



PSE Weekly Howl

Week of February 12th!

See you Monday!! GO CHIEFS!

Valentine's Day Party

We are excited to celebrate Valentine's Day with our students and wanted to give you some preliminary information in case you are starting to think about Valentine's Day.

- Valentine's Parties will be on **Wednesday, February 14th at 2:45-You are welcome to attend if you are giving us a time, talent, or treasure.**
 - Students may distribute Valentine's Day cards to the entire class.
 - If you are going to attach food to the Valentines, we encourage it to be from the [nut-safer list](#).
 - Valentines can also have non-edible items attached or can be Valentine's card!
 - **All food consumed at the party (party snacks) must comply with the approved Nut Safer List.**
-

Thank YOU!

Thank you to all who attended conferences, our staff for sharing insights into their academic learning, and our PTO for the yummy snacks and lunch. We will see you on Monday!

**SPECIAL NEEDS
RESOURCE
FAIR**

**2024 | BLUE
VALLEY**

**BLUE VALLEY
SCHOOLS**
Education Beyond Expectations

14TH ANNUAL

If you are a parent, teacher
or caregiver of an individual with
special needs, or a self advocate,
PLEASE JOIN US!

**EVENT IS FREE AND OPEN
TO THE PUBLIC**

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2024
5:00-8:00PM**

**Hilltop Conference Center
7700 W 143rd St. Overland Park, KS 66223
(Entrance is on the WEST side of the campus)**

Visit **IN-PERSON** with service providers in the Kansas City area representing various disabilities,
information on camps and other recreational opportunities, therapies, equipment, adult/transition services,
financial/legal, health & wellness, and much more!
NO CHILD CARE PROVIDED

Sponsored by the Blue Valley School District and the Blue Valley Special Education Advisory Council (BVSEAC)

Late Night at the Star- February 16th!

February 16th is our next Late Night at the STAR! Registration closes at 6:00 pm on February 15th!

Prairie Star staff is excited to continue **Late Night at the Star!** Late Night at the Star classes are after-school enrichment programs offered to the students here at Prairie Star.

Each Friday night class costs \$50 and will run from after school until 6:30. If you enroll in Late Night, you will not need to pick up your child until 6:30. Please assume that your child is enrolled in each class that they have requested unless you hear from the office.

Camp scholarships are now available. Please get in touch with Mrs. Sperry for more information.

To enroll in camps, please see the website link:

<https://prairiestarpto.membershiptoolkit.com/home>. Registration closes the day before at 6:00 pm.

All Late Night at the STAR questions go to Melissa Bonner. Her email is mabonner@bluevalleyk12.org.

Puppy Pawty! (Arquieta) Kindergarten-3rd Grade

Join the fun at our Puppy Pawty! Unleash your creativity with arts and crafts, adopt your “fur”ever friend (small stuffed dog), and enjoy tail-wagging games. “Pup”erroni (and cheese) pizza and other snacks will be provided. It’s going to be a “paw”sitively, doggone good time!

Clay Partay! (Wilson) Kindergarten-5th

Come build and sculpt with us in the Art Room! Students will get to use up to 2 whole pounds of clay (which is more than anyone needs!) to build pots, sculpt figures, or make whatever a young artist can think of. Pizza and snacks as usual! [Projects will be kiln fired by Mr. Wilson the following week!]

Taylor Swift Bash (Wayland, Purcell, Philips) Kindergarten-5th

Calling all Swifties! Join us for an amazing night of dinner, dancing and jamming! We will make bracelets and bling! We can wait to spread the fun and friendship!

Parent Information Night for Incoming 6th graders-DATE CHANGE!

The 5th grade parent informational night (for parents of rising PSMS 6th graders) has been moved to February 28th. This allows us to avoid conflicting with the Starting Strong presentation, sponsored by BV Well and Children’s Mercy – which is scheduled for 6-8pm on February 29th at Hilltop Conference Center. We are shifting the PSMS date to allow parents the flexibility to attend both events if you choose. Details on our event are below – with updated dates.

