Home & School
Prairie Elementary School

Home & School Meeting, May 12, 2026
Multipurpose Room at Prairie, 9 a.m.

A. CALL TO ORDER
    a. 9:02 am

B. WELCOME

C. SPECIAL GUESTS:
    a. Mr. Vogel, WJHS Principal and Emily Kozlowski, outgoing WJHS H&S President
        i. PAWS Program
            1. Kids nominated for PAWS award monthly
        ii. 50% of students at Washington are Prairie kids
        iii. Counselors in middle school follow kids as they go through their 3 years, as do Assistant Principals
        iv. New High school counselor coming down to 8th grade
        v. Kids follow 9 period schedule
            1. 5 periods of core classes
            2. Get lunch (25 min) and recess (15 min)
            3. Get elective exploratory classes - currently 1 per trimester
                a. FACTS (i.e. Home Ec/Entrepreneurship)
                b. Project Lead The Way - engineering
                c. Art
                d. Music
            4. Next year proposing 2 elective classes per trimester - currently all 6th graders end the day with a supervised study (unless in band, choir, or orchestra)
                a. For the 2 elective classes you choose 2 of the 3
                    i. FACTS, PLTW, Music, Art
                    ii. Band/Choir/Orchestra
                    iii. Supervised Study
            5. 80% of kids do not need daily supervised study. Need to increase executive functioning skills.
                a. Will allow for daily music (band, orchestra, choir)
                b. Will allow for differentiation of schedule to meet individual student needs
            6. 8th Grade Honors math & foreign language get high school credit
            7. Encourage kids to take more exploratory classes and expand their horizons
            8. Large variety of clubs and intramurals for kids to get involved in.
            9. Students will get to choose their schedule first and then they come home to discuss with parents. Parents are encouraged to "support"

their choices and let them try their schedule first before changes are made. Encourage students to make more independent choices.

10. Week before school starts
    a. Specific time for new students/6th graders to put school supplies in their locker, try out their locker combination, and walk through their schedule
11. Day before school - 3-5pm
    a. Building open to all WJHS students for one last walk through

vi. Emily Kozlowski- outgoing H&S President at Washington
1. The biggest difference between elementary H&S and Washington H&S is fundraising.
    a. Do one major fundraiser in the fall (intense 3 weeks)
        i. Will look differently next year
    b. Funds primarily go towards teacher wishlists
2. Not as much opportunity for parent involvement within the school
    a. Occasionally will be asked to bring in food
    b. More parent opportunity for involvement in 8th grade

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
a. Draft of H&S Meeting Minutes 4/14/26
    i. Approval
        1. L.D.
        2. W.W

E. PRESIDENT REPORT
a. Thank Yous
    i. 5th Grade Special Projects: Erica Bennett, Hillary Lafferty, Mary Beth O'Connell, Michelle Weisseg, & Whitney White
    ii. Art Awareness: Laura DeFalco, Emily DiValerio, & Michaela Kent
    iii. Author Visits: Jennifer Borja & Lonna Hancock
    iv. Birthday Books: Sarah Daniluk & Kat Stark
    v. Family Connections: Kasey Gilliam
    vi. Garden Committee: Dennis Johnson, Anne Nourallah, & Noemi Diaz Herrera
    vii. Marquee: Laura Ramey, & Joe Papuga
    viii. Prairie Adult Social: Ryan Doornbos, Alissa Dunham, Donna Heine, Toral Shah & Elaine Wendorf
    ix. Parent Safety Patrol: Karin Barden, Tia Claffy, Laura DeFalco, Katie Heuer, & Karen Belton, Alyssa Connolly
    x. Prairie Day: Julie Belloli, Ted Grossestreuer, & Blaine Kosek
    xi. Prairie Partners: Julie Belloli & Jillian McGrath
    xii. School Supply Kits: Molly Bliss & Alicia Klabunde
    xiii. SFCP: Bridget Gryna, Trisha Matthews, & Mary Wright
    xiv. Social Media: Donna Heine
    xv. Staff Appreciation - Food: Courtney Celani & Mora Escarra
    xvi. Staff Appreciation - Gifts: Christine Cox & Laura Gniadek
    xvii. Yearbook: Carolyn Buckingham, Lisa Crisup, & Allison Kellogg
b. General H&S Board Updates
    i. Survey regarding district communication (preferred methods of communication)

1. Sent out today open until the end of school

ii. New District 203 app launched in the fall
1. Everything will be encompassed in this app (infinite campus, remind, etc..)
2. Should launch in the fall

iii. Annual Update closes 5/22

iv. District Budget Update
1. Tentative budget presented to the board/on board docs
2. Public hearing scheduled for 6/15
3. Website - best source for information
a. If you have questions that aren't answered, reach out to Marc Willensky.

c. Prairie H&S Updates

i. Parent Safety Patrol
1. Want to help? Sign up here
2. Updates from City
a. City has been out to monitor and brainstorm
i. Consideration of additional signage in fall
ii. New parking restrictions being discussed
iii. In the fall, potential to shift the dropoff north to in front of the building, potentially eliminating dropoff south of the crosswalk
iv. Mr. Zallis grateful for the headway that has been made. This is the most progress that has been made in the 9 years he has been here.
v. Question raised about the opportunity to remove grass in the parkway that allows for muddy mess for kids to exit cars during inclement weather.
vi. Question of crosswalk north of the school.
1. This is a non-school decision and city of Naperville decision. Parents were encouraged to contact the city to push the issue. Comments can be made here. Sample email sent HERE

