



Home & School Meeting, March 10, 2026
Multipurpose Room at Prairie, 9 a.m.

A. CALL TO ORDER

a. 9:02

B. WELCOME

C. Special Guest: Ms. Wendy Goettsch, Executive Director, Naperville Education Fdn.

a.  NEF Overview_2026_HandS

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. [Daft of H&S Meeting Minutes 2/10/26](#)

i. Approval MK, MH

E. PRESIDENT REPORT

a. Thank Yous

- a. Adult Social: Ryan Doornbos, Alissa Dunham, Donna Heine, Toral Shah, & Elaine Wendorf
- b. Art from the Heart: Rebecca Bailey, Maggie Rubin & Kat Stark
- c. Book Fair: Alyssa Connolly & Whitney White
- d. Marquee: Laura Ramey, & Joe Papuga
- e. Parent Safety Patrol: Karin Barden, Laura & Tony DeFalco, Whitney White, Alyssa Connolly, Alissa & Todd Dunham, Guillermo Trilnick, & Karen Belton
- f. Prairie Pavers: Kristin Turnbull
- g. SFCP: Bridget Gryna, Trisha Matthews, & Mary Wright
- h. Social Media: Donna Heine
- i. Staff Appreciation - Food: Courtney Celani & Mora Escarra
- j. Staff Appreciation - Gifts: Christine Cox & Laura Gniadek
- k. Yearbook: Carolyn Buckingham, Lisa Crisup, & Allison Kellogg

b. General H&S Board Updates

a. Vote on Proposed Slate for General H&S Exec Committee 2026-2027

President: Nicole Kmetz (2nd year in term)

Vice President: Jepharya Badie (2nd year in term)

Secretary: Meredith Pollack

Treasurer: Sanchi Arora

Prairie approved of the above slate

b. Youth Mental Health First Aid training with KidsMatter.

a. [YMHFA One Pager](#)

b. Signup link and updated flyer next month.

c. [Spring 2026 Parent Tech Series](#)

1. 3/19 Balancing Screens & Wellness

2. 4/23 Protecting Your Child's Digital Footprint
- d. [2027-2028 Calendar Approved](#)
- e. District Art Show
 1. Tuesday, 4/14 Municipal Center
- f. District Budget Update
 1. [Website](#) - best source for information
 - a. If you have questions that aren't answered, reach out to Mr. Marc Willensky, Prairie's Board Liaison
MWillensky@naperville203.org
- g. Crosstown Classic
 1. Saturday, April 25th
 2. Register [here](#).
- c. Prairie H&S Updates
 - a. SFCP
 1. All school read will kick off Monday, 4/13
 - b. Have an idea for a new event or activity for H&S?
 1. Complete this [form](#).
 - c. Parent Safety Patrol
 1. Want to help? Sign up [here](#).
 2. City of Naperville, Transportation Engineering and Development (TED) team is going to collect speed and volume data on Charles and Elizabeth, as well as conduct some observations of drop off and pick up. The best way to submit your comments and information to create an official documentation of them is to submit the request through the City's Help Center. For the help center: [https://napervilleil.mycusthelp.com/webapp/ rs/\(S\(ugz3ftvnorxtpusiew0q3xh4\)\)/support/home.aspx](https://napervilleil.mycusthelp.com/webapp/ rs/(S(ugz3ftvnorxtpusiew0q3xh4))/support/home.aspx). First, select "Submit a Request" and then select the "Streets and Sidewalks" option from the Category drop-down menu.
- d. Upcoming H&S-Sponsored Events
 - a. Eat Out at Colonial Cafe - Wednesday, 3/18
 - b. Balancing Screens & Wellness w/ SFCP - Thursday, 3/19
 1. Viewing party in the MPR
- e. Next H&S meeting: Tuesday, 4/14, 9AM
 - a. Mr. Zallis will talk about playground and building improvements
- f. Contact the board with any questions or suggestions:
 - a. Tia Claffy, prairiehs@gmail.com
Melissa Fox, prairiecopresident@gmail.com
 - b. Carolyn Buckingham, prairieschoolvp@gmail.com
 - c. Alicia Klabunde, prairiesecretary@gmail.com
 - d. Nicole Anderson, prairietreas@gmail.com

F. VICE PRESIDENT REPORT

- a. WAAG
- b. Kane County Cougars Reading Program
 - a. Finishing up next week
 - b. Games will be Sunday May 17th at 1 pm and Friday May 29 at 6:30 pm

G. TREASURER REPORT

- a. Account Balances
 - a. Account Balances
 - 1. Savings - \$7,575.04
 - 2. Checking - Bank - \$46,933.42; Book - \$47,877.42
 - 3. Cheddar Up Balance - \$60
 - 4. Family Connections - \$486.25 (Regal/Portillos)
 - b. Monthly Reports - [February](#)
 - 1. Approvals
 - a. KR
 - b. MH
- b. [2025-2026 Budget](#)
- c. Forms
 - a. Deposit form is available in the Prairie office - cash needs 2 signatures
 - b. Check Request Forms
 - 1. [Printable form](#)
 - 2. [Google form](#)
- d. All deposits need to go through Prairie office with 4-part deposit form
- e. Cannot reimburse tax - [Tax exemption certificate](#)
- f. Budget Planning - Committee Chairs - Please fill out the [budget planning form](#) for your committee ASAP!

