



The Principal's Desk

Hello Prairie View Families,

There is so much happening in our short month of December, and so many opportunities to shine a light on others. Whether it is through our Vanessa Behan Donation Drive, our PV Tree of Sharing, Math is Cool, PTO events, our Winter Extravaganza, or our festive Spirit Days, this time of year brings busy days, cozy nights, and twinkling lights all around Prairie View.



Our biggest focus right now is collecting for our 15th Annual Service Project to benefit the Vanessa Behan Crisis Nursery. Through this project, we are helping our Hawks experience the joy that comes from giving and serving others. We are encouraging students to ask to do chores around the house or special jobs for grandparents, extended family, or close friends to earn money to purchase donation items. In this way, students are directly involved by giving their time and energy to support families in our community.

In case you were not aware, the Vanessa Behan Nursery provides free childcare to Spokane families experiencing personal crises. Parents can receive free diapers and baby formula each month, and families can also access free parenting classes at the nursery. This incredible organization is the only one of its kind in Spokane and is supported entirely by community generosity. Please visit VanessaBehan.org for more information.

Thank you, Prairie View families, for always showing up with full hearts and open hands. Your kindness and service truly make a difference. Please stay warm and safe out there!

P.S. We've had a few questions about lineup and recess procedures. Here's a quick reminder:

- Morning Lineup Indoors: Below 20° or during a heavy downpour
- Indoor Recess: Below 16° or during active downpour

We always factor in windchill and use the most accurate weather tools available. Safety will always guide our decisions!

Most Sincerely,

Rachel Schuerman

Proud Principal | Prairie View Elementary

Protecting OUR Flock in the Parking Lot

We have had some concerns about visibility near the PV entrance sign when cars park too close. When cars are parked in front of the sign on Johannsen, it makes visibility difficult both seeing cars when pulling out and seeing pedestrians when pulling in. To help, we have a fifth-grade leader placing cones there each afternoon to keep the crossing area clear. It's been so helpful! However, in the event they are not out and always, we can use your help.

We've also seen some parking in the "Kiss & Drop Off" lane as parents walk students to the K-1 lineup. We're reminding families to use designated parking areas rather than leaving their cars unattended so everyone can see one another and traffic can keep moving safely.



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Ways You Can Help

- Avoid parking in front of the Prairie View entrance sign (cones or not)
- Use visitor parking if you plan to walk your student in.
- Keep the Kiss & Drop Off lane moving by staying in your vehicle.

Thank you for helping keep our students and staff safe. When we look out for each other, our whole flock thrives. ☺



Save the Dates

- December 1 - Chess Club @ 3:30-4:30pm
- December 2 - K/1st Winter Extravaganza @ 5:30pm
- December 2 - 4th/5th Winter Extravaganza @ 6:45pm
- December 3 - LATE Start Wednesday @ 9:40am
- December 3 - PTO Restaurant Night at Chipotle 4-8pm
- December 3 - 2nd/3rd Winter Extravaganza @ 6pm
- December 8 - Chess Club @ 3:30-4:30pm
- December 10 - LATE Start Wednesday @ 9:40am
- December 15 - Spirit Week: "Merry Monday"

Wear anything holiday inspired!

- December 16 - Spirit Week: "Toasty Toes Tuesday"

Wear festive socks and slippers!

- December 17 - LATE Start Wednesday @ 9:40am
- December 17 - Spirit Week: "Winter Wonderland Wednesday"

Dress for the ski slopes!

- December 18: Spirit Week: "Ugly Sweater Day"
- December 19: PACE Awards Ceremonies @ lunch
- December 19: Vanesa Behan Assembly @ 1:05pm
- December 19: Spirit Week: "PJ Day"
- December 20-January 4: Winter Break
- January 5: School Resumes

December PACE Character Trait

As we finish up 2025, we are continuing to implement PACE Character Traits through the end of the year! We have already had three wonderful PACE Lunch Celebrations, where families were invited to join us as we honored our PACE recipients. It has been such a joy to see students recognized for the kindness, leadership, and positive choices they demonstrate every day. We are so proud of our Hawks!



At Prairie View, we believe that character counts. We are committed to nurturing the qualities that help students grow into kind, capable, and future-ready citizens. Each month, we highlight a PACE Character Trait, such as respect, responsibility, caring, and honesty. Teachers and students nominate individuals who consistently model the trait of the month, and we come together to celebrate them during our special lunchtime celebrations. These moments allow us to build community, reinforce positive behavior, and remind our students that who they are matters — not just what they learn.

We cannot wait to continue celebrating our Hawks as they soar with character into the New Year!

The character trait for the month of December is - CARING! Caring is feeling and showing concern, kindness, and compassion for others' well-being, which can be expressed through empathy and supportive actions. It involves being attentive to people's needs, understanding their perspectives, and actively offering help, which can be both an emotional feeling and an action.

