

January 2016

## From the Principal's Desk

It's a new year; time for a resolution. While most resolutions require reductions – weight, sugar, technology... I offer a resolution that is an addition. Simple, yet challenging; and good for all!

Find your passion. That's it. Determine what you are passionate about and do it. See... simple, yet challenging.

So, how do you find your passion? While I'm no expert, I would say that you make it a point to experience things and determine whether or not you are interested in pursuing those things further. Take your kids to do things even if they do not want to. I remember taking both of my kids to see the Nutcracker Ballet a few years ago. My son, Jack, who was about 12 at the time, tolerated the event, while my daughter, Layne, who was about nine, loved every minute! She was literally sitting on the edge of her seat. I have to be honest here, too. I am of the thinking of Jack; I was not gung ho about going either, but thought I should take my kids. I guess that's our job – to do things with and for our children that we ourselves may not have a bit of passion about, in order to help them find their passion.

Also interesting was my husband's response to a question posed to him while he was running for school board. A student asked a question about wanting to be required to take fewer electives. All candidates answered, "yes" while my husband answered, "no." His reasoning was that it was important to experience things in life to determine whether or not you're interested in pursuing them further. He went on to describe how he had to take Band where he played the drums. It was every junior high boy's dream to play drums in a rock and roll band (it was the 70's). Well, my husband was awful at playing the drums and there went the idea of being in a rock and roll band.

You may be wondering how determining what you do not like leads you to your passion. Well, I think it opens the door to your real passion, while removing all of the "I wonder if's." Let's face it... the "I wonder if's" are pesky and are truly roadblocks to where we need to go.



Sincerely,

Camille Schroeder

### 2015-2016 Attendance Ticker

Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
97.65	97.10	96.05	96.57					

Visit Prairie Lane on the web at <http://prairielane.kusd.edu>

# PTO President's Letter

Dear Parents and Guardians:

I hope everyone had a wonderful and relaxing holiday break! The PTO has been busy planning many wonderful events for 2016, we hope that if you haven't come to an event that you take some time to check one out this year!

We wrapped up 2015 with the Holiday Shoppe – this was our first year doing this event and it was a HUGE success! I think the kids really enjoyed shopping on their own for family and friends! I would like to thank all the volunteers who helped make it so successful! We can't have these great events without the support of our parents!

We've lived here for two years now. At first it was kind of scary as we didn't know anyone. Our boys were making friends but I didn't have an opportunity to meet anyone. One day I met these two really nice moms who encouraged me to help with the PTO. I viewed it as an opportunity to help the kids, the school and to meet other parents. Through volunteering I've met so many nice people and have formed great friendships.

If you have any questions on how to get involved, please don't hesitate to contact me at [melmodica@gmail.com](mailto:melmodica@gmail.com). I'd love to help you have the same experience I've had.

Have a wonderful 2016!

Mel Modica  
Prairie Lane PTO President



## It's the Final Week of Cap Collecting!

This is our last week of collection for our Recycled Bottle Cap Mural for the school Library.

The classroom that collects the most caps by January 21 will receive a **Pizza Party!!**

Remember, you can bring in clean, plastic caps **ANY SIZE! ANY COLOR!** (Please, No Clear caps)

Please encourage Family and Friends to save caps to help us reach our goal!!

## MOVIE NIGHT!

The kids voted and everything will definitely BE AWESOME at our next movie night on February 12 with the Lego Movie on the big screen!

Forms will be sent home soon to pre-register your child to attend the event. Pre-registering not only saves you time at drop off, but it also helps our volunteers plan!



Join in on the fun on Friday, January 22 from 4 to 10 pm at Action Territory Night! Enjoy special offers on indoor fun! Bring along the flier that came home in Thursday folders or just mention you're with Prairie Lane! Also, be sure to mark your calendars for all of our 2016 Action Territory nights! Don't miss out on the fun!

- February 26
- March 18
- April 15
- May 13



The Kindergarten concert will be held on Thursday, January 21st at 6:00 P.M. All Kindergarteners should be practicing their music at my classroom web page found at <http://prairielane.kusd.edu/classrooms/ms-roland/> The password for this is PL (Make sure you use upper case letters)!

The choir and orchestra students are preparing a short performance/concert for those parents. Our date is set for Tuesday, April 12th at 6:00 P.M. in the school gym.

Our students in grades 3-5 are preparing our "Every Day is Earth Day" concert. This date/time is set for Thursday, April 28th at 6:30 P.M. This one will take place at Reuther Auditorium. Please encourage them to practice on their Google classroom.

