

The Prairieland Press

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

April/May 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:** **Prairieland Website**

Principal's Message:

We are now down to the home stretch of the school year and the last newsletter for the 25/26 school year. It always seems to pass in the blink of an eye! Thank you for all of your support and work with your student(s) this year. There are many great things planned for the kids to end the year and we are looking forward to making new memories! Let's keep it rolling for the last several weeks of school and finish strong!

Lunch With Your Students:

To help us prepare for a smooth and exciting final week of school, **Friday, May 22** will be the last day for parents to join students for lunch. We have a special student picnic planned for the following week and want to ensure our lunchroom flow is perfect for the festivities! Thank you for your support and understanding

Kindergarten Registration & Preview

We are excited to host our Kindergarten Preview for the 2026-27 school year on Thursday, April 16, from 12:30 PM to 2:00 PM. This in-person event is the perfect way to kick off your child's journey at Prairieland.

What to Expect:

- For Students: Our staff will lead your little ones through fun activities and simple assessments to get to know them better.
- For Parents: Mr. Peters will host an information session starting promptly at 12:30 PM.

Registration Steps: Online registration is now officially open! We ask that all families complete the online portion before attending Preview Day. Even if you already have students in the district, please call the Prairieland office at 309-557-4424 to start the process.

We can't wait to meet our newest Cougars!

Grade Level Testing

All students grades K-5 will be completing our last round of the STAR computerized testing between April 13 and May 8th. This is our district testing which allows us to monitor student progress in standardized format. We do this three times per year.

Sciencepalooza:

This 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 had 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 March our focus was on "Helping Others"and our April focus is on building a better "community." May will revolve around celebrating our "community." Each month students can earn a fun "Out of the Blue" activity. Our out-of-the-blue for March was our annual Rock/Paper/Scissor championships to go along with our Reading March Madness contest. We had rock/paper/ scissor champions for each class, as well as 3 lunch hour winners. In April we are working with our students to do activities that will help our community. We are looking forward to ending our year with our outdoor lunch picnic in May.

Family Bingo Night!!

A big thank you to our PIECE group for another successful Family Bingo Night!! Fun was had by all as we played some bingo, had some food, played some knockout, and gave away a lot of fun baskets and prizes!

Thanks to all who participated or helped with this event! We couldn't do it without you!





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:



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**

16 **Dine to Donate- Portillos**

17 **No School-School Improvement Day**

22 **Earth Day- Wear Green to School**

30 **K/1 Music Concert. K @5:00pm, 1st @6:00pm**

May

1 **Early Release-students dismissed at 10:45**

1 **School Spirit Day-Flower Power: Wear anything with a floral pattern to celebrate May Day!**

3 **Unit 5 Foundation Run-Maxwell Park-for every registered participant the school receives money back this year!**

6 **Dine to Donate- Carls**

4-8 **Staff Appreciation Week!!**

11 **PIECE Meeting-6:30**

15 **Last Day for 5th Grade Band**

25 **No School- Memorial Day**

27 **Play Day**

28 **Projected Last Day-½ day for students-dismissed at 10:45**

