELEASE:

11:42 am-1:30 pm (Thurs)

### COMMUNITY PARTNER SITES

#### MORNING SESSION:

7:50 am-10:33 am (Mon-Fri)

#### AFTERNOON SESSION:

11:32 am-2:30 pm (Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri)

#### EARLY RELEASE:

11:32 am-1:20 pm (Thurs)



# IN OTHER NEWS . . .

## UPDATES FROM AROUND THE DISTRICT

### MEET OUR NEW PRINCIPALS

#### KYLE WALSH CREEKSIDE ELEMENTARY

 Please welcome Mr. Kyle Walsh to the Creekside and Sun Prairie community! Mr. Walsh previously served as the Principal at Akira Toki Middle School in the Madison Metropolitan School District, an Elementary School Principal in the Pecatonica Area School District, and a 1st-grade teacher in the Verona Area School District. He is excited to bring his passion for education and learning to the Creekside community!

#### JILLIAN BLOCK NORTHSIDE ELEMENTARY

 Northside Elementary has a new principal this year, but she's a familiar face to the District. After serving as Creekside's principal for nine years, Ms. Jillian Block is now a Nighthawk. Welcome to Northside, Principal Block!

#### JENNIFER PLOEGER SUN PRAIRIE WEST HIGH SCHOOL

 Ms. Ploeger will be joining and leading our Sun Prairie West High School caregivers, students, and staff. She previously served as an Assistant Principal, a Coordinator of Academic and Career Planning, a Multi-Tiered Systems of Support Coordinator, and a 9th-grade Academy Leader. She also worked as a high school teacher in the Madison Metropolitan School District, in Chicago Public Schools, and in Iowa. She is excited to bring her skills, passion, and experience to the community of Sun Prairie and our brand-new high school.



### SOUND OF SUN PRAIRIE TURNS 50

The Sound of Sun Prairie, a marching band composed of students in grades 8-12, is celebrating its 50th Anniversary! The group has fostered an incredible community and impacted the lives of thousands of our students. As a part of the celebration, students had the opportunity to travel to Florida and perform at Walt Disney World in front of thousands of people.



### FAMILY CURRICULUM GUIDES

Want to learn more about grade-level learning experiences for our elementary school families? Visit your school's website and search for "Parent Curriculum Guides" under the "Academics" tab. Guides are available in both English and Spanish.



### ATTENDANCE COUNTS!

There are many benefits to regular school attendance! These include: (data courtesy of the Economic Policy Institute)

- **ACHIEVEMENT** – Students who regularly attend school are more likely to pass reading and math assessments than students who do not.
- **OPPORTUNITY** – Being in school every day gives students a chance to learn about post-secondary opportunities, including colleges, apprenticeship or trade programs, and the military.
- **COMMUNITY** – When at school, children learn how to become good citizens and develop social skills and a broader worldview.

*According to state law, a student is considered truant if they are absent without an acceptable excuse for all or part of one or more days during which school is held. A student qualifies to be habitually truant when they are absent without an acceptable excuse for all or part of five or more days in a school semester.*

### CHECK OUT OUR DIGITAL "HISTORY WALLS"

We are committed to uplifting our alumni's achievements and our District's 150-year-old culture of excellence. Sun Prairie East High School, Sun Prairie West High School, and Prairie Phoenix Academy are adding touch-screen digital exhibits showcasing class composite photos, Wall of Success honorees, and yearbooks.



Our new Professional Learning Center, located at Central Heights Middle School, will now host school board meetings and be home to our Wall of Success plaques and framed class composite images dating back to 1886. The location of Central Heights formerly served as our district's sole high school, and has been called "School House Hill." There will be space at each high school dedicated to "restart" a history wall and feature class pictures going forward.

**COMING SOON:** The District is developing a web page featuring these digital images and former yearbooks so our alumni and community can access them at any time from anywhere.

### USE OUR FACILITIES!

Did you know community groups can reserve SPASD facilities upon request? We currently average 22,000 hours of public use of District facilities per year, which is spread amongst an average of 150 different locations inside and/or outside our buildings. Learn more by visiting the Facilities page on our website!




## Big News!

Community members can support innovative learning for all Sun Prairie Area School District students by purchasing a hexagon tile on the wolf donor wall located in the Commons area adjacent to the Sun Prairie West High School competition gym.

