



The Prairieland Press

“It’s a Great Day to Be a Cougar!”

November 2022

<p>Attendance Line: 557-4473</p> <p>Please use the attendance line to report an absence or late arrival.</p>	<p>Principal: Scott Peters</p> <p>Office: 557-4424</p> <p>Hours: 6:45-3:15</p>	<p>School Website:</p> <p>www.unit5.org/prairieland</p> <p>Calendar:</p> <p>http://www.unit5.org/Page/38</p>
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Principal’s Message:

This week wraps up the first trimester of the school year. The students are working hard and continue to make growth in so many areas. A progress report for your student will either be handed out at conferences next Monday if you have one scheduled on that day, or it will come home on the 9th. The progress report will be available after November 7 in your student(s)’ Infinite Campus portal as well. I want to always emphasize the importance of staying in tune with the academic progress of your child through conferences and materials as they come home or are entered in Infinite Campus. We are all in this together.

State Summative Designation:

ISBE(Illinois State Board of Education) has issued summative designations for the first time since 2019, as required by the U.S. Department of Education. The federal Every Student Succeeds Act requires that all states implement an accountability system that annually meaningfully differentiates the performance of all public schools. These designations recognize schools' overall performance across a range of academic and student success indicators including student growth on state exams in grades 3-5 in the areas of literacy, math, and science. Also factored in are attendance records, as well as the climate survey taken by our upper elementary students.

Illinois has four annual summative designations: Exemplary, Commendable, Targeted, and Comprehensive.

- Exemplary recognizes the highest performing 10 percent of schools.
- Comprehensive identifies the lowest performing 5 percent of schools.
- Targeted identifies schools whose performance is overall above the lowest performing 5 percent of schools but that have one or more individual student groups whose

performance is on par with the lowest performing 5 percent of schools.

- All other schools receive a Commendable designation.

I am proud to announce that Praireland was given an “Exemplary” designation for 2022.

Each year, our school disaggregates and analyzes student achievement data to set SMART Goals for the current year and review progress on past goals. This year, our school will continue to focus on the implementation of math practices within classrooms, to differentiate instruction, meet student needs (academically, socially, emotionally) and increase student achievement. We also continue our focus on ways to address systemic and individual inequities and promote more equitable practices within our schools especially for those students and groups identified through report card data.

Parent/Teacher Conferences:

P/T conference day is happening on Monday, November 7, 2022. Please reach out to your child’s teacher(s) if you still would like to meet with them, and they can let you know if they still have times available on that day.

Halloween Festivities

- We want to give a big shout out to our PIECE group for an incredible Trunk or Treat event this year. We might have set an all-time attendance record this year! Thanks to all the families that donated candy, made a trunk, or brought the family out for the evening. It was wonderful to all be together again! After the votes were tallied, the winning car was the Gall family with the Willy Wonka Theme! Congratulations!

Unstoppable Week:

Unit 5 students will be participating in Unstoppable Week, which replaces what was previously known as “Red Ribbon Week” at many schools. This event is being delivered in partnership with BN Parents, an organization associated with Chestnut Health Systems.

Each day of the week, we will focus on a “Superpower” that will assist your child in reaching their full potential. Our goal is to make it fun and engaging! We encourage you to build it up, help them pick out clothing to go along with the activities we will be engaging in each day of the week, and ask them all about it when they return home.

Lessons will focus on making healthy choices, managing daily challenges, building positive relationships, reducing stress, and using medication appropriately.

BN Parents created take-home activity books for students and parents to utilize at home. In addition, BN Parents has additional at-home resource information they will share for families to utilize as they deem appropriate.

Unstoppable Week meets the district requirements for School Code, Section 27-13.2, which mandates instruction on effective methods for the prevention and avoidance of drugs at the elementary level (HB1162).

Medication lockbox/Disposable Bags

Do you lock up your medication? If you haven't yet given any thought to how your medications are stored please know we now have lock boxes and drug disposal bags available. Please reach out to your school nurse to request a box or bag if your family has a need.

Volunteers:

If a teacher is in need of a volunteer during the year they may be reaching out for your assistance. We then will make sure the volunteers have gone through the appropriate steps to be cleared. Please allow a couple weeks for your volunteer screening to clear. It is taking longer this year.

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 October we focused on Respect and in November we are focused on building positive relationships. Each month students can earn a fun "Out of the Blue" activity. Our October out of the blue activity was virtual bingo! The bingo boards had a camping theme this time and students that were winners got to come down and get a prize! Fun was had by all!!

Twitter:

Follow us on twitter for quick updates on upcoming events, as well as highlights of the fun things that are happening. Our twitter handle is @PrairielandUni5 if you would like to follow us. You will also see district updates as well on our feed!

PIECE News:

We would like to thank our P.I.E.C.E. group for investing in new trees out in front of our school to replace the trees in the median that we have lost over the last couple of years. They utilized part of the money that was raised last year through our fundraisers.

Also we would like to give a shout out to the Sharpe family and several Prairieland staff for their donations to replace one of our trees by the building this summer!

Upcoming Calendar Events:

November

7 No School for Students-P/T Conferences

8 No School-Election Day

11 Veterans Day

14 Book Fair All Week

14-18 Unstoppable Week

23-25 Thanksgiving Break

December

8 Early Release-students dismissed at 10:45

16 Last Day before Winter Break

Winter Break: December 19-January 3

January

4 School Resumes for Students

