



Prairie Lane

ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL

October 2015

From the Principal's Desk

Where I'm From...

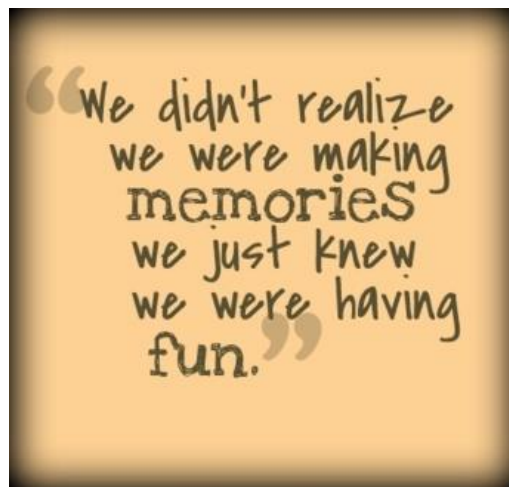
On October 1, I taught one session of a Creative Arts class to Education students at Carthage College. I was asked to teach about how the creative arts can promote culture and equity in a classroom. Before class, I had each student write a poem. The title of each poem was the same, "Where I'm From." I chose this activity as each one of us has a story about where we are from and each one is different.

The important thing to remember is that we are our story. Each experience we have defines who we are. I listened as each student shared where they were from. While each story was different, there was one common theme. The students talked about everyday things they enjoyed as children... mud pies, tire-swings, braiding hair, family dinners, baking with grandma; sisters and brothers. The lone male student wrote about sports with his family and an intense devotion to each member of his family was evident. Not one student mentioned material things. Their stories cost nothing, yet were everything to these students. It was the small stuff that came out in their poems

As I type this, I wonder what my own kids would write. I would love to ask them to write their poem, but it would surely confirm what every high school kid knows – parents are weird. That's okay. I know I still have some time left to add a verse or two to their poems.

Sincerely,

Camille Schroeder



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

PTO President's Letter

Dear Prairie Lane Families,

I write this letter just one week after our second-annual Walk-A-Thon, which is our school's biggest fundraising event. For some, it was a fun event to enjoy with your family. For the team of volunteers -- parents and teachers who were part of the Walk-A-Thon committee, it was the culmination of months of hard work and planning. We couldn't have held another successful event without this wonderful group of people. If you were there that day, you may recall -- Mother Nature wasn't very kind; but we didn't let that stop us! Families arrived at 9 am sharp, ready for a fun-filled day and our teams of volunteers were ready to serve! Volunteers came to sell t-shirts and tickets, supervise bounce houses, games as well as our silent auction and raffle areas. They helped to set-up, checked-in our vendors, assisted walkers (and cake walkers), donated supplies and worked behind the scenes. And when the event came to an end, yet another team was there to help clean-up. We not only hit our fundraising goal of \$15,000; but this event is an example of what wonderful things can be accomplished when a group of people come together to achieve a common goal -- this is what being part of the Parent-Teacher Organization is all about!

I also wanted to recognize our top fundraisers this year! Congratulations for a job well done!

- 1st place – Lexi Joy – Second Grade
- 2nd place – Jayleigh Bilyeu - Kindergarten
- 3rd place – Riley Hanel - Kindergarten

The classrooms with the MOST overall student participation:

- 1st place – Mrs. Roach's Kindergarten Class - 40%
- 2nd place – Mrs. Foley's First Grade Class - 38%
- 3rd place – Mrs. Wilker's Second Grade Class - 35%

And finally, I would like to say a big **THANK YOU** to our sponsors this year:

- Impact Networking
- Ruffolo's Pizza
- Boucher Ford
- Intents Inflatables
- Idrizi Law
- Young Rembrandts

We are already looking ahead to our first Family Fun Night of 2015; our Halloween Bingo on Thursday, October 29 from 5:45 to 8 pm in the Cafeteria. Join us for a fun-filled evening! Bingo starts at 6:30 and kids are encouraged to wear their costumes and participate in the Costume Contest at 7:15. We are looking for volunteers to help out with the event – if you are interested in helping out, sign up for a spot via our [Halloween Bingo Sign-Up Genius page!](#) Please consider signing up for a spot -- maybe with a friend or neighbor! If you can't volunteer for the event, we hope you will send along some baked goodies for our Bake Sale table!

And, don't forget about our Harvest classroom parties which are scheduled for November 6 from 11:30. (4K classes will have their parties on Thursday, November 5).

To keep up-to-date on Prairie Lane PTO activities, be sure to "Like" Prairie Lane PTO) on Facebook. Remember, **"Nobody can do everything, but everyone can do something."**

Mel Modica
Prairie Lane PTO President

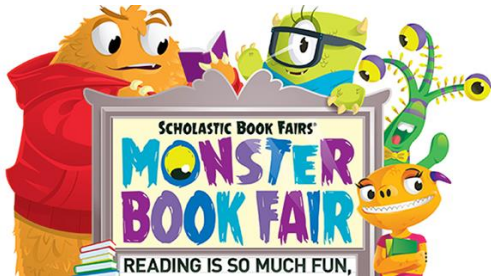


A NOTE FROM MS. TIFFE:

Dear Prairie Lane Students and Parents:

As hard as it is to leave my Prairie Lane Family, I will be gone for about 4-6 weeks due to back surgery. My back needs to be fixed so that I can return stronger and (hopefully) pain free. I will miss all of my students while I am out; you know that I will stay in touch! Even though I'm a little scared, I'm feeling optimistic that I will be able to return to a normal active lifestyle, doing all of the things I like doing the most, which is teaching Physical Ed. at Prairie Lane! Mr. Dan Atkins will be filling in me; he is a super individual who loves and cares a great deal about children.