**What?**  
With over 122 tiles on the lighted donor board, the community has several donation level options ranging from \$2,500 to \$50,000 to create a legacy that will last for decades.

**Why?**  
The need for supporting our schools has never been greater! With 600 grants requested since its inception, SPEF hopes to raise the funds needed to meet the increasing community demands and fund 100% of eligible grants submitted.

**How?**  
Contact an SPEF Trustee today or fill out the contact form for more information. A SPEF Trustee is happy to provide more details and even provide you with a tour of any of our 15 amazing schools to show you all the options available for you to CREATE YOUR LEGACY!

[www.SunPrairieEducationFoundation.org](http://www.SunPrairieEducationFoundation.org)  
Find us on Facebook

Scan to learn more!



### NEW STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

When creating our new Strategic Framework, we engaged our community to make sure our strategic direction is keeping up with its diverse needs and priorities. In total, we received over 1,400 survey responses, conducted over 100 interviews, and hosted two "Ideas Fair" events. We then sent the data to the Wisconsin Center for Education Research for analysis, which was used to guide our new Strategic Framework. The new framework centers on three cultures we want to promote in our District: a Culture of Educational Excellence, a Culture of Engagement and Inclusion, and a Culture of Operational Excellence. We are excited to watch it come to life this school year!

**Vision**  
Recognized as a high-performing district of choice that reflects the cultures of our diverse community.

**Mission**  
Inspire and prepare every child, every day, by providing relevant, engaging, and innovative learning experiences in and out of the classroom.

**Our Commitment to Equity and Excellence Through Continuous Improvement**

Culture of Educational Excellence	Culture of Engagement and Inclusion	Culture of Operational Excellence
<p><b>Student Experiences Goal</b> Educational experiences in Sun Prairie will be rigorous and aligned to standards. Exceptional experiences include student goal setting, active student participation in their learning, and multiple opportunities and access to demonstrate their learning.</p>	<p><b>Community of Exceptional &amp; Diverse Educators &amp; Staff Goal</b> Strive to proactively recruit, retain, and engage diverse and exceptional talent.</p>	<p><b>Finance Goal</b> Prioritize the investment of our resources to support educational experiences in and out of the classroom, the student and staff physical environment, and the teams serving our organizational mission.</p>
<p><b>Student Learning Environment Goal</b> The educational environment establishes the conditions where every child feels welcome and able to succeed. In order to create the necessary conditions for learning, educators create spaces where the classroom community accepts and supports the development of all students as people, where learning partnerships thrive between students and adults, and where there is an established culture of care.</p>	<p><b>Communications &amp; Community Engagement Goal</b> Excel in how we collaborate and communicate with all stakeholders, and build relationships that promote positive outcomes for students.</p>	<p><b>Facilities Goal</b> Prioritize the investment of our resources to support educational experiences in and out of the classroom, the physical environment for students and staff, and the teams serving our organizational mission.</p>

## HOMECOMING, PROM, & GRADUATION ACTIVITIES



### Sun Prairie East High School:

- Homecoming Parade: Sept. 29
- Homecoming Game: Sept. 30
- Homecoming Dance: Oct. 1
- Prom: May 13

### Sun Prairie West High School:

- Homecoming Parade: Oct. 13
- Homecoming Game: Oct. 14
- Homecoming Dance: Oct. 15
- Prom: May 20

Prairie Phoenix Academy students will attend the prom or homecoming activities of their attendance-boundary high school.

Sun Prairie East and Sun Prairie West high schools will have a combined graduation ceremony for the Class of 2023 on June 9.

## SUMMER RENOVATIONS

Crews have been hard at work getting Central Heights, Prairie Phoenix Academy (PPA), and Sun Prairie East, ready for school this fall!

Here's a look at just some of the work that's been done:

**Central Heights/PPA:** Crews are working on stud framing, drywall, masonry, in-wall electronic and mechanical work, and installing wood floors in PPA's gym. Work is continuing throughout the summer, and the spaces will be ready for learning in September!

**Sun Prairie East:** New, larger doors are being installed at the library entrances. The ground floor Learning Communities are taking shape, and crews are beginning to paint them and install the ceiling grid. Similar to Sun Prairie West, learning spaces at Sun Prairie East will be grouped together in pods.



Expanding the Library Entrance at SP East

# CONTACT US!

## DISTRICT CONTACTS

### DR. BRAD SARON

Superintendent  
608-834-6502

### STEPHANIE LEONARD-WITTE

Assistant Superintendent of Teaching, Learning, & Equity  
608-834-6516

### JANET ROSSETER

Assistant Superintendent of Operations  
608-834-6683

### PATTI LUX

Communications & Engagement Officer  
608-834-6562

### TEACHING, LEARNING, & EQUITY

### JENNIFER APODACA

Director of Student Services  
608-834-6520

### JANET THOMAS

Associate Director of Student Services  
608-834-6638

### DR. CURTIS MOULD

Director of Digital Media, Innovation, & Strategy  
608-834-6531

### DR. SARAH CHAJA-CLARDY

Director of Secondary Teaching, Learning, & Equity  
608-834-6572

### RICK MUELLER

Director of Elementary Teaching, Learning, & Equity  
608-834-6506

### DR. NICK REICHHOFF

Director of Student Policy & School Operations  
608-834-6624

### MICHAEL MORGAN JR.

Director of Systemic Equity & Inclusion  
608-834-6599

### JAMIE RACINE

Community Schools Program Coordinator  
608-834-6534

### OPERATIONS

#### PHIL FREI

Director of Business & Finance  
608-834-6510

#### RHONDA PAGE

Business Services Manager/Busing  
608-834-6512

#### DR. CHRIS SADLER

Director of Human Resources  
608-834-6551

#### KATHRYN WALKER

Director of School Nutrition  
608-834-6527

#### KEVIN SUKOW

Director of Facilities & Grounds  
608-834-6567

#### ERIC NEE

Director of Athletics & Activities  
608-834-6532

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

The community is always invited to attend Board meetings. The School Board meets on the second and fourth Mondays of each month.\*

Meetings are held at the Professional Learning Center in the Central Heights Middle School building, which is located at 220 Kroncke Drive. Meetings begin at 6:00 pm and are televised live on Charter cable channel 983, streamed live online at ksun.tv, and broadcast on 103.5 FM, The Sun Community Radio.

School Board meeting notices, agendas, and minutes are posted on BoardDocs, our electronic system, which can be accessed from our website.

\* Check the website for meeting dates.

### ATTEND THE ANNUAL ELECTORS MEETING

October 10 at 6:00 pm

Sun Prairie West High School Performing Arts Center

## BOARD MEMBERS



### DR. STEVE SCHROEDER

President  
shschro@sunprairieschools.org



### BRYN HORTON

Vice President  
bmhorto@sunprairieschools.org



### CAROL SUE ALBRIGHT

Clerk  
csalbri@sunprairieschools.org



### LATOYA HOLIDAY

Treasurer  
lmholid@sunprairieschools.org



### TOM WEBER

Governance Officer  
tweber@sunprairieschools.org



### DIANA MCFARLAND

Deputy Clerk  
dmmcfar@sunprairieschools.org



### ALWYN FOSTER

Member  
aafoste@sunprairieschools.org

### CARSON SCHMOLDT

Student Representative  
SP West High School Senior

### EMBREE WAY

Student Representative  
SP East High School Senior

### DENEAJA DONEGAN

Student Representative  
Prairie Phoenix Academy Senior

### MRINANK PANDA

Student Representative  
SP West High School Junior

### ELI GILLITZER

Student Representative  
SP East High School Junior

### CIARA HILL

Student Representative  
Prairie Phoenix Academy Junior

No student may be unlawfully discriminated against in any school programs or activities or in usage of facilities because of the student's gender identity, gender expressions, or non-conformity to gender-role stereotypes; color; religion; demonstration of belief or non-belief; profession; race; national origin (including limited English proficiency); ancestry; creed; pregnancy; marital or parental status; homelessness status; sexual orientation; age; or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability. Harassment is a form of discrimination and shall not be tolerated in the District. It is the responsibility of administrators, staff members, and all students to ensure that student discrimination or harassment does not occur.

## OUR SCHOOLS

### EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM

608-478-5187

### C. H. BIRD ELEMENTARY

NICOLE TOEPFER, Principal  
608-834-7300 • 1170 N. Bird St.

### CREEKSIDE ELEMENTARY

KYLE WALSH, Principal  
608-834-7700 • 1251 O'Keeffe Ave.

### EASTSIDE ELEMENTARY

CRAIG COULTHART, Principal  
608-834-7400 • 661 Elizabeth Ln.

### HORIZON ELEMENTARY

MICHELLE KELLY, Principal  
608-834-7900 • 625 N. Heatherstone Dr.

### MEADOW VIEW ELEMENTARY

CYNTHIA BELL JIMENEZ, Principal  
608-478-5000 • 200 N. Grand Ave.

### NORTHSIDE ELEMENTARY

JILLIAN BLOCK, Principal  
608-834-7100 • 230 W. Klubertanz Dr.

### ROYAL OAKS ELEMENTARY

JAMES ACKLEY, Principal  
608-834-7200 • 2215 Pennsylvania Ave.

### TOKEN SPRINGS ELEMENTARY

MIKE MARINCIC, Principal  
608-478-5100 • 1435 N. Thompson Rd.

### WESTSIDE ELEMENTARY

NIKKI HARCUS, Principal  
608-834-7500 • 1320 Buena Vista Dr.

### CENTRAL HEIGHTS MIDDLE SCHOOL

SARAH PRANKEKLANG, Principal  
608-318-8000 • 220 Kroncke Dr., Suite 100

### PATRICK MARSH MIDDLE SCHOOL

REBECCA ZAHN, Principal  
608-834-7600 • 1351 Columbus St.

### PRAIRIE VIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL

MICHELLE JENSEN, Principal  
608-834-7800 • 400 N. Thompson Dr.

### SUN PRAIRIE EAST HIGH SCHOOL

RENEE COLEMAN, Principal  
608-834-6700 • 888 Grove St.

### SUN PRAIRIE WEST HIGH SCHOOL

JENNIFER PLOEGER, Principal  
608-478-1700 • 2850 Ironwood Dr.

### PRAIRIE PHOENIX ACADEMY

NIKOLE SCONIERS, Principal  
608-834-6900 • 220 Kroncke Dr., Suite 130

### SUN PRAIRIE VIRTUAL SCHOOL

608-834-6901

### SP4KIDS

ELIZABETH KNUDTEN, Program Supervisor  
608-834-6671

# GET INVOLVED IN OUR SCHOOLS



Sun Prairie Area  
School District

501 S. Bird Street  
Sun Prairie, WI 53590

## ENGAGED FAMILIES AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS ARE IMPORTANT TO US.

Many people volunteer in our schools, making a world of difference in the education of our students, as Schools of Hope volunteers, AVID tutors, Performing Arts Center ushers, chaperones for field trips, and more. If you are interested in volunteering, please visit the District website under the “Community and Volunteering in the District” tab to find more information and forms to submit. Thank you to our volunteers! We could not do this very important work without you.

## SPREAD THE WORD WE ARE HIRING!



To view our available positions, visit our website or scan the QR code!

**Dr. Chris Sadler,**  
*Director of Human Resources*

**Isabel Simonetti,**  
*Employee Relations Manager*



## JOIN YOUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION.

Our schools have parent and caregiver groups, which are called School Community Organizations (SCOs). Joining your school's SCO is a great way to get connected to your school. There are a variety of volunteer opportunities to choose from and monthly meetings you are invited to attend. You can find more information about your SCO on your school web page under the “About” tab.

## BUDGET CHALLENGES

State funding to support educational programs and services has not kept pace with inflation. This is especially difficult given the recent and ongoing cost of living increases. We ask for our community's support to maintain an exceptional Sun Prairie Experience for our students. Learn more about our budget planning or potential November referendum by visiting the “**Budget Challenges & Planning**” webpage under the District tab of our website.

## NEED HELP?

***Our staff is available to assist you at the District Support Center***

501 S. Bird Street, Sun Prairie, WI 53590 | 8:00 am–4:30 pm | Monday–Friday

sunprairieschools.org | t: 608-834-6500 | f: 608-837-9311

***Translators are also available.***

STAY CONNECTED TO THE  
**SUN PRAIRIE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**



@sunprairieschools



Sun Prairie Area School District



sunprairieschooldistrict



Sun Prairie Area School District