# Teacher Luncheon

It's Parent-Teacher conference time! Let's show our hard working teachers how much we appreciate them by giving them a tasty meal during Parent-Teacher Conferences!

The PTO will be catering in Jimmy John's sandwiches and it would be wonderful if you could help bring in a side or dessert item for them to enjoy with their meal!

To sign up to bring a dessert or side dish, [click here!](#)

All items must be delivered to the office no later than 10 am on Thursday, February 25.

Thank you!

## Prairie Lane Pride!



**School Spirit Day  
Wed. January 20**

**Wear Prairie Lane gear!  
Popcorn for sale  
.50 per bag – Limit 2**

## Upcoming Events!

### January

- 18 No school
- 20 School Spirit Day (Popcorn .50 a bag limit 2)
- 21 PTO Meeting (7 pm in the library)  
Kindergarten Concert (6 pm in the gym)  
Final day of cap collecting
- 22 No school  
Prairie Lane Night at Action Territory (4-10 pm)

### February

- 5 Read and Recycle Book Night (6-8 pm in the school gym)
- 12 Friendship Parties (11:30 am)  
Movie Night (5:45 pm)
- 17 School Spirit Day
- 24-26 Parent-Teacher Conferences



It's hard to believe that it is time to start planning for our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Walk-a-Thon! We are looking for parents interested in being part of our Sponsorships Team! This very important team will be responsible for contacting business to gain their commitment to help us with our fundraising efforts!

If you are interested in being part of this fabulous team or would like more information on other ways that you can help out with our biggest fundraiser of the year contact Mel Modica at [melmodica@gmail.com](mailto:melmodica@gmail.com) by Friday, January 29.



We will again be participating in Jump Rope for Heart event during the week of February 15 to 19.

Information will be coming home soon in Thursday folders! This year the prize ducks have been replaced with puppies. Last year Prairie Lane raised \$10,300 to support the American Heart Association and Ms. Tiffe dressed up like a duck and went on the roof because we met our school goal. Who knows what this year will bring? Stay tuned!

# Prairie Lane Holiday Bell Ringers!

During the holiday season, Prairie Lane students volunteered their time on two Saturdays (December 5 and 12) where they rang the bell for the Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign, spending four hours on both days. We were able to fill the kettle completely on both days during our watch at Festival Foods in Kenosha!

The following Prairie Lane students who participated were Andrew Weaver, Ben Rothove, Evan Gustafson, Bree Neau, Nathan Johnson, Charlie Gore, Ben Wajerski, Mia Crabtree, Emily Roalkvam, Gabe Olsen, Alex Ketchum, Ashlee Pfeiffer, Hannah Troy, Cal Adamczyk, Griffin Selin, Jacob Long, Adam Hatch, Charley Craig, and Ella Craig. The group was lead by Santa Claus (aka: Mr. Dean).

I just wanted to give a special thank you for those who participated and helped sing our way to a full kettle!

Mr. Dean



Prairie Lane night at the Kingfish is Monday, June 20 at 7:05 pm. Discounted tickets are \$9 and are available for your family and friends for this date only. Your students can enjoy the game for FREE by participating in the Kingfish Reading Program. Students "round the bases" by reading 20-minutes, five nights each week for four weeks. Reading forms and ticket order forms were sent home in Thursday folders – get your kids started on rounding the bases today so you don't miss out on this fun night at the ballgame!

## READ AND RECYCLE BOOK NIGHT

All Prairie Lane Families are invited to join us for our Read and Recycle Book Night where used books become new reads! The fun starts at 6 pm on Friday, February 5 and goes until 8 pm in the Prairie Lane Gym.

Families are encouraged to bring in their gently used books to exchange with other Prairie Lane Families. All types of books are welcome at the exchange (so Moms and Dads, be sure to bring your used books too). Kona Ice will be serving up delicious shaved ice to make the night complete! Feel free to wear your PJ's and enjoy a night of fun, family story time!



## From the Library

### LEGOs! LEGOs! LEGOs!

We are still accepting donations of LEGOS to be upcycled for our "Creation Station!" Please have your students bring them to school & place them in the blue and yellow box outside of the library.

### Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!

On Friday, January 15, John Steinbrink from the Pleasant Prairie Public Works department will be here to present an all-school assembly about recycling in our community. He will be giving our school two, huge recycling barrels. It is our hope that we will begin cutting down on the amount of garbage Prairie Lane produces during students' lunch time, by recycling items.

He has scheduled for our school to be included in the recycle pick-up route in Pleasant Prairie on Thursday mornings! Since this assembly will be our second one this year concerning this topic, you can help us out by emphasizing the importance of recycling to your children.