



The Prairieland Press

"It's a Great Day to Be a Cougar!"

March 2026

Attendance Line: 557-4473 Please use the attendance line to report an absence or late arrival.	Principal: Scott Peters Office: 557-4424 Hours: 6:45-3:15	School Website: <u>Prairieland Website</u>
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Principal's Message:

This edition of the Prairieland Press is a brief update to carry us through the final weeks leading up to Spring Break. It's hard to believe we've entered the final third of the school year, but our calendar remains full of exciting activities. We are all eagerly anticipating the arrival of consistent spring weather; it has been wonderful to finally get the students outdoors for recess and some much-needed movement!

Kindergarten Registration & Preview

Kindergarten preview for the 2026-27 school year will be **Thursday, April 16th at 12:30 - 2:00**. Kindergarten Preview will take place in-person at the school. We ask that you have your future kindergartener with you on this day. The session will start at 12:30. We will have a team of staff members who will take your students to complete some simple assessments and activities with them while parents receive information from Mr. Peters.

All families must contact the Prairieland office to begin pre-register your kindergarten student. The office phone number is 309-557-4424.



IAR State Testing

All 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students will be taking state testing between March 9th-20th. In the next few days, classroom teachers will be sending out their testing times. Please try your best to avoid appointments during this time so your student can complete the tests with the rest of their classmates.

Sciencepalooza:

Thursday, April 9, will be our annual Sciencepalooza from 6:00-7:30 p.m. in the gym and cafeteria. Students in 4th & 5th grade have the opportunity to submit interactive science projects to be displayed during the Sciencepalooza. All Prairieland students and families are invited to attend this fun event. From 6:00-6:30 the 4th and 5th grade scientists will be available to explain their science experiments. From 6:30-7:30 everyone will be able to enjoy a wide variety of fun, interactive experiments from groups throughout our Bloomington-Normal community!



Arriving on Time

I want to continue to emphasize the importance of getting the kids here and into class on time. Our school day starts at 7:45. Students begin their daily routines at 7:45, which sets the tone for the day. When students arrive on time it gives them a sense of calm. Being on time is a life skill which students need to learn and understand for the rest of their lives! Thanks for your help with this!

PBIS: Positive Behavior Intervention & Supports:

PBIS is the system we use to provide an overall structure for behavior within our classrooms and school. Each month throughout the year we emphasize basic vocabulary and affirmations. During the month of February our focus was kindness. Each student helped us create a kindness tree which is on display in our hallway. Our March focus is "helping others." Each month students can earn a fun "Out of the Blue" activity. Our out-of-the-blue for February was our 2nd round of virtual bingo! It's always a big hit!

Family Bingo Night!!-See Below



Family Pot-O-Gold Bingo Night!!

P.I.E.C.E. invites you to join us on Saturday, March 14 at Prairieland for Pot-O-Gold Bingo. Wear green, bring your family, and join us for a family night of fun. We will have rounds of Bingo, games of Knock Out, prizes and raffle baskets. There will also be food for purchase from HeaterZ Hot Chicken, Domino's pizza, and Orange Leaf.

*Doors will open at 3:30pm so you can claim your lucky bingo seat, browse raffle baskets, and enter your raffle tickets. Bingo will begin around 4:00 and last until 5:30pm. Bingo packets are complementary and will be provided one per person (age 5+) *while supplies last*. Please bring your own highlighter or bingo stamper.*

Basketball Knockout is back, weather permitting. Between rounds of Bingo, embrace March Madness and compete in grade level rounds of knockout. All students are welcome to play, and prizes will be awarded to our winners.

Fine dining, chocolate, books, video gaming... there is no telling what the leprechauns at P.I.E.C.E may have in their raffle baskets! Drawings will take place on Bingo night from 5:30-6pm. You must have your name and phone number on your raffle tickets and be present to win. (*excluding the Restaurant basket)*

*Tickets are \$1 each and may be purchased by completing the attached form and returning it to your classroom. PLEASE complete only ONE form per family so we know how many of you are planning to attend. We accept cash, checks made out to PIECE or donations made to our Give Butter website: <https://givebutter.com/2026-prairieland-pot-o-gold-bingo> **If you are planning to purchase tickets after March 13th, via our Give Butter site, please take a screen shot of your donation and bring it with you. We will verify your donation and provide you with your raffle tickets.*

Stay tuned for more sneak peeks of our raffle baskets and be sure to follow the Prairieland Elementary Facebook page for more hints and photos! Start your March off right and buy your lucky raffle tickets today.

All while supplies last...

*HeaterZ Hot Chicken Truck: *Cash/Credit**

2 Piece Tender Combo \$13

3 Piece Tender Combo \$16

Sandwich Combo \$16

Spicy Cheese Curds \$9

*Orange Leaf frozen yogurt cups \$5 *Cash/Venmo/Zelle**

*Domino's Pizza by the slice \$2 *Cash Only**

Weather and Dressing Appropriately:

Please continue to dress your children appropriately for the weather. This time of year our weather is like a yo-yo. One day it is 70 and we can wear shorts, and the next day it is 40 and we are wearing winter coats! I always encourage everyone to wear layers as the weather changes from hour to hour.

Attendance Call In:

This is just a reminder that any time your child is going to be absent or late, **we do need a call to our attendance line with the reason for their absence.** We are required to document the reason for your child's absence on a daily basis. Please use the attendance line phone number to record the absence. That phone number is **309-557-4473**. This number can be called 24/7.

Upcoming Calendar Events:

March

- 9-20 State Testing-Grades 3,4,5
- 9 PIECE Meeting 6:30
- 11 Spirit Day- Swing Into Spring
- 14 Pot-O-Gold Bingo-4-6p.m.-gym
- 20 Talent Show- for families of participants ONLY
- 23-27 No School-Spring Break



April

- 9 Sciencepalooza-6:00-7:30-gym & cafeteria
- 13 P.I.E.C.E. Meeting-6:30-2nd Gr Commons
- 16 Early Release-students dismissed at 10:45
- 16 Kindergarten Preview-12:30-2:00



17 No School-School Improvement Day

22 Earth Day