On Wednesday February 28 PSMS will host a parent information night regarding enrollment for 6th grade. This informational meeting will be held in-person in our commons/cafeteria from 6:30-7:30pm – and I look forward to seeing and meeting next year’s 6th grade parent community. In the event you are unable to attend, I will share my presentation powerpoint via email on after February 28th.

Additionally, the PSMS counseling staff and administrators will be presenting enrollment information to your student(s) at school the week of February 26th. The parent meeting on February 28th is our opportunity to share much of that enrollment information with parents and answer questions. Student attendance is not necessary at the parent meeting – the kids have already heard the same information.

Enrollment choices are due back to 5th grade teachers on Monday March 4th.

On behalf of the PSMS team – welcome to Prairie Star Middle!

Yearbook Candids

We are currently seeking party, field trip, lunch and recess candids.

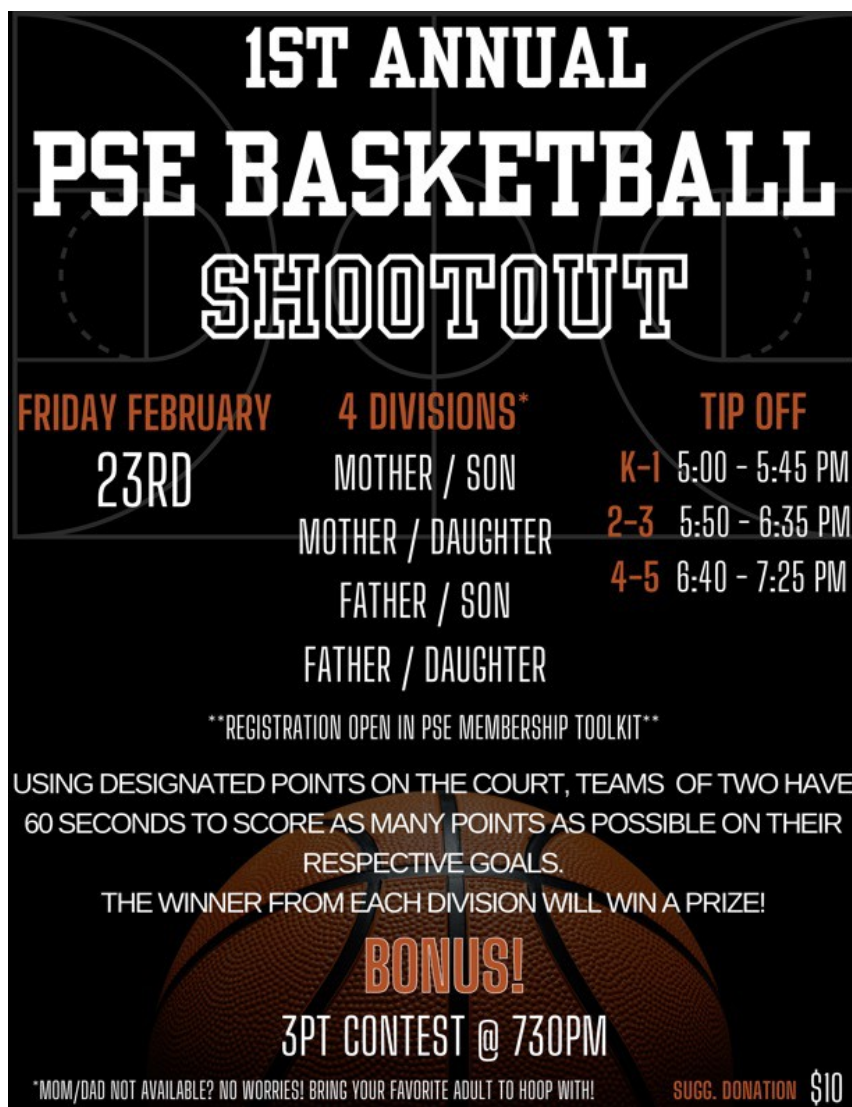
Please use this link to upload your yearbook candid pictures:

<https://images.jostens.com/00l2dlr0KJMvaEbgZkDmiA>

If you receive an error message asking for a User ID, please email praiiestaryearbook@gmail.com and we will problem solve with you.

