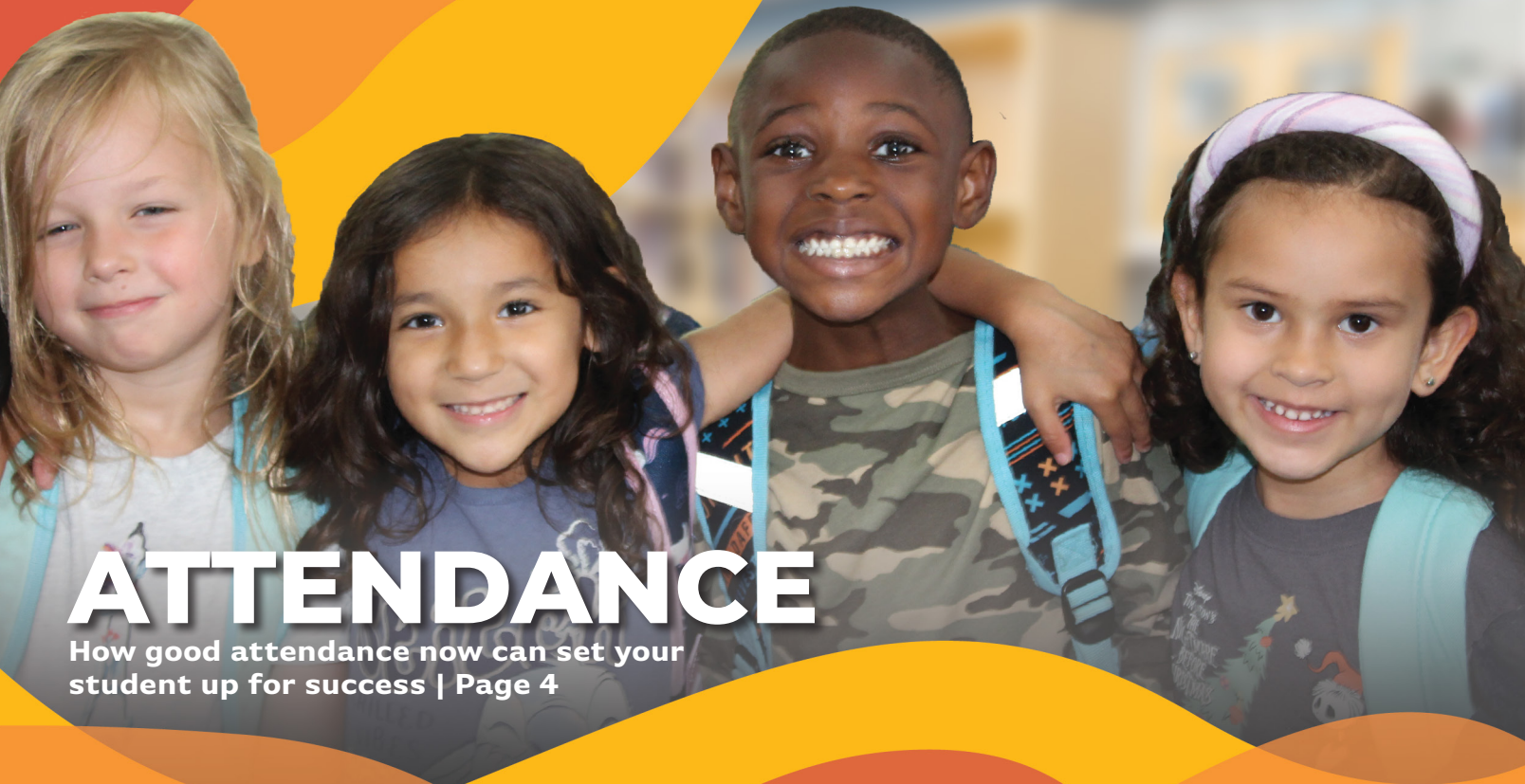


# WELCOME BACK to! SCHOOL!



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

**FALL 2024**



## ATTENDANCE

How good attendance now can set your student up for success | Page 4

### SPREAD THE WORD WE ARE HIRING!

To view our open positions,  
visit our website or scan  
this QR code!



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SUPERINTENDENT'S  
WELCOME

WELCOME TO THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR!

It is an honor to lead, along with our School Board, a District that prides itself on setting high expectations and offering unparalleled opportunities that are relevant, engaging, and innovative for every child, every day.

