

Getting off to a great start....

The following pieces below highlight a few key pieces that will help you get off to a great start as PPE!

The Tools of Technology – Why not use the tools we have in our hands... PPE will do a lot this year in terms of technology and we hope you can take advantage of these tools as well. From Facebook, to our school and teacher websites, to communication and messaging, to pictures and events... hop on the band wagon and stay connected. One key location for parents is the district website with important information - <http://www.kusd.edu/parent-information>

Pre-Arranged absences – You will find this form on our website, but you can also get it from the office. **Please complete this for ANY absence you know of in advance** (other than doctor appointments) so we can alert the teachers and prepare for any missing work. Our goal is not to skip a beat in learning!

School year calendar- ALL Fridays will be a 12:46 PM dismissal for students. Don't forget ride arrangements also. Double check with afterschool care arrangements and make sure the school has **written notice of any changes!** A note to the teacher is fine. You can also see a year calendar of events by visiting [www. KUSD.EDU](http://www.KUSD.EDU) and look for the calendar tab.

Friday Lunches – There are a few options for you as a parent. Your student can: 1- eat at home, 2 –eat in the afterschool program if provided, 3 –eat a school provided lunch or 4 – you can send a lunch from home. Friday lunches will be served in the classrooms and will be the same cost as the daily lunch.

Regular lunches – We now offer both a regular lunch option as well as a vegetarian lunch option. Please note this on the lunch calendar so your student knows the options and choices. A menu is on the KUSD website for you to look at in advance. www.kusd.edu

Myschoolbucks.com – This is a great method and site to pay for lunches as well. You can set up alerts or reminders and also quickly fund your student's lunch account. I did this as a parent and it saved me the hassle of envelopes, delays, sending money to school and a lot of worries. You will also need your student ID to establish the account.

Go to: <https://www.myschoolbucks.com/ver2/login/getmain?requestAction=home>

Registration costs – The cost for registration for each student is \$44. (Kindergarten thru 5th grade) You can pay online, which the easiest method is using a debit/credit card, by going to: <https://kenosha.revtrak.net/tek9.asp> or www.kusd.edu and click on Parent Information then Payment Center. I believe you can look on your Infinite Campus portal also to see the fees.

Drop off procedure – A few big points: **please use the crosswalk** as we don't want to encourage kids to cut through traffic as they watch you and please do not drop students off by themselves in the parking lot. **We also ask that you don't park your car when dropping off students in the drive up lane.** Finally, please let students out of your vehicle onto the curb, not into the driving lanes.

Bus Stop presence – The bus stop is the first and ending point of each school day. Please make sure you are out there to get your child off the bus and to make sure they get to/from school safely. When you are not there, things happen and we want to ensure they are safe. I know when the weather gets colder many parents tend to stay inside but please be present and help keep our little ones safe! Remember to add the bus company in your phone contacts... 262-657-7155

Facebook - We have a Facebook page that helps parents stay connected and learn more about our school. We often post announcements, pictures, events, and insights into the school. Go to: www.facebook.com/PleasantPrairieElementary or search **Pleasant Prairie Elementary School**. We also have a Facebook page for parents for volunteering, events, reminders and announcements. Search for Pleasant Prairie PTA

School Website – Our school website is a perfect first stop! We have many things in the calendar, links to common forms, general announcements, emails to teachers, as well as information about the school as a whole. I try to update it regularly so check it often if you have questions. <http://pleasantprairie.kusd.edu/>

Tardies/Absences – If your child will be late, please call the office attendance line before 9 AM at (262) 359-2159 and let us know as well as if they will be ordering a hot or vegetarian lunch. If your child will be out ill, leave a detailed message of who your child is, the name of their teacher as well as why they are out with symptoms.

School Pictures- We will have school pictures on Monday, Sept. 18th! Everyone will take a picture but it will be your choice to purchase any packets. Details will be in the Take Home Folders typically sent home on Thursdays. If you want to look into it more, click here: <http://scholastic-reflections.hhimagehost.com/732517PleasantPrairie>

Get involved- Pleasant Prairie Elementary has a wonderful PTA. This organization is the working arm behind the scenes for many events that benefit all students. They help pay for character shirts, they give the first \$5 for every child for a field trip and they run many events in the school. Please be involved! It is a great way to ensure your student has a great experience here. You can also volunteer in your child's classroom to help with small things and your presence makes all the difference! More information will come out during Open House. Many of the little and big things that make our school great is because of the work of the parents and we cannot thank you enough!

Student involvement- This fall you will begin getting information about our afterschool Art Club, Chess Club, Stage Stars Acting and Let's Build It Club. They typically run for an hour after school on Mondays when school gets out and students participating should be picked up on the **south end of the school, door #7**.

Monday Newsletters – Teachers will posting their academic Weekly Updates online via their websites every Monday that help guide parents what work is being done and how you can help. This is great to know from a parent's perspective if you have family events, sports, or practices to work around. Teachers will post these online to give all parents easy access for expectations for assignments, events and classroom updates. These will be found under your teacher tab on our website and will be active the first week of school.

Communicating with my student's teacher – Email is the best way! It is not interrupting a classroom or the instruction and the teacher will reply when they have a moment to do so; typically that same day or the following day. You will get teacher emails in their Monday Newsletters or it is also on our school website under teachers.

Medical concerns- If your child has any medical concerns, receives any medication, or you would like to speak to our school nurse about allergies, precautions or alerts, please contact our health information secretary, Kari Ray at kray@kusd.edu or our school nurse, Bridget Cardinali at bcardina@kusd.edu.

Any more questions? Please contact us. The main numbers are:

Main Office – 262-359-2104

Attendance or if your child is sick – 262-359-2159

Spanish translation – 262-359-2158

Welcome to Pleasant Prairie Elementary.

A school of character, history, commitment, and success!