H. SECRETARY REPORT

- a. Correspondence
 - a. Staff
 - b. Thank-yous
- b. Attendance raffle - St. Patrick's Day plant and Panera gift card
 - a. K.R.

I. PRINCIPAL REPORT

- a. Parent/Teacher Conferences
 - a. Thank you to all of our families that participated in our recent parent/teacher conferences. We appreciate your continued partnership and support. If you have any feedback please email Mr. Zalis.
- b. Incoming Kindergartners
 - a. Kindergarten Preview will be held on Monday, March 16th. This is an opportunity for incoming kindergarten students and their parents to visit Prairie and hear a bit about our kindergarten program. As a reminder, on this day, there is NO SCHOOL for our current kindergarten students.
- c. Kindergarten enrollment started February 1, 2026.
- d. Parent Input Form
 - a. If you are interested in offering input during this class placement process, please complete this optional Google form that was shared via a Talk 203 message by Friday, March 13th. This form will not take submissions after March 13th. As you consider completing this form, please know that we do not retain forms from year to year. Information submitted in previous years is not considered in the creation of these new lists. The Prairie staff

welcomes any insight you wish to share about your child's strengths, needs, and learning style. While we are sure you understand that specific teacher requests will not be accommodated, we will take into consideration pertinent information about your child as a learner. You must complete a form for each student attending Prairie.

e. 5Essentials Survey

- a. If you have not done so, please take a moment to complete the 5Essentials Parent Survey for Prairie. We need at least 20% parent participation to have access to the results. These results are used to guide school improvement efforts so your input is greatly appreciated.

f. Board Docs

- a. Ms. Wagner has resigned effective the end of this school year, as she prepares for an out of state move.

J. D203 BOARD MEMBER, MARC WILLENSKY, REPORT

- a. Confusion on capital expenditures as it relates to current operating deficits.
 1. Annually, fiscal year end fund balances are reviewed and any surpluses are recommended for one time use per policy 4:20. In prior years this could be for tax relief or capital projects. This year, it was recommended to utilize the funds for construction of a new transportation center. This decision was a planned capital project and it does not impact the current operational deficit.
- b. How did we get to the current operational deficit? Factors impacting include:
 1. State Mandated Transportation - When started, it was fully funded by the state. Today funding is now 60-70%.
 2. Post-covid money previously received from the state has now dried up.
 3. Revenues from local real estate tax which are capped at 5% or CPI whichever is lower. With revenue growth capped a deficit cannot easily be bridged with revenue.
 4. Over the past 10 years (consider pre-covid) enrollment has declined by 875 students for various reasons. Yet, the number of teachers has increased by 185.
- c. Why is it that 12/31/25, we have not paid 50% of the teacher salaries which is the halfway point of the school term? The fiscal year ends June 30th and we need to accrue for the salary paid in July and August that was earned in the 2025 school term. So in December teachers have been paid for 4¾ of a year (starting in August for the new term, September, October, November, and December) and which is why they have been paid 40%. This will always be the case based As long as teachers are paid for 12 months, but the salary is earned during the school term.
- d. Questions? Please reach out MWillensky@naperville203.org

K. TEACHER REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

- a. Mrs. Callaghan - Thankful for all the work put into the book fair. Students love visiting and having the opportunity to receive free money to purchase books. It was a great success!

L. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Verbal

- a. Book Fair
 - 1. Thanks to all the parents who participated. Still waiting on final numbers.
- b. School Supplies
 - 1. Now accepting online orders [School Supply Kits for Prairie Elementary](#)
- c. Adult Social
 - 1. Final report pending. Request for another chair for next year.
- d. Year Book
 - 1. Thank you to all who are helping with the yearbook.
- b. Written reports attached.

M. NEW BUSINESS

N. UPCOMING DATES

- Tuesday, March 10: Home and School Meeting - MPR (9:00AM)
- Friday, March 13: Spirit Day - Wear Green!
- Monday, March 16: Kindergarten Preview **(No School for Current Kindergarteners)**
- Monday, March 16: Board of Education Meeting, 7:00PM
- Tuesday, March 17: E-LEARNING DAY - Election Day
- Wednesday, March 18: Prairie Eats Out at Colonial Cafe, 7:00AM - 8:00PM
- Thursday, March 19: SFCP Tech Talk Discussion (Prairie LC)
- Saturday, March 21: Kane County Cougars Reading Program Ends
- Monday, March 30 - Friday, April 3: NO SCHOOL - Spring Break
- Monday, April 6: School Resumes
- Monday, April 6 - Friday, April 10: National Assistant Principal Week
- Tuesday, April 14: Home & School Meeting, 9AM
- Thursday, April 16: 2nd Grade Fine Arts Program, 6PM
- Monday, April 20: Fifth Graders Visit WJHS, 9AM

Motion to adjourn @ 9:45

M.H.

H&S Committee Reports **Month: March 2026**

Art from the Heart is losing two committee members due to their youngest children graduating Prairie at the end of this school year. At this stage we are recruiting one or two new chairpersons - will inform you if we need help. The current budget is \$500, many of the needed supplies have come from Maggie's own personal art supplies - if possible it would help to increase the budget to cover costs for equipment and supplies that we do not have.

School Supplies is up and running and now accepting orders [School Supply Kits for Prairie Elementary](#) . Fliers will be going home with students soon and social media posts to soon follow.