Also, I will be in need of parent volunteers when I return to help with Roller Skating and Jump Rope for Heart early next year!



The Scholastic Book Fair is now open until October 23rd.

October 19 & 20: Hours 8:45 am to 4 pm

October 21 & 22: Hours 8:45 am to 8 pm

October 23: Hours 7:30 to 11 am

We still need volunteers to help with the sale and tear-down on Friday! [Sign up here!](#)

Thank you!!

Librarian - Ms. Steeves (ssteeves@kUSD.edu)

Book Fair Co-Chair - Beth Smith
(travisandbeth@att.net)

Book Fair Co-Chair - Courtney Breit
(courtneybreit@gmail.com)

Upcoming Events

October

- 19-23 Book Fair
- 21 Spirit Day
- 21-23 Parent-Teacher Conferences
- 28 Chat N Chew – Do Math! 5:30 pm
- 29 Halloween Bingo (**NEW!**) - 5:45-8pm

November

- 6 Harvest Parties – 11:30 am
- 19 PTO Meeting – 7 pm; Prairie Lane Library

Harvest Parties

Harvest parties are just around the corner on Friday November 6th at 11:30-12:10 pm. K4 classes have different times for each class, so look out for dates coming home soon for those classes. Room parents have been picked and are very busy sending home papers asking for treats, party planners, and volunteers.

Room parents can send in their list of parents who will be volunteering for the Harvest Parties to: crystalmahon2@yahoo.com. If you want to help out at the party, you must have a background check; forms are available on the Prairie Lane web site.



Update

Mrs. Glinski & Mrs. Betthausen's AM PreK class is sponsoring a food drive. Please send non-perishable food items to school with your child by Nov. 24. All donations are appreciated! **Please Note:** The PreK classroom parties will be on Thursdays -- generally the last hour of the PreK day. (10:30-11:30 for AM classes and 2:15-3:15 for PM classes)



Our spirit-wear company, MyLocker.net has extended their \$10 off coupon! The new code is UNxvX5XV and expires December 10, 2015!



Earn Cash for Our School!

**ARE DUE TO SCHOOL BY
OCTOBER 30!**

SQUARE 1 ART

IT STARTS WITH THE ART!

The art projects are completed and have been shipped to the company! Watch for more information including personalized catalogs featuring your child's artwork to come home in early November. Order forms will be due 2 weeks later and then items will be delivered to school in mid-December.

We make up to 40% back on all items ordered – a great way to raise money for our art program and our school. For as little as \$6 you can purchase a tile with your child's artwork to be added to the school mural.

If you have questions or would like to help, contact either:

Mrs. Dollar, Prairie Lane Art Teacher
adollar@kUSD.edu

Jenny Hermes, Parent Coordinator
jkhermes00@gmail.com

**AMERICA'S
ACTION
TERRITORY | FAMILY FUN PARK**

Come join in on the fun on Friday, October 23 from 4 to 10 pm at Action Territory Night! Enjoy special offers on indoor and outdoor fun! Bring along the orange flier or just mention you're with Prairie Lane!

*Music Notes
From
Ms. Roland*

CONCERT INFO:

Please make note of the following changes to the concert date information:

First Grade and Second Grades - concerts will be on Thursday, December 17 in the Prairie Lane Gym. First Grade concert will be held at 6:00 P.M. and the second grade will be following at 6:45 P.M.

Third, Fourth and Fifth Grades – Concerts will be on April 28 at 6:30 P.M at Reuther auditorium, 913 57th St, Kenosha.

I am collecting buckets and other recyclables (from the following list) for percussion!

- **Clean** five-gallon buckets (They **MUST** be scrubbed so as not to expose children to whatever they might have contained) Smaller buckets are fine, but they must be as strong and durable as the 5 gallon type. Drumsticks poke holes in the weaker plastic ones.
- **Clean** coffee cans (metal only), please make sure the opening does not have sharp edges on them.

Feel free to drop these items off to me before or after school. Thanks!

Ready to Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!

This year at Prairie Lane, our students will be collaborating to create a mural for our library. It will be made from recycled bottle caps. In keeping with our theme, we will need everyone's help in **saving colored**, plastic (only, please) bottle caps. Please see the **color palette** below to see what caps your child will be searching for:



RED & PINK= Early Childhood/4K
ORANGE=Kindergarten
YELLOW=First Grade
GREEN=Second Grade
BLUE & PURPLE=Third Grade
WHITE(not clear)=Fourth Grade
BLACK & BROWN & GOLD=Fifth Grade

Please bring **CLEAN, RINSED** caps to school in a ziplock bag. Students should hold on to them until it is their art day & then bring in to Mrs. Dollar.

Below are pictures of a bottle cap mural that Mrs. Dollar & former students at EBSOLA created for their library!



The Prairie Lane PTO Invites You To **HALLOWEEN BINGO**

When: Thursday, October 29th
Time: 5:45 pm - 8:00 pm
Where: Prairie Lane Cafeteria

BINGO CARDS
\$1.00 EACH
CARDS ARE GOOD
ALL NIGHT!

The evening will begin at 5:45 with food, drinks and card purchase.

6:30 BINGO games start; 7:15 Costume Contest

Cards, baked goods, popcorn, and water will be sold all evening.

5th Grade will be sponsoring the Walking Taco's, Monster Hand's and Water to help raise money for their Camp Timber-Lee trip in May