ii. Prairie Day
1. Volunteer sign up has closed, but reach out to chairs at prairie203prairieday@gmail.com if you find you are available
2. Adjustments to inflatables and now two bucket dump stations
a. This was in response to district mandate
b. Could use more tents for shade

iii. SFCP
1. All school read ends 5/15

iv. Yearbook
1. Distribution the last week of school
a. Each grade may give them out a different day

v. Have an idea for a new event or activity for H&S?
1. Complete this form

d. Upcoming H&S-Sponsored Events

i. Thursday, May 14: Prairie Day

ii. Friday, May 15: Rain Date Prairie Day
iii. Friday, May 22: Fifth Grade Clap Out, 2:15
iv. Sunday, June 7: last day to order School Supplies

e. Contact the board with any questions or suggestions:
i. Tia Claffy, prairiehs@gmail.com
Melissa Fox, prairiecopresident@gmail.com
ii. Carolyn Buckingham, prairieschoolvp@gmail.com
iii. Alicia Klabunde, prairiesecretary@gmail.com
iv. Nicole Anderson, prairietreas@gmail.com

F. VICE PRESIDENT REPORT
a. WAAG
b. Open Committee Chair Positions
i. (1) Community Coventures (Co-Chair: Elaine Wendorf)
ii. (1-2) Prairie Day (Co-Chair: Ted Grossestreuer)
iii. (1) Room Parents (Co-Chair: Mackenzie Henry)
iv. (1) Fundraising Assistant (Co-Chair: Megan Hower)

G. TREASURER REPORT
a. Account Balances
i. Account Balances
1. Savings - $7,575.16
2. Checking - Bank - $57,707.52; Book - $55,723.43
3. Cheddar up Balance (as of 5/7/26) - $24,090
ii. Monthly Reports - April
1. Approval
a. L.D
b. M.E.
b. 2025-2026 Budget
c. Forms
i. Deposit form is available in the Prairie office - cash needs 2 signatures
ii. 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. If you are holding onto any reimbursements, please submit!

H. SECRETARY REPORT
a. Meeting Minute Communication
b. Thank you's
c. Attendance raffle
i. Winner: Karin Barden
d. Committee Chairs - google email account password updates - please contact with any changes

I. PRINCIPAL REPORT

a. Thank you for a wonderful Principal's Day. I am truly touched by your kindness and the thoughtful celebration. It is an honor to work with such a supportive community
b. Annual Update
    i. Naperville School District 203 **Online Annual Update will open on May 1st - May 27th.**. The Online Annual Update for the 2025-2026 school year must be completed for all returning preschool students and students entering 1st -13th grades. To access the Online Annual Update, you will need your Campus Parent username and password. If you do not have a Campus Parent Account, contact *Parent Support* at parentsupport@naperville203.org.
c. Lost and Found - please check
d. Summer Updates
    i. As we transition into the summer break, I want to ensure you stay connected and informed about the upcoming school year.I will be sending out my seasonal update, "Principally Speaking," three times over the summer months. These newsletters will contain important dates, school updates, and everything you need to know to prepare for the fall. Please know that I am working throughout the summer. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to reach out via email at any time.

J. D203 BOARD MEMBER, MARC WILLENSKY, REPORT
    a. Budget
        i. Session on June 6th
        ii. Parents are welcome to attend or reach out
        iii. Miscommunications to clarify
            1. Budget 2026 (ending June 30th)
                a. Has been amended
                    i. Contract negotiation
                    ii. Approved work for transportation which was not in original budget
            2. Capital decision and role with layoff
                a. Capital budget is separate from budget to pay teachers (operating budget)
                b. Transportation center budgeted by extra funds from previous budgets
                c. One page will have budget with capital funds
                d. Other page will have operating budget which is day to day costs
                e. Previous talk was on $12 million operating budget which has been reduced to $4 million
                f. Previous discussed Riff is not going to occur and operating budget was successfully reduced

K. TEACHER REPRESENTATIVE REPORT - A HUGE Thank you for all H&S has done for the Prairie staff and community the whole year! We have the best Home & School and feel so fortunate to be able to partner together.

L. COMMITTEE REPORTS
    a. Verbal
        i. Prairie Day

1. Shade Tents welcome. Please contact Ted Grossestreuer for details for dropoff/pickup.
2. Opportunity for prairie pride shirts for purchase if interested. Contact prairiespiritwear@gmail.com

b. Written reports attached.

M. NEW BUSINESS
   a. Vote to approve Teacher Wishlist
      i. L.D.
      ii. C.T
   b. Vote to approve Bylaws
      i. M.K.
      ii. D.H.
   c. Vote to approve 26-27 Budget Summary
      i. Detail
      ii. Bridge from 25-26 Budget
      iii. Approval
         1. CT.
         2. M.B

N. UPCOMING DATES
- Tuesday, May 12: Kindergarten Music Program - Prairie Gym - 6pm
- Thursday, May 14: Prairie Day (Rain date May 15)
- Friday, May 15: 5th Grade Party - Naperville Yard - 6-8pm
- Monday, May 18: National Speech Pathologist Day
- Monday, May 18: D203 Board of Ed Meeting - 7pm
- Friday, May 22: Last day of school, 5th grade clapout 2:15pm
- Friday, May 22: Deadline to Complete Annual Online Update
- Monday, May 25: Memorial Day
- Sunday, June 7: Last day to Order School Supplies

Adjourn: 10:22 am

H&S Committee Reports
Month: May 2026

School Supplies website is live. Click here to order: https://schooltoolbox.com/school-supplies/school/list-boxes/?schoolId=33898&utm_source=site&utm_medium=qr+code&utm_campaign=School+Page