

PSE Weekly Howl

August 6th!

Welcome to the 2021-2022 School
Year!



Sneak Peek-August 16th

Monday, August 16th - You can log onto ParentVue at 4 pm to view your teacher classroom assignment. Teachers will send out a welcome email at 4:00 pm as well!

Monday, August 16th - Sneak Peek 4:30 - 5:30 pm

*this is the annual event where students and parents "sneak in" and meet their teacher and drop off classroom supplies. Teachers will be in rooms to greet students, and PTO provides ice cream to enjoy outside.

To reduce our crowd capacity inside the school, we ask the following

** last names A-L , please drop in between 4:30 - 5:00 pm

** last names M-Z, please drop in between 5:00 - 5:30 pm

** We ask you to quickly enter, see your classroom, meet your teacher, and then exit the school, and save socializing for outside with ice cream.

**All students, staff, and families who enter buildings are required to wear a mask or face covering.

****This is an optional event**, classroom information can be found in the Meet the Teacher slide show if you prefer a virtual option.

**First Day of School for Grades 1-5, and
Kindergarten Orientation - Wednesday,**

August 18th

First Day of School for Grades 1 - 5; and Kindergarten Orientation -8:35 am - 3:40 pm

* On the **first day of school**, we will not be able to have parents walk students into their classrooms as visitors will be limited for the first quarter.

Kindergarten Orientation:

We also look forward to hosting kindergarten students on Wednesday, August 18th, in small groups for Kindergarten Orientation. These orientation sessions are shortened timeframes where students will participate with a smaller group of students and their new homeroom teacher. The event's goals include: getting to know the teacher, becoming familiar with classroom routines and expectations, getting to know new friends, and calming any kindergarten fears or anxieties.

Please note: Parents will not be able to enter the school during the school day for Kindergarten Orientation as we work to minimize exposure and ensure safety for all during school hours. If parents opt to remain near school property, we ask that they wait outside until the session ends.

We look forward to partnering with you for a great kindergarten school experience!

If you have not signed up for a Kindergarten Orientation Day time slot, Please click here, [Kindergarten Orientation](#).

Special Notes:

- There will not be transportation/busing available on this date for kindergarten students.
- August 19 will be a normal, full day of school for all kindergarten students.

Back to School Night (parent only event)

Back to School night is still a go for **Thursday, August 26th**. More information coming!

Get Caught Reading Challenge!

- Take a picture of yourself reading sometime this summer.
- Email pictures to Mrs. Hammes jshammes@bluevalleyk12.org
- Pictures will be posted on a bulletin board!

Staffing Updates

We excitedly welcome the following staff members to Prairie Star:

- *Hayley Mustain -Resource Teacher (we are gaining a 3rd resource teacher)
- *Kate Kadel-2nd Grade Teacher
- *Morgan Furdek-PSE Counselor
- *Morgan Irwin-Reading Specialist (returning to us)
- *Lauren Eubanks-1st Grade Teacher (returning to us)
- *Chrissie Adriance-Gifted Teacher

They come with a breadth of experience and are going to be great additions to the PSE team.

Arrival at PSE

As you and your family are getting back into a school routine, please remember that doors will open at 8:23. It would be best if your child arrives at 8:23 or after so that we aren't gathering by the front doors. Thanks for your help with this!!!!

Arrival → Doors open at 8:23 AM. Students arrive in a naturally staggered fashion anytime between 8:23 and 8:35, when class starts. Walkers will continue to use the front entrance. Bus riders will continue using the exterior door on the side of the gym. Car riders will continue entering using the front doors. As students enter the building they will go directly to their classroom.

Traffic Pattern for PSE

- **Vehicles should follow the two-lane outer loop of the circle at the end of the outer loop both lanes will merge into one lane to turn back towards the school when approaching the curb for pickup.**
- Pulling up as far as possible in the loading zone reduces the number of cars stuck on 143rd. Similar to last year, we will have staff directing the traffic flow for the beginning of the year to help you familiarize yourself with our traffic patterns. If every vehicle stops right by the front door/crosswalk to let out student(s), we will have a very inefficient and congested process. Please pull forward as far as you can before stopping and letting out your student.
- All students exiting vehicles need to do so on the curb/school side – do not open left-side vehicle doors, as there is exiting traffic in that area.

Thank you for helping us maintain a safe and efficient arrival and dismissal process.

Dismissal at PSE

Dismissal time will be staggered by a sequential order and in terms of which exit doors are used:

- Car riders will remain in their classroom until they are called on the walkie, starting at 3:40 PM, when their car has arrived in the car loop. Car riders will leave out the front doors to the car loop. We will give you a car tag for you to place in your car.
- If you pick up your children on PSE property, we will radio your child out when we see you on the school grounds.
- Y-Club students will be dismissed at 3:35 PM to go to the cafeteria, where Y-Club is held.
- **Walkers will be dismissed at 3:40 PM. They will exit the main entrance.**
- Bus riders will remain in their classroom until it is announced over the intercom that their bus has arrived in the bus lane. Bus riders will leave out the exterior side door in the gym.

Helpful Information

Bus Information

If you wish for your child to be a bus rider, please visit the bus website to sign them up:

[Durham Bus Services](#)

You can also sign up for text messaging for alerts for your student's bus.

Lunch Information

Lunch menus can be found online here: [Lunch menus](#).

You can also download the Nutrislice app for easy access to daily/weekly menus.

YMCA

As a service to our Blue Valley Families, the YMCA offers before and after-school Y-Club programming at each Blue Valley Elementary School. Please enroll now to reserve your students a spot in this program. More information can be found in the attached [letter](#) or [online](#).

District Calendar 2021-2022

A one page view of the district calendar for next year can be found here!

<https://www.bluevalleyk12.org/cms/lib/ks02212623/Centricity/Domain/8/BV%20Calendar%20%20for%202021-2022%20.pdf>

www.bluevalleyk12.org

Registration and Fees for the 2021-2022 School Year

Thank you to all families who have registered and paid fees for this school year. We will be sending out email reminders to families who have not registered or paid fees in the coming weeks.

Registering and Paying fees allows us to make staffing allocations and decisions. Thank you!

Nut Safer Information

Blue Valley School's Nut Safer Guidelines will be implemented throughout the school year for daily snacks.

- Classroom snacks must be from the Nut Safer list.
- Nut Safer seating is available in the café during lunch

The complete **list of Nut Safer foods** and BV Guidelines can be found here: [Nut Safer Guidelines](#)