You can expect a learning environment where every student can excel academically, socially, and emotionally. We are committed to providing an education that not only meets the rigorous standards of today's world but also prepares our students to be leaders and innovators of tomorrow.

Our dedicated teachers, staff, and administrators are here to support every student's journey. We believe that by working together with parents, caregivers, and the community, we can create an environment where all students thrive. We encourage you to stay involved and engaged with your child's education throughout the year.

Communication is key to our success. Please make sure to check our District website, newsletters, and social media channels regularly for updates and important information. Your feedback and involvement are invaluable to us, and we look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to excellence. Let's make this school year the best one yet!

Best,  


Dr. Brad Saron, Superintendent



STUFF THE BUS

Stuff the Bus, a Sunshine Place program, works to provide backpacks and school supplies to children in need.

For more information or to help fund this community program, scan the QR code.

SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR  
AT A GLANCE  
2024-2025

REMINDER:  
First day of school:  
**SEPTEMBER 3, 2024**, for K-12 students  
**SEPTEMBER 9, 2024**, for SP4K students

- SEPTEMBER 2024**
- 2 No School • Labor Day
  - 3 First Day of School for K-12
  - 9 First Day of School for SP4K

- OCTOBER 2024**
- 4 No School • Staff Professional Development
  - 24 Fall Conferences, 4-8 pm
  - No School for SP4K
  - 25 No School • Fall Conferences, 7:30-11:30 am

- NOVEMBER 2024**
- 5 End of 1st Quarter
  - 27 No School
  - 28 No School • Thanksgiving
  - 29 No School

- DECEMBER 2024**
- 9 No School • Staff Professional Development
  - 23 No School • First Day of Winter Break

- JANUARY 2025**
- 6 First Day Back from Winter Break
  - 20 No School • Martin Luther King Jr. Day
  - Optional PD Day
  - 24 End of 2nd Quarter / 1st Semester
  - 27 No School • Staff Professional Development

- FEBRUARY 2025**
- 27 Winter Conferences, 4-8 pm
  - No School for SP4K
  - 28 No School • Winter Conferences, 7:30-11:30 am

- MARCH 2025**
- 24 No School • First Day of Spring Break
  - 31 First Day Back from Spring Break

- APRIL 2025**
- 7 End of 3rd Quarter
  - 18 No School • Staff Professional Development

- MAY 2025**
- 23 No School • Staff Professional Development
  - 26 No School • Memorial Day

- JUNE 2025**
- 5 Last Day of School for SP4K
  - 12 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
  - SP East & SP West Dismissal at 12:15 pm
  - Prairie Phoenix Academy Dismissal at 11:50 am
  - 13 SP East & SP West 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 18** and **May 23**. If we go beyond five days, we will add instructional minutes to school days.

SEPTEMBER 2024						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

OCTOBER 2024						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

NOVEMBER 2024						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

DECEMBER 2024						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

JANUARY 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	




FEBRUARY 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

MARCH 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

APRIL 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

MAY 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

JUNE 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

LEGEND:  
 No School - Holidays  No School  No School - SP4K



# ATTENDANCE MATTERS

**School attendance is often seen as a routine obligation, yet it's so important for students' academic performance and growth.** Beyond just showing up on time, consistent attendance helps students develop good habits, actively engage in learning, and build a strong foundation for future success. This article explores the critical role of attendance in shaping educational outcomes, examining its effects on students.

**Chronic absenteeism is when a student misses more than 10% of school days during the school year.** Since the beginning of the pandemic, many schools nationwide have seen a rise in extreme absences. Barriers like lack of healthcare access, chronic illness, trauma, unsafe routes to school, transportation issues, housing instability, and frequent moves can keep students from attending school. Factors such as academic struggles, social challenges, bullying, school discipline problems, and undiagnosed disabilities also contribute. Kindergarten and first grade classes often have absenteeism rates just as high as those in high school. Regular school attendance is crucial for learning essential reading and math skills and developing good attendance habits for future success in college and careers.

Chronically absent students are at higher risk of not reading at grade level by third grade, scoring lower on standardized tests, facing suspension in middle school, and being at least four times more likely to not graduate from high school. In understanding the risks of chronic absenteeism, it becomes clear that regular attendance brings numerous benefits to students and their academic success.

At SPASD we want to make sure our students have access to all the opportunities offered. Attendance is the first step in making sure students obtain crucial life and social skills and get the chance to engage with other students.

## BENEFITS OF REGULAR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

### ACHIEVEMENT

Student achievement tends to be higher on reading and math assessments for those who attend school consistently compared to those with irregular attendance.

### 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.

### SKILLS

By attending school regularly, students learn essential social skills, participate actively in the school community, and gain a broader perspective on the world, fostering good citizenship.



### DID YOU KNOW?

**MISSING 2 DAYS PER MONTH  
= 18 DAYS IN A SCHOOL YEAR  
AND THAT IS CHRONIC  
ABSENTEEISM!**

**22.8%  
OF SPASD STUDENTS  
WERE CHRONICALLY ABSENT  
DURING THE 2021-2022  
ACADEMIC YEAR.**

### HOW CAN YOU HELP YOUR STUDENT?

- **Follow the school's attendance policy:** Report any absences promptly, and review guidelines at the start of the year.
- **Stay involved:** Ask your child about their school day, and listen to both their successes and struggles.
- **Stay informed:** Keep track of school documents, important dates like back-to-school night, and fall and winter conferences.
- **Ensure punctuality:** Help your child get to school on time daily. Teach them to use an alarm clock and keep morning TV time limited.
- **Emphasize education:** Teach your child about the importance of regular attendance for their future success in college or their career.
- **Encourage good habits:** Reinforce regular attendance to build reliability, punctuality, and time management skills.
- **Mindful scheduling:** Try to limit the amount of time that your child misses school due to appointments.

# BACK-TO-SCHOOL CHECKLIST

## ☐ CHECK YOUR SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST.

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 based on personal organizational style and needs.

## ☐ SECONDARY STUDENTS SHOULD CHARGE THEIR CHROMEBOOKS.

It is a high priority in our District to support our students in continuous 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, students in middle and high school will receive one at school once this training is completed. Students with old devices, chargers, hotspots, or other electronics should return them as soon as possible. Secondary students with current Chromebooks should charge them before the first day of school.

## ☐ UPDATE YOUR 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, click the "More" button on the bottom left of the page, and then click the "Online Registration" button. We know that 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.

## ☐ JOIN YOUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION.

Our elementary and middle schools have parent/caregiver groups called School Community Organizations (SCOs). Joining your school's SCO is a great way to get connected to your school. There are various 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 Us" tab.

## ☐ BE READY FOR SCHOOL PICTURE DAY.

We will be partnering with Empire Photography for school pictures. Details regarding each school's picture day will be provided by your school. If you have any questions about school picture services, please reach out to your school(s) via email or phone. **Watch for information during the school year about how to purchase a yearbook for your student.**

We know that many students choose to have senior class photos taken, but they **must also have their photos taken by Empire to be included in the class history wall.** They do not need to purchase any photos from Empire; they just need to have their photos taken.

## ☐ ATTEND YOUR SCHOOL'S BACK-TO-SCHOOL EVENT.

School	Event	Date	Time
C. H. BIRD	Ready, Set, Go	Aug. 28	5:00-7:00 pm
CREEKSIDE	Welcome Back Gathering	Aug. 28	5:00-7:00 pm
HORIZON	Ready, Set, Go	Aug. 27	4:00-5:30 pm
MEADOW VIEW	Ready, Set, Go	Aug. 28	4:30-6:30 pm
CENTRAL HEIGHTS	Ready, Set, Go	Aug. 28	5:30-7:00 pm
PRAIRIE VIEW	Ready, Set, Go	Aug. 28	5:30-7:00 pm
PATRICK MARSH	Ready, Set, Go	Aug. 28	5:30-7:00 pm
EASTSIDE	Ready, Set, Go	Aug. 28	4:00-6:00 pm
ROYAL OAKS	Ready, Set, Go	Aug. 28	4:00-6:00 pm
TOKEN SPRINGS	Ready, Set, Go	Aug. 28	4:00-6:00 pm
WESTSIDE	Ready, Set, Go	Aug. 28	5:00-7:00 pm
PRAIRIE PHOENIX ACADEMY	Back-to-School Night	Aug. 29	2:00-6:00 pm
SP WEST	Registration	Aug. 19-20	8:00 am-4:00 pm
SP WEST	Student Orientation Night	9th-12th Grades: Aug. 28, 6:00 pm	
SP EAST	Registration	Aug. 21-22	8:00 am-4:00 pm
SP EAST	Student Orientation Night	9th Grade: Aug. 27, 6:00 pm 10th-12th Grades: Aug. 27, 7:00 pm	
CREEKSIDE	Ready, Set, Go	Sept. 4 (4K) 5-6 pm (AM Class) 6-7 pm (PM Class)	



# BACK-TO-SCHOOL SAFETY REMINDERS

We are committed to providing students, staff, and visitors a safe, welcoming environment. Here are a few conversation ideas for you and your student before school begins.

