

Normal West begins their homecoming celebration on Friday, October 5<sup>th</sup>. On that day, students will be dismissed at 1:15 P.M. The homecoming parade will begin at 2:00 P.M. Additional information about the homecoming parade will be sent home in a couple of weeks.

## Education News

### **SAT10 & MATH PREASSESSMENT**

During the week of August 27 – 31, our 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> graders will take the Unit 5 Math Pre-Assessment.

During the week of September 10-14, all 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade students will take part in the Stanford Achievement Test – Form 10. 2nd grade students will also take the Otis Lennon School Ability Index (OLSAT). Finally during that week, our kindergartners will take their version of the Unit 5 Math Pre-Assessment

Please help your child(ren) to be better prepared for these tests by having them get plenty of sleep and by serving them a healthy breakfast each morning that week.

Thank you for all of your help and encouragement!

## Looking Ahead

### **October**

- 2 - PIECE meeting
- 3 - Market Day Pick up
- 5 - West Homecoming - dismiss at 1:15
- 8 - Columbus Day – NO SCHOOL
- 24 - PIECE Open House/Fall Social 6:00
- 25 - NO SCHOOL: Teacher Institute
- 26 - NO SCHOOL -Parent/Teacher Conf.

- 31 - Halloween Parade/class parties

### **November**

- 6 – Market Day Pick up
- 7 – Music Program 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> grades
- 13 – PIECE meeting
- 16 - End of 1<sup>st</sup> Trimester
- 22-23 NO SCHOOL – Thanksgiving Break

## Quote of the Month

“Without saying a word, we constantly show our kids what we believe they can be.

They will either live up to our highest expectations or down to our greatest fears.”

## Reminders

- Please use the attendance hotline when calling in an absent or late arriving student. The hotline is available 24 hours a day.
- When sending lunch money to school, please be sure to use an envelope with the student’s name and room code on the front. This makes things go much faster for our administrative assistants.
- During the school day, all exterior doors are locked, except for the main doors in the front of the building.
- All school visitors must sign in at the office for a “volunteer” or “visitor” badge to wear while in the building.
- Radios, CD players, tape players, electronic games, laser pointers and other electronic equipment are not allowed at school unless a classroom teacher gives special permission for a day.



## Calendar

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**August**

- 25 - Movie Night at dusk  
 28 - Curriculum Night 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> 6:30 p.m.  
 30 - Curriculum Night 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> 6:30 p.m.

**September**

- 3 - NO SCHOOL – Labor Day  
 5 - Market Day pick up 4:30 – 5:30  
 10 - **PICTURE DAY**  
 11 - PIECE Parent Meeting – 6:30 IMC  
 20 - Club Night – 6:00 – 8:00  
 29 - CIDSO Buddy Walk



## School News

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**STUDENT DROP OFF/PICK UP**

Student safety is our primary concern when transporting students to school. Please keep the following information in mind if you are going to be transporting your child to or from school this year.

- There is no adult supervision until 7:55 every morning, so children may not arrive at school prior to 7:55 a.m.
- The bus lane is for buses only.
- If you drop off your child after 8:10 in the morning, they may go directly into the building instead of going to the playground to line up.
- Please be patient, go slowly, and always think of safety as you maneuver through the parking lot.

**NEW STAFF**

Please help us welcome the new staff members we have at Prairieland this fall.  
 Julie Shackley - 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher  
 Beth Brown – 1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher  
 Emily Andris – C.I. K-2  
 Jessica Stutz – Social Worker  
 Deb Morley - Teaching Assistant

Georgia Lee - Teaching Assistant  
 Kim Loseke - Teaching Assistant  
 Natalie Brawner - Teaching Assistant  
 Mary Lacey - Teaching Assistant  
 Lori Hanson - Teaching Assistant  
 Carolyn Bojarowicz - Teaching Assistant  
 Susan Peterson – Food services

**PLAYGROUND SUPERVISORS**

We are currently looking for a few parents who are interested in a paid position as a noon-hour supervisor. The hourly rate is \$7.53 per hour. The hours are 11:00 to 1:00. Responsibilities include the supervision of students during both indoor and outdoor recess. You get to work with a great group of children and have a lot of fun with the rest of us who work during the noon hour. Contact Mr. Arnold at 888-6838 if are interested in the position.

**PIECE NEWS****MAGAZINE SALE!!!**

PIECE is holding its annual magazine sale. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year. The sale begins on August 27<sup>th</sup> and ends on September 11. Information packets containing all of the details will be sent home on Aug. 27.

**SCHOOL PICTURES**

School Pictures will be taken on Monday, September 10<sup>th</sup>. All children will be photographed for the yearbook. If you wish to purchase a picture packet, please return your money in the envelope that will be sent home with your child. Picture packets must be paid for in advance. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the office at 888-6838.

**HOMECOMING**

## Principal's Message

Dear Prairieland Families,

Welcome back to school! It has been a great first week of school and all of the world seems right now that we have the children back in school. After talking with the students, it sounds like everyone had a fun-filled summer break!

Several things have been happening over the summer that are worth noting...

Technology - a BIG thank you to PIECE, as well as several parents who donated State Farm grants, for enabling us to purchase Smartboards in all of our 5<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms. We are currently exploring a fairly ambitious technology plan at Prairieland. More details will be shared in the near future.

New Prairieland Website - Over the summer, Mr. Matthews completely redesigned our website. Our goal is to create a communication tool that contains current and relevant information. Although we are still updating certain information, I encourage you to check out our new look at [www.unit5.org/prairieland](http://www.unit5.org/prairieland)

Surveys - Summaries of the student, staff, and parent surveys that were completed at the end of last school year will be posted on the Prairieland website within a few days. I encourage you to check out the results. You may find it interesting to compare the responses of the three different groups (parents, teachers, and students) on similar questions. Our staff will continue to use these results to help shape our school improvement plan - with a focus on diversity and safety.

Finally, I look forward to seeing everyone at two events that are coming up quickly - Movie Night and Curriculum Night. Movie Night will be on Saturday, August 25. We will be showing the Disney movie "Cars" in the back of the school at dusk. In case of rain, we will move inside to the gym.

Curriculum Night will be a little less congested this year since we are holding it on two different evenings. Parents are invited to attend Curriculum Night for their child as follows:  
Tuesday, Aug. 28 from 6:30 - 7:00 for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> grades  
Thursday, Aug. 30 from 6:30 - 7:00 for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades  
As in the past, this is an event that we request only parents attend.

Sincerely,

*Tim Arnold*

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