PACE Awards

It was so fun last week to celebrate our November PACE Award winners! Prairie View has some amazing kiddos practicing being RESPECTFUL & RESPONSIBLE Hawks every day! We are so proud of you! 🦅





K/1st Grade



2nd/3rd Grade



4th/5th Grade

"Wear It Wednesdays" at Prairie View!

We're excited to introduce **"Wear It Wednesdays"** at Prairie View! Each Wednesday, our staff will proudly wear college, trade school, and military gear to spark conversations about future-ready pathways with our students. This is a fun way to inspire kids to think about their futures and explore all the possibilities that lie ahead. Students are encouraged to join in the fun by wearing their favorite college, trade school, or military apparel too — let's make Wednesdays a day to dream big together!



🦋 Show Your School Spirit Every Friday! 🦋

Fridays just got a whole lot more fun! Students are invited to rock their **school spirit wear every Friday** to celebrate our community pride. Whether it's a favorite school hoodie, T-shirt, or anything decked out in our colors, we want to see that spirit shine! Let's fill the halls with energy, excitement, and LOTS of school pride—one Friday at a time. Need some PV swag to add to your closet? We've got you covered. scan the QR code or click on the picture, it's that easy!



Counselor Corner

Tree of Sharing

Our Annual Tree of Sharing is one of the many ways that Prairie View families come together to support one another. This school community is incredible! Seeing how we are able to bless some of our families at Christmas is one of the most joyous times of the year for me. 🎄🎁 Please see information about the Tree of Sharing below.



2025-2026 Tree of Sharing

Each slot below is a tag on our annual "Tree of Sharing". If participating, please choose a tag, purchase the item requested, and return all gifts (wrapped & with the tag # on a sticky note) to our school office by no later than Friday, December 12th. If you have any questions about the item requested, please reach out to Mrs. Toth @ (509) 465-7849 or lindsey.toth@mead354.org. Thank you for your kindness & generosity and for helping bless our Prairie View families!

🔗 tinyurl.com

🍼 Vanessa Behan Supply Drive

ANNUAL VANESSA BEHAN SUPPLY DRIVE



Please use the QR code below or click [HERE](#) for an extensive wish list from Vanessa Behan.

Feel free to order items on Amazon and send them to:
Prairie View Elementary
2606 W. Johannsen
Spokane, WA 99208

The facility's most urgent needs include:

- diapers (sizes 4-6)
- baby wipes
- non-perishable food items
- clothing (sizes 3T-5T)
- personal hygiene products



Prairie View is excited to continue our tradition of giving back through our annual supply drive benefiting Vanessa Behan. This safe place is the only facility of its kind in Spokane. It assists families with urgent child care needs at no cost and operates solely through community support. While we cannot accept money, we would like to assist them with donated supplies.

Please send items to school from December 1st-December 18th. Another opportunity to drop off supplies will be on Saturday, December 6th, from 1-3pm in the bus loop. Our students will be presenting donations to Vanessa Behan on Friday, December 19th.

Prairie View families and our Five Mile community members are invited to participate! We encourage students to complete a few extra chores at home to earn money to purchase supply items. It's a wonderful way to teach the joy of giving and helping others.

Vanessa Behan Supply Drop Off



**SAT, DEC 6th
1-3 pm
PV Bus
Loop**

Urgent Needs:

- Diapers
sizes 4-6
- Baby wipes
- Clothing size 3T- 5T



Blacktop/Field Access Change

The unofficial opening in the fence over by the garbage dumpster has been closed off. This was never intended to be an entrance to the playfields and blacktop and as such, it is not a path that is maintained. The issue became as the weather turns colder, this "path" ices over and every year we have students and adults alike slip and fall. Please note this change and make sure that if you are dropping students off in this area, they need to walk along the front of the building and enter the blacktop at the gate in the East end where the sidewalks are shoveled and de-iced throughout the winter months.

Thank you!

School Hours

- M, T, Th, F - 9:00am-3:20pm
- W - 9:40-3:20pm

Dismissal Schedule

- Grades K, 1 and 2 - 3:15pm
- Grades 3, 4 and 5 - 3:20pm

PLEASE DO NOT DROP YOUR CHILDREN OFF BEFORE 8:50AM (8:45 if they are having breakfast) AS WE DO NOT HAVE SUPERVISION FOR THEM. If you need before school care, we have the YMCA on site and you can register through them at [YMCA](#) or they can be reached by phone at (509) 777-9622



December Specialist News and Calendar

A PTO Update

Our terrific PTO is always looking for more volunteers. ALL volunteers are screened centrally through the District Office starting with a simple 2 step process. Start [HERE](#) then let the PTO know you are interested in helping out, they have all kinds of volunteering options.

All PV parents and guardians are invited to attend the monthly PTO meetings held on the first Monday of the month in Portable 1. YOU have a vote in how fundraising dollars are spent which is why it is important to attend if you can.

Follow our PTO on [FACEBOOK](#) for all the latest PTO events!



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Rachel Schuerman

Rachel is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters