



PRAIRIE WINDS *newsletter*

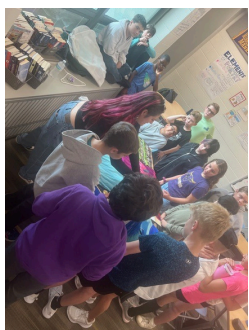
OCTOBER 2025

We know that getting your middle school student to school on time every day can be a tough task. However, attending school every day makes a big difference – it supports:

- Strong academic performance
- A greater sense of belonging and meaningful peer connections
- Growth in responsibility and organizational skills
- Better chances of graduating with classmates



At Prairie Winds, we place attendance high on our priority list, because we believe it helps students make the the most out of their time here. Our goal is for at least 90% of our students to attend school 90% (or more) of the time. If you're facing obstacles in getting your student to school regularly – or if your student seems reluctant to attend – please don't hesitate to reach out to our School Social Worker, Jacob Rux, at 507-207-6009. We're here to partner with you and find solutions together.



WACIPI EDUCATION DAY

On Thursday, September 19th we hosted the Wacipi Education Day here at Prairie Winds!

While we were bummed that our students could not go out to Land of Memories Park, we were so grateful that over 20 different presenters brought their presentations to us.

2025-26 FIELD TRIP MENU

Thanks to the generosity of the Glen A. Taylor II Foundation, every student at Prairie Winds will have the opportunity to go on one free field trip in the 2025-26 school year. In order to give students the best experience possible, we have designed a field trip menu with 8 different options for them to choose from!

Please read over the options, follow the steps in the permission slip, and have your student return it to the main office no later than November 1st.

THE
GLEN A. TAYLOR
FOUNDATION

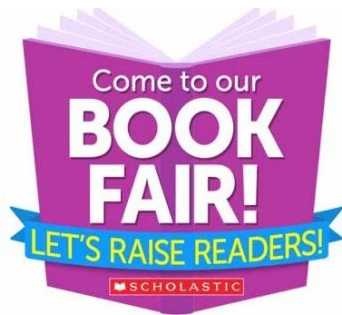
PLEASE REMIND YOUR
STUDENT TO BRING HOME
THEIR PERMISSION SLIP!

A MESSAGE FROM THE TECH. DEPARTMENT

MAPS uses a variety of digital tools to support student learning. Technology vendors and software is utilized to support work as we help all students develop the skills necessary to succeed in an ever-changing world.

We have an inventory of our curriculum, testing, and assessment tools posted on our district website at bit.ly/4835DET (or directly to our Learn Platform page bit.ly/3R9xvRB). This list is maintained and communicated annually to all families at the start of the school year.

Please reach out to your building principal for additional questions regarding the use of the specific digital tools in classrooms. Please reach out to MAPS technology department regarding data, privacy, and vendor inquiries of the specific digital tools.



FALL CONFERENCES

Fall Parent-Teacher Conferences and the Scholastic Book Fair will be held November 20th and 24th from 4-8pm.

Links to sign up to meet with specific teachers will be sent out on November 10th. Please make sure to check your email!

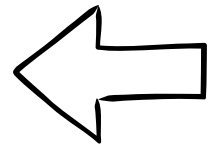
PTO will be providing a dinner entree for all staff, but there is a [sign up linked here](#) for parents who would like to show appreciation to the teachers by bringing dessert, beverages, fruit, or veggies!

Your student's assessment results have been updated in their Student Test Detail in Infinite Campus. New results for ACCESS (if your student takes it), MCA Math, Reading, and Science (science will be shown only for 6th graders who took it as 5th graders last year). Assessments are available to you through the Parent Portal.

The results of the new Science Assessment reflect the first year of the new MCA-IV Science Test Administration, given in grades 5, 8, and high school when students complete life science instruction. The new science assessment reflects a significant change in the standards and shift in instructional practice.

As with any assessment, these results are only one piece of information about what your student learned last year. The science assessment that students took in the spring of 2025 was different than in the past, so comparing results for the previous assessment isn't accurate as they are two different assessments.

24-25 MCA RESULTS ARE IN!



PTO UPDATE

Thank you to all of the parents and guardians who got their student to and from the fall dances! We had more students attend than we have had since before 2020 and it was great to see students playing, dancing, and singing with their classmates!

In addition to supporting the upcoming conference meals for staff, the PTO is sponsoring a brand new game cabinet for the building! The cabinet is on wheels so it can be moved around the building and shared with classrooms, but its primary spot will be in the Commons where students can access it during their lunchtime. It's stocked with over 20 different games, colored pencils, and coloring sheets to continue to encourage students to stay off of their Chromebooks and **socialize with each other!**

If you have any gently used board, card, or dice games that are appropriate for middle school students that you would like to donate, please bring them to fall conferences and we will add them to the cabinet!

The next PTO meeting is scheduled for January 13th at 6:00 in the PWMS Commons. If you are not already on our mailing list, [please join it at the link here!](#)

6TH GRADE PTO DANCE



UPCOMING EVENTS

October 23rd- Picture Retakes!

October 27th- Chipotle PBIS Fundraiser

October 28th- Culver's PTO Fundraiser

November 10th- Orchestra Concert

November 11th- Band Concert

November 12th- PTO Fro Yo Fundraiser at Lunch

November 20th & 24th- Parent-Teacher Conferences & Book Fair

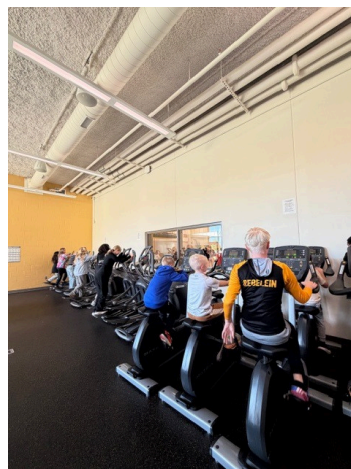
November 22nd-23rd- Jersey Mike's Fundraiser



**LANCERS PEP
ASSEMBLY IN OCTOBER!**



**HIGH SCHOOL SECTION
LEADERS TEACHING US
CHEERS!**



**STUDENTS ENJOYING
THE USE OF THE FITNESS
CENTER DURING LUNCH**



**GAME CABINET IN THE
WORKS!**

Ages 7-15

Sun, Nov 16-Feb 22; 3-5 pm +
Thu, Nov 20-Feb 26; 4-6 pm

LCC Upper Gym

No Class Nov 27, Nov 30, Dec 25,
Dec 28 & Jan 1

\$375

REGISTRATION IS EASY!

For Community Education

ONLINE

<https://mankato.ce.eleyo.com/>

EMAIL

commced@isd77.org

PHONE

507-387-5501



If you have dance, gymnastics, or colorguard experience, you may be bumped UP to the JUNIOR VARSITY!

JV & Varsity

Sun, 6-9pm

Wed, 6-9pm

@MNSU Field House

Or Schellberg Gym

Questions? Email:

Sarah Thursby

sthurs1@isd77.org



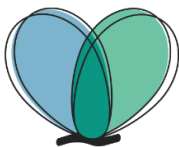
CHIPOTLE FUNDRAISER FOR PWMS PBIS TEAM

25% OF EVENT SALES GET DONATED TO THE CAUSE

MONDAY, OCTOBER 7TH | 4-8PM
1851 MADISON AVE STE 100, MANKATO, MN, 56001

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HUB**

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