## GENERAL

- **Communicate with your student, 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 student about the emergency drills they practice 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 student’s experience at school, **follow up with the teacher or principal.**
- **Remind your student 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 student to walk with classmates to and from the bus whenever possible.
- **Ensure that your student knows their telephone number and address,** contact numbers for trusted adults, and how to call 911 for emergencies.

FOR MORE INFORMATION,  
VISIT [SUNPRAIRIESCHOOLS.ORG](http://SUNPRAIRIESCHOOLS.ORG)  
→ DEPARTMENTS → SAFETY & SECURITY

## SECURE ACCESS TO OUR SCHOOLS

Safety and security are our number one priority, so all exterior doors to our schools are 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, you 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!*

## TRANSPORTATION

- **Discuss transportation issues**—How will your student get to and from school?
- **Safety reminders**—Remind your student to cross streets at marked crosswalks, obey the school crossing guards, and not dart out into traffic.
- **Bike riding**—Discuss best routes, wearing a helmet, and being visible. Remind your student to lock their bike in the designated place.
- **Have a backup plan in case you’re delayed and can’t pick up on time.** Where should your student 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 school parking lots should be navigated carefully. There is a lot of activity with pedestrians and cars.
- Obey all signage displayed at the schools.
- Do not attempt to pass other parked cars where there is no space for passing. Please wait.
- Respect school buses, particularly when students are loading and unloading. Always stop for school buses with flashing red warning lights!



**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 exciting 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.



#LunchSquad

## BACK-TO-SCHOOL NUTRITION CHECKLIST

- ☐ **Add money to your student’s lunch account.**  
To add money to 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.
- ☐ **Fill out a free and reduced meal application.**  
Applications to qualify for free and reduced-price meals must be filled out each year. 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 other 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 and on the School Nutrition web page. Hard copies are available at all schools and can be mailed to you directly.
- ☐ **Access breakfast and lunch menus.**  
Breakfast and lunch menus can be accessed by clicking the “Quicklinks” tab on your school’s web page. Not only can you see breakfast and lunch menus here, but you can also see the nutritional information!

## QUESTIONS?

If you have questions or require assistance,  
email: [nutritiondepartment@sunprairieschools.org](mailto:nutritiondepartment@sunprairieschools.org)  
call: 608-834-6544  
Barbara Waara, Director of School Nutrition  
[bmwaara@sunprairieschools.org](mailto:bmwaara@sunprairieschools.org)



KEEPING KIDS HEALTHY

# SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES

Our 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 students.

**DISTRICT HEALTH NURSES**

**DEBBIE BROWN**  
608-834-8106  
dlbrown@sunprairieschools.org

**ELIZABETH FEISTHAMMEL**  
608-834-8107  
eafeist@sunprairieschools.org

**SCHOOL HEALTH ASSISTANTS**

**C. H. BIRD ELEMENTARY**  
Linda Bengston • 608-834-7306

**CREEKSIDE ELEMENTARY**  
Julie Bakke • 608-834-7706

**EASTSIDE ELEMENTARY**  
Emily McCabe • 608-834-7406

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

**MEADOW VIEW ELEMENTARY**  
Robbin Brennan • 608-478-5006

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

**ROYAL OAKS ELEMENTARY**  
Dan Goplin • 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**  
Heidi Higgins • 608-478-1706

**PRAIRIE PHOENIX ACADEMY**  
Stacy Billings-Hughes • 608-834-5517

## BACK-TO-SCHOOL HEALTH CHECKLIST

- ☐ **Make sure your student is up to date on vaccination requirements.**  
For current Wisconsin school immunization requirements, please visit [www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/immunization/reqs.htm](http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/immunization/reqs.htm). Be sure that sufficient documentation or a signed waiver is on file with your student's school.
- ☐ **Consult with your student's school nurse about any health updates or health needs your student may have for school this year.**
- ☐ **Prepare any necessary medication for school.** If your student needs 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.

