



The Principal's Desk

Dear Prairie View Families,

March has started off with so much excitement here at Prairie View, and I would first like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our incredible PTO for their support in celebrating Read Across America Week! The decorations throughout the building were wonderful, and the prizes for our readers made the week even more special. Our students had such a great time dressing in fun colors each day and celebrating the joy of reading together.

Reading = Success!

Reading plays a vital role in student success. Countless studies show that children who read regularly—both at home and at school—perform better academically and build stronger learning habits. When students read consistently, they strengthen the skills needed to thrive in every subject area.

Reading = Communication!

Reading helps children develop a richer vocabulary and a stronger understanding of language and grammar. These skills empower students to communicate clearly, think critically, and express their ideas with confidence. At Prairie View, we believe Future Ready Hawks are Readers!

Reading = Brain Food!

Reading truly fuels the brain. Research shows that reading strengthens cognitive development by improving critical thinking, problem-solving skills, and even empathy and understanding of others. Every book helps build stronger, more curious minds—now that is nutritious learning!



Reading = Pleasure!

Perhaps most importantly, reading can bring joy. When children discover books they love, they are more likely to read for pleasure throughout their lives. A love of reading opens the door to imagination, lifelong learning, and endless possibilities.

I would also like to thank our families for your unwavering support of our school community. McTeacher Night was a tremendous success! Not only did we serve 260 hungry Prairie View families, but we also raised \$859.71 for our PTO. An impressive fact—this was the 4th largest amount raised out of the past 161 McTeacher Nights hosted by the organization since 2002! What an incredible testament to the strength and spirit of our Prairie View community.

In addition, our World's Finest Chocolate Fundraiser was a huge success as well! Thanks to the enthusiasm of our students and the generosity of our families, we sold 215 boxes and surpassed our goal, raising just under \$9,000 to support student experiences and celebrations at Prairie View. We are so grateful for your partnership in helping make these opportunities possible for our Hawks. Prizes have been ordered and will be distributed to students on March 13th, and we look forward to celebrating their efforts.

Thank you again for being such an important part of our Prairie View family. Your partnership helps make our school a truly special place for students to learn, grow, and thrive.

Most Sincerely,
Rachel Schuerman
Proud Principal | Prairie View Elementary

WFC Fundraiser

We are excited to share that Prairie View met (and exceeded) our fundraising goal!!!

Our goal was to sell 200 boxes and raise \$8,000...We sold 215 boxes of chocolate and profited \$8,985! 13 of those boxes were sold during our Candy Gram sales alone!!!

We cannot express how excited we are over this success - way to go kids! Thank you for continuing to make Prairie View a place where students feel celebrated, supported, and proud of their success. Thank you for your continued support and partnership. Together, we are making great things happen here!



Save the Dates

- March 1 - Registration for 26-27 is OPEN
- March 2-6 - Read Across America Week
- March 2 - Spirit Day, Wear Red/Pink

- March 2 - Chess Club, 3:30-4:40pm
- March 2 - PTO Meeting, 6pm
- March 3 - Spirit Day, Wear Orange/Yellow
- March 4 - Spirit Day, Wear Black/White
- March 5 - Spirit Day, Wear Blue/Purple
- March 6 - Spirit Day, Wear as many Colors as you can!
- March 6-13, Scholastic Book Fair
- March 8 - Daylight Savings Time Starts...Spring Forward!
- March 9 - Chess Club, 3:30-4:30pm
- March 13 - Donut with a GrownUp, 8am
- March 16 - Chess Club, 3:30-4:30pm
- March 20 - LID Day, No School
- March 23 - Chess Club, 3:30-4:30pm
- March 31 - PACE Awards Ceremony at lunch



March PACE Character Trait

We are continuing to implement PACE Character Traits through the entirety of the school year! We have already had several wonderful 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 through the year!

The character trait for the month of March is - DILIGENCE! Diligence is working hard, staying focused, and finishing a job carefully from start to finish, even when it is difficult. It means not giving up, paying attention to details, and doing your best to get a task done. A diligent person is reliable, responsible, and keeps trying.

PACE Awards

It was so fun to celebrate our February PACE Award winners! We are so proud of you for demonstrating February's character trait - **HONESTY!** 🏆





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

If you prefer a direct link...[HERE](#) you go!



Counselor Corner

Spring is Coming!

Top Growth Mindset Activities for Kids:

- The Power of "Yet": Teach kids to add the word "yet" to discouraging statements (e.g. "I don't know how to tie my shoes... yet").
- Goal Setting & Tracking: Set specific, small, & achievable goals to teach that growth requires practice & effort.
- Growth Mindset Journaling: Encourage kids to write or draw about mistakes they have made, and how they overcame them.
- "Mistake" Celebrations: Actively discuss mistakes as learning opportunities and a time to reflect on what they can do differently next time.
- "Not Yet" Wall: Create a visual space to post things kids are currently struggling with but are working towards mastering.
- Role-Playing Resilience: Act out scenarios where a character struggles with a task and uses positive self-talk or strategies to persist.
- Reading Growth Mindset Books: Read stories that emphasize perseverance, such as "The Most Magnificent Thing" by Ashley Spires or "Your Fantastic Elastic Brain" by JoAnn Deak.