## TIPS FOR A HAPPY & HEALTHY SCHOOL YEAR

- **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 to get 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 to eat breakfast each day, at home or at school.**



# BUSING INFORMATION



## BUSING CHECKLIST

- ☐ **Make sure your student has their bus tag and knows how important it is to have it with them in order to ride the bus.**  
All eligible bus riders must have their bus tag on their person when riding the bus. Drivers will ask to see bus tags and may deny rides to students they don't recognize who don't have a bus tag. If your student 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 Back-to-School registration. Elementary students will receive their bus tag at Ready, Set, Go.*
- ☐ **Check the Boundary and Busing Map to see if your student qualifies for busing to and from school.** 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 distance 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 schoolYou can verify your household's busing eligibility by using the Boundaries and Walking/Busing Areas interactive map on our website. Students with disabilities are provided transportation services in accordance with their individualized education programs (IEPs).

**KOBUSSEN CONTACT INFORMATION**

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

**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

**DISTRICT CONTACTS**

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

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



For FAQs and more information about busing, visit the Transportation page on our website or scan the QR code.



INFINITE CAMPUS

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 parents and caregivers to provide student health and medication information.

DID YOU KNOW?

Student report cards are available electronically on Infinite Campus after each semester.



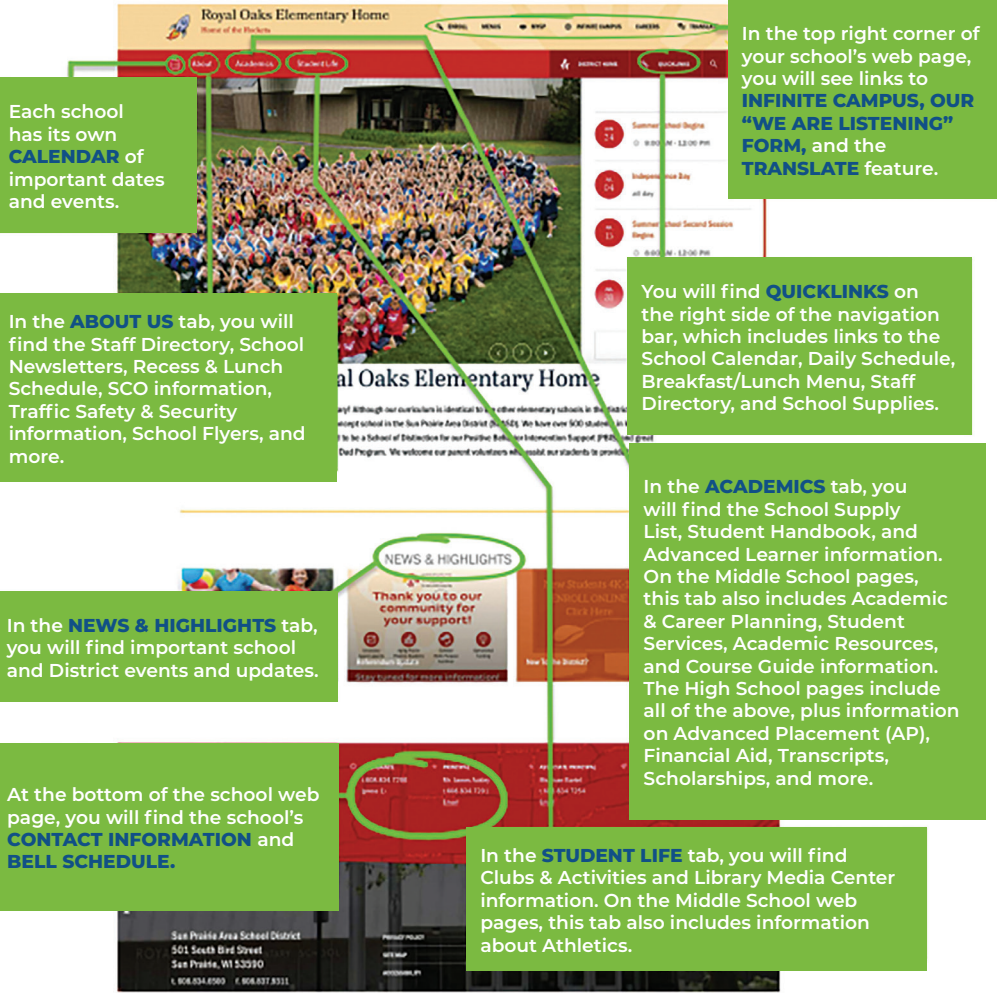
Select a **STUDENT** from the menu to get specific information, including class schedule, attendance, grades, transportation, and fees.