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

March Specialist News and Calendar



March 2026

PV SPECIALIST SQUAD

MR. WISER - PE

- **World Cup Year**
- We just wrapped up an Olympic Themed Unit [see video here](#) that simulated some of our Winter Olympic events.
- We are currently In a Hockey unit to finish out February
- Next up **March Madness** and the "Prairie Pacer"
- [Follow PE on Instagram](#)

MRS. CHAFFINS - LIBRARY

- Our 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders completed their Stop Motion animation videos and presented them to their classmates. Videos ranged from animal habitats, to natural disasters, to meeting a new friend and solving a problem together.
- Our Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd graders participated in a variety of Super Bowl and Winter Olympics STEM activities. They also explored light and shadows on Groundhogs Day.
- Contact info: jenelle.chaffins@mead354.org
- [Follow Library on Instagram](#)

MS. MARTIN - MUSIC

- It's xylophone time! 2nd-5th graders will be applying what we've learned about the music staff to playing real songs.
- Kinder and 1st grade will be learning basic technique and playing simple melodies and rhythms.
- Coming up in March, 3-5th grade will begin their ukulele unit. K-2nd grade will focus on instrument families and the orchestra.
- Contact info: lisa.martin@mead354.org
- [Follow Music on Instagram](#)



MRS. TOTH - COUNSELOR

- **Snack Update:** Thank you to all those who have donated to our PV snack pantry! We appreciate your support!
- Bullying Lessons will continue in 3rd grade this month. Second Step "Home Links & Resources" are available with this [link](#).
- Child Protection Lessons will be taught by your child's teacher in all K-4 classrooms. Please read [HERE](#) for more information, or to opt your child out of these lessons.
- Contact info: lindsey.toth@mead354.org
- [Bite 2 Go Information](#)

March

2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 A Library Check Out	3 B Library Check Out	4 C Library Check Out	5 A	6 B Book Fair Begins	7
8	9 C	10 A	11 B	12 C	13 A Book Fair Ends Library Check Out	14
15	16 B Library Check Out	17 C Library Check Out	18 A	19 B	20 No School	21
22	23 C	24 A Library Check Out	25 B Library Check Out	26 C Library Check Out	27 A	28
29	30 B	31 C	1 A Library Check Out	2 B Library Check Out	3 C Library Check Out	4

A PTO Update

Midyear Hello from the Prairie View PTO

We have funded many field trip and learning opportunities for our students so far this year...and *WE ARE NOT DONE YET!!!*

Year-to-Date (YTD) Approved Grant Requests:

- \$24,114.46 in grant requests approved in 25-26 school year
- \$5,885.54 remaining for potential grant requests in 25-26 school year



Here is our financial summary from the March meeting.

Current Balances

- Checking: **\$20,230.25**
- Savings: **\$10,005.01 (this is to start 26-27 school year)**

****After accounting for outstanding checks and approved grants, we have \$10,415.37 remaining in checking (includes 5,885.54 for potential grants).** This means so much more fun is in store for our students this year! Thank you for your continued support!

Did you know?

If you're a parent or guardian of a Prairie View student, you're automatically a voting member of the PTO! The Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) supports our amazing students and staff through fun events, fundraising, and volunteer efforts. The PTO Board is a small team of parent volunteers who help keep things running but we can't do it without YOU!

You're Invited to PTO Meetings!

We typically meet the first Monday of each month at 6:00 PM, and everyone's welcome!

- ◆ Free babysitting
- ◆ Tasty snacks (because meetings are better with treats!)
- ◆ We keep it to about one hour

At meetings, we review grant requests from PV staff and plan upcoming events. Want to see how fundraising dollars are used? Or just stay in the loop? Please join us. We'd love to have you!

Want to Help But Can't Attend?

No problem! Sign up for volunteer emails to get notified of upcoming opportunities. You choose when and how to help. No pressure and no automatic sign-ups. To sign up for the volunteer emails click [here](#)!

Just Want Updates?

Sign up for communication emails and stay informed on:

- ◆ SignUpGenius links
- ◆ Event setup & cleanup
- ◆ Food donations
- ◆ Popcorn popping
- ◆ Decorating
- ◆ School event shifts ...and more! You pick what works for your schedule. To sign up for the communication emails click [here](#)!

Already Signed Up Last Year?

We start fresh each fall, so make sure to sign up again! Thanks for being part of the Prairie View community. We're so excited to team up with you for an awesome year!

Stay Connected

Instagram: @pv_pto

Facebook: @pvhawksPTO

Your 2025–26 PTO Board,

Ana Espindola, President

Holly Dehlbom, Vice President

Becky Senescall & Shasta Boucher, Co-Treasurers

Katie Shannon, Secretary

Gretchen Shrewsbury, Volunteer Coordinator

Amanda Dikes & Jessica Green, Co-Fundraising Coordinators

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Follow us on the Web



Rachel Schuerman

Rachel is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