**FAMILY** Information Includes:

- Messages sent for you to view
- Household information
  - ◊ Manage your contact information
- Payments/fees
  - ◊ Make payments and view payment history
- Food Service
  - ◊ Check lunch balances and all food transactions

**USER ACCOUNT** Includes:

- Account Settings
  - ◊ Change account settings including email address, password, and PIN
- Contact Preferences
  - ◊ Manage your contact information preferences



Each school has its own **CALENDAR** of important dates and events.

In the **ABOUT US** tab, you will find the Staff Directory, School Newsletters, Recess & Lunch Schedule, SCO information, Traffic Safety & Security information, School Flyers, and more.

In the **NEWS & HIGHLIGHTS** tab, you will find important school and District events and updates.

At the bottom of the school web page, you will find the school's **CONTACT INFORMATION** and **BELL SCHEDULE**.

In the **STUDENT LIFE** tab, you will find Clubs & Activities and Library Media Center information. On the Middle School web pages, this tab also includes information about Athletics.

In the top right corner of your school's web page, you will see links to **INFINITE CAMPUS**, our **"WE ARE LISTENING" FORM**, and the **TRANSLATE** feature.

You will find **QUICKLINKS** on the right side of the navigation bar, which includes links to the School Calendar, Daily Schedule, Breakfast/Lunch Menu, Staff Directory, and School Supplies.

In the **ACADEMICS** tab, you will find the School Supply List, Student Handbook, and Advanced Learner information. On the Middle School pages, this tab also includes Academic & Career Planning, Student Services, Academic Resources, and Course Guide information. The High School pages include all of the above, plus information on Advanced Placement (AP), Financial Aid, Transcripts, Scholarships, and more.

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, key information is at your fingertips. At the left is a quick tour of a school web page.

**NOTE:** The District also has a comprehensive website that is a great source of information as well. Please visit [sunprairieschools.org](http://sunprairieschools.org) when you have questions about the District.

*High Schools and Middle Schools have additional information on their web pages.*



BELL SCHEDULES

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

SP EAST & SP WEST HIGH SCHOOLS

8:35 am–3:45 pm

PRAIRIE PHOENIX ACADEMY

8:45 am–3:25 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)  
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)  
11:32 am–1:20 pm (Thurs)

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 to the right or look for "Sun Prairie Area SD" in the Apple App Store or Google Play Store.**



SCHOOL FLYER DISTRIBUTION

Peachjar, an electronic flyer communication tool, shares information about important school activities and events. It saves our schools 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](http://Peachjar.com) and add your name and school.

DID YOU KNOW?

*By using Peachjar, the Sun Prairie Area School District has saved 18,526,577 sheets of paper and 2,223 trees!*



*Students, parents, school staff, and community members can report school safety concerns or threats confidentially through the **Speak Up Speak Out App**. This anonymous tool accepts reports on cyberbullying, violence, drugs, weapons, and other safety issues. Staff operate around the clock to address tips promptly, working with school administrators, law enforcement, and counselors. With many schools nationwide using this tipline, it offers accessible and confidential support at no cost, aiding in swiftly addressing potential harm or criminal activities within the school community.*



JOIN YOUR SCHOOL  
COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION!

Our elementary and middle schools have parent/caregiver groups, called School Community Organizations (SCOs). Joining your school's SCO is a great way to get connected to your school. There are various 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 Us" tab.

VALUE OF GETTING INVOLVED  
WITH SPORTS & ACTIVITIES

Engaging in K–12 sports and activities offers benefits beyond the field or stage. It promotes physical health, fosters lifelong exercise habits, and develops vital life skills like teamwork and time management. These experiences boost academic performance and prepare students for personal and professional success. Additionally, they foster friendships, social connections, and outlets for creativity. Overall, participation enriches education and shapes well-rounded individuals for the future.

HOW DO I SIGN UP?

Please visit our website and click the "Athletics & Activities" tab toward the top of the page to see what is offered at your child's school.



COMMUNICATION  
FROM YOUR SCHOOL

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO  
IF YOU HAVE A CONCERN,  
QUESTION, OR GREAT IDEA?

If it is a classroom concern, please go directly through the teacher first. If it's something else and you are not sure where to start, call the school office.

STUDENT &  
FAMILY HANDBOOKS:

PARENT CURRICULUM GUIDES

We developed parent curriculum guides outlining student expectations and grade-level learning experiences for our elementary school families. To find these, visit your school's website and search for "Parent Curriculum Guides" under the "Academics" tab. Guides are available in both English and Spanish.



HIGH SCHOOL



MIDDLE SCHOOL



ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL



4-YEAR-OLD  
KINDERGARTEN

VOLUNTEERING

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

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

Community Schools unite educators, community members, families, and students to foster student learning and development by coordinating resources and opportunities.



WHAT IS A COMMUNITY SCHOOL?

The Community Schools strategy transforms a school into a place where educators, local community members, families, and students work together to strengthen conditions for student learning and healthy development. As partners, they organize in- and out-of-school resources, supports, and opportunities so that young people thrive.

WE ARE PROUD TO HAVE EIGHT FULL-SERVICE COMMUNITY SCHOOL SITES

- C. H. Bird Elementary
- Creekside Elementary
- Northside Elementary
- Westside Elementary
- Prairie Phoenix Academy
- Central Heights Middle
- Patrick Marsh Middle
- Prairie View Middle



WORKING TOGETHER WITH SCHOOLS,  
FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITY

These collaborations between schools, families, community members, and community organizations provide connections to:

- Academic enrichment activities, such as tutoring, sports, and clubs
- Health and social services
- Family and community engagement

Out-of-schooltime programs work with community partners to offer academic, wellness, and enrichment activities, taking a whole-child approach to education. These partnerships are essential for high-quality afterschool programs, enhancing each school's ability to offer enriching options and additional academic support beyond regular school hours in Sun Prairie.

OTHER INITIATIVES

- School-based food pantries and clothing closets
- Walking school buses
- Family nights

Visit us at [sunprairieschools.org/community-schools](https://sunprairieschools.org/community-schools) to learn more about our programs and upcoming events.

SPORTS & ACTIVITIES

GET YOUR DIGITAL TICKETS  
FOR HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC EVENTS!

Ticket sales for all high school athletic events for Sun Prairie East and Sun Prairie West are cashless through GoFan. 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 GoFan, visit the "Athletics & Activities" section of our website or scan one of the QR codes on the right.





HOMECOMING, PROM & GRADUATION ACTIVITIES

SUN PRAIRIE EAST HIGH SCHOOL

Homecoming - October 19, 8–11 pm  
 Prom - May 10  
 Graduation - June 13, 5:00 pm

SUN PRAIRIE WEST HIGH SCHOOL

Homecoming - October 12, 7–10 pm  
 Prom - May 10  
 Graduation - June 13, 7:30 pm

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



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 in the Board Room in the Professional Learning Center, located at the Hilltop Campus 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 Board Docs, our electronic system, which can be accessed from our website.

ATTEND THE ANNUAL ELECTORS' MEETING  
 October 7 at 6:00 pm  
 Sun Prairie East High School Performing Arts Center

BOARD MEMBERS



DIANA MCFARLAND  
 President  
 dmmcfar@sunprairieschools.org



LATOYA HOLIDAY  
 Vice President  
 lmhold@sunprairieschools.org



LISA GOLDSBERRY  
 Clerk/Treasurer  
 lrgolds@sunprairieschools.org



DR. STEVE SCHROEDER  
 Governance Officer  
 shschro@sunprairieschools.org



BRYN HORTON  
 Board Member  
 bmhorto@sunprairieschools.org



ALWYN FOSTER  
 Board Member  
 aafoste@sunprairieschools.org



KATEY KAMOKU  
 Board Member  
 klkamok@sunprairieschools.org

ISABELLA ROBERTS  
 Student Representative  
 SP East High School Senior

JOJO KNAUSS  
 Student Representative  
 SP West High School Senior

REAGAN LOOMIS  
 Student Representative  
 SP East High School Junior

DEVIN WILLIS  
 Student Representative  
 SP West High School Junior

No student may be unlawfully discriminated against in any school programs or activities or in the usage of facilities because of the student's gender identity, gender expressions, or nonconformity to gender-role stereotypes; color; religion; demonstration of belief or nonbelief; 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.

CONTACT US!

DISTRICT CONTACTS

DR. BRAD SARON

Superintendent  
 608-834-6502

DR. STEPHANIE LEONARD

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

DR. NICK REICHHOFF

Assistant Superintendent of Operations  
 608-834-6683

PATTI LUX

Director of Communications & Engagement  
 608-834-6562

JAMIE RACINE

Community Schools Program Coordinator  
 608-834-6534

JANET THOMAS

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  
 608-834-6505

ANNEMARIE ENGDAHL

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

DR. MICHAEL MORGAN JR.

Director of Systemic Equity & Inclusion  
 608-834-6599

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

BARB WAARA

Director of School Nutrition  
 608-834-6527

PETE WORECK

Director of Facilities & Grounds  
 608-834-6567

ERIC NEE

Director of Athletics & Activities  
 608-478-1724

JAMES ERTEL

Assoc. Director of Athletics & Activities  
 608-834-6713

TEACHING, LEARNING & EQUITY

JENNIFER APODACA

Director of Student Services  
 608-834-6520

OUR SCHOOLS

EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM

608-478-5187

C. H. BIRD ELEMENTARY

Pang Khang, Principal  
 608-834-7700 | 1170 N. Bird St.

CREEKSIDE ELEMENTARY

Katie Mould, 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 1

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 13

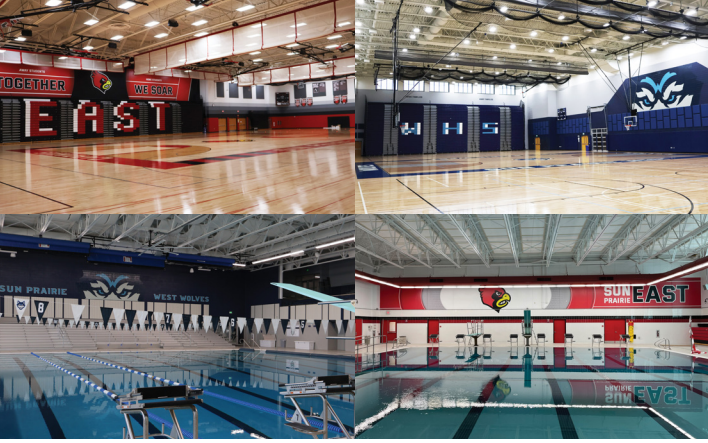
SUN PRAIRIE VIRTUAL SCHOOL

608-834-6901

SP4KIDS

Elizbeth Knudten, Program Supervisor  
 608-834-6671





Sun Prairie Area  
School District  
501 S. Bird Street  
Sun Prairie, WI 53590

## USE OUR FACILITIES!

*Did you know that community members can reserve SPASD facilities upon request?* We currently average 25,000 hours of public use of District facilities per year, which is spread among an average of 150 different locations inside and/or outside our buildings. Learn more by visiting the Facilities & Grounds page on our website!

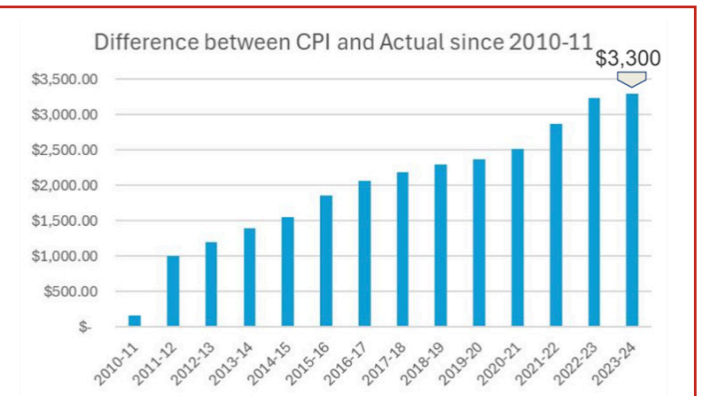
## STATE FUNDING FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS HAS NOT KEPT UP WITH INFLATION, LEADING MANY DISTRICTS TO CONSIDER REFERENDA

The cumulative difference between inflation and actual increases to Wisconsin school districts is \$3,300 per student.

Wisconsin's ranking has fallen relative to the nation on per pupil spending for K-12 education.

**11th in 2002**  
11% above national average  
↓  
**25th in 2022**  
7.2% below national average

Source: Annual Survey of School System Finances Tables.  
U.S. Census; Why Rural Matters 2023



If the District would have received inflationary increases, SPASD would have more spending authority on an annual basis in the amount of **\$27,700,000**.

$\$3,300 \times 8,400 \text{ students} = \$27.7\text{MM}$

Source: Legislative Fiscal Bureau 2023

## 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.**

## ¿SABÍAS?

El Distrito Escolar de Sun Prairie ofrece una página de Facebook en español. Manténgase en contacto con todos nuestros eventos, actividades y noticias.

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



@sunprairieschools



Sun Prairie Area School District



sunprairieschooldistrict



Sun Prairie Area School District