Thanks for your help,
Sally Groesbeck, Abbie Moles & Amy Warren

Please use your membership toolkit to register!

A black poster with white and orange text. At the top, it says "1ST ANNUAL PSE BASKETBALL SHOOTOUT" in large, bold, white letters. Below that, it lists the date "FRIDAY FEBRUARY 23RD" in orange and white. To the right, it lists "4 DIVISIONS*" in orange, followed by "MOTHER / SON", "MOTHER / DAUGHTER", "FATHER / SON", and "FATHER / DAUGHTER" in white. Further right, it lists "TIP OFF" in orange, followed by "K-1 5:00 - 5:45 PM", "2-3 5:50 - 6:35 PM", and "4-5 6:40 - 7:25 PM" in white. At the bottom, it says "BONUS! 3PT CONTEST @ 730PM" in orange and white. There is also a note: "**REGISTRATION OPEN IN PSE MEMBERSHIP TOOLKIT**" and "USING DESIGNATED POINTS ON THE COURT, TEAMS OF TWO HAVE 60 SECONDS TO SCORE AS MANY POINTS AS POSSIBLE ON THEIR RESPECTIVE GOALS. THE WINNER FROM EACH DIVISION WILL WIN A PRIZE!". At the very bottom, it says "*MOM/DAD NOT AVAILABLE? NO WORRIES! BRING YOUR FAVORITE ADULT TO HOOP WITH!" and "SUGG. DONATION \$10".

**1ST ANNUAL
PSE BASKETBALL
SHOOTOUT**

**FRIDAY FEBRUARY
23RD**

4 DIVISIONS*
MOTHER / SON
MOTHER / DAUGHTER
FATHER / SON
FATHER / DAUGHTER

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K-1 5:00 - 5:45 PM
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*MOM/DAD NOT AVAILABLE? NO WORRIES! BRING YOUR FAVORITE ADULT TO HOOP WITH! **SUGG. DONATION \$10**

Order your PSE Yearbook

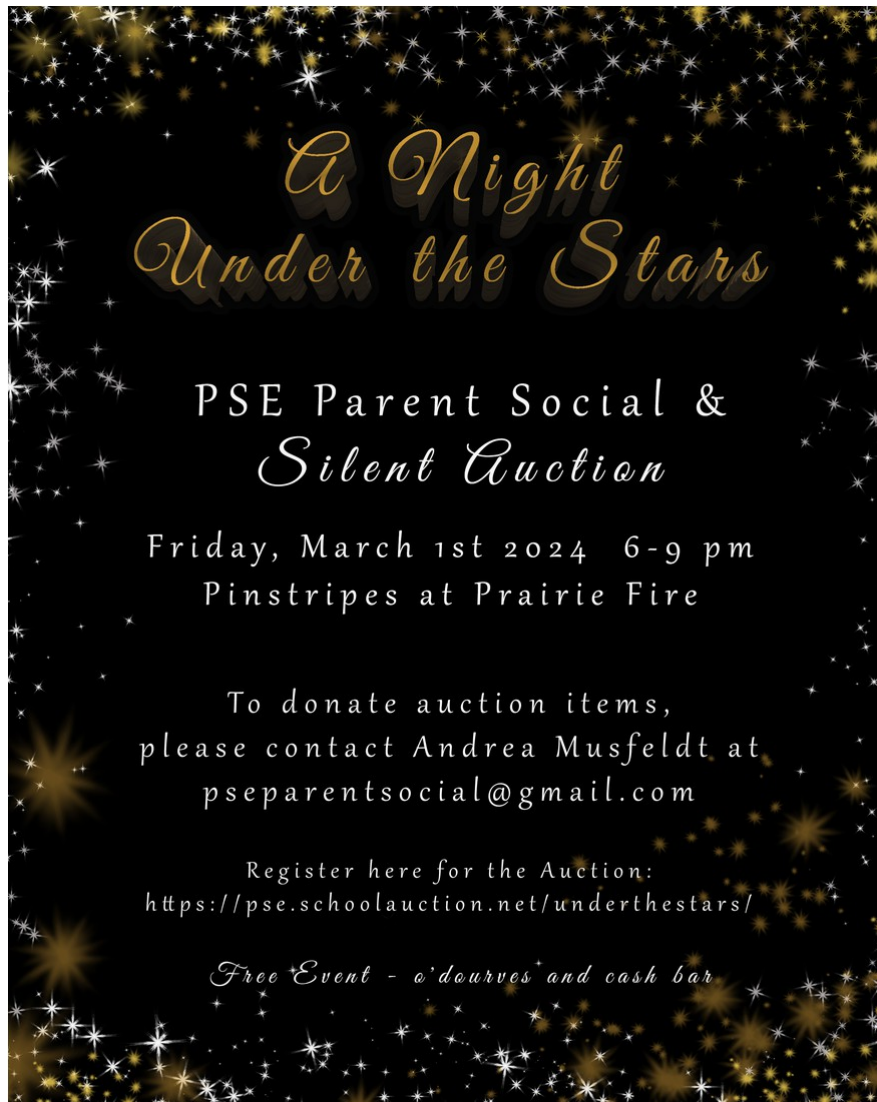
If you haven't ordered your yearbook please follow this link:

<https://prairiestarpto.membershiptoolkit.com/login-form?r=%2F>. Once you log in, you will see yearbook purchase option listed under New Forms. If you do not see it listed, you likely already purchased. You can verify by looking under the My Account tab at the top and scrolling down to Previous Orders.

PTO Parent Social Auction-A Night Under the Stars!

Our PSE PTO is looking forward to a night under the stars for our annual Parent Social and Auction. This year, the auction will be at Pinstripes on Friday, March 1st, from 6:00 to 9:00 pm.

To donate auction items, please get in touch with Andrea Musfeldt at pseparentsocial@gmail.com
Register here for the Auction: <https://pse.schoolauction.net/underthestars/>



BVEF's Innovative Educator Award

Do you know an educator who goes above and beyond to inspire, engage, and innovate in the classroom? Now is your chance to recognize their outstanding contributions! Nominations are officially open for BVEF's annual Innovative Educator Award. This prestigious honor celebrates two classroom teachers (one elementary and one secondary) who creatively apply innovative teaching methods, foster critical thinking skills, and ignite a passion for learning in their students.

Each innovative educator will receive a \$1,250 grant for their classroom. **Applications are due March 1st.** Click [HERE](#) to learn more and nominate a deserving educator. Thank you!

PSE Kindergarten Pre-Registration Form

Incoming Kindergarten Information

We are so excited to start the process to welcome our Kindergarten families for the Fall of 2024. Children who reside in Blue Valley Schools and turn 5 years of age by August 31 are eligible to attend kindergarten that school year. If you live in the PSE boundary area and will have an incoming Kindergarten student this fall, **please click on this link to pre-register:** [Kindergarten Registration Form](#).

More information will be shared with you at the end of February including welcome videos, online registration instructions, and information about Kindergarten Round Up in April.

Please pass this message/link on to neighbors that might not have a student in our system and might not yet receive our weekly emails!

INCOMING KINDERGARTEN DATES
2024-2025

Kindergarten Online Registration Begins
February 20

Kindergarten Round-Up Sessions
April 12

Kindergarten Orientation Sessions
August 13

First full day of school for Kindergarten
August 14

Contact your neighborhood school
for more information.



Calling all Blue Valley 5th and 6th grade parents and caregivers!

BV Well and **BV School Counselors, Social Workers** and **Psychologists** invite you to attend a complimentary session designed especially for **5th and 6th grade parents** and caregivers that will address:

- expected **social and cognitive milestones** for 11 to 14-year-olds and the importance of championing your child's **online safety** at this age
- the **number one parent factor that fosters child wellbeing** and what you can do to build and sustain it
- **digital health and wellness** practices for your family

Featuring:

- **Dr. Libby Matile Milkovich, MD**, Pediatrician, Children's Mercy Kansas City
- **Annie Rusthoven, Screen Sanity**, nonprofit whose programs help parents consider technology in their lives and connect with their kids in meaningful ways
- **Panel Discussion** with Dr. Libby, Annie and additional experts

Scan to register online for Starting Strong: Middle School Edition
Space is limited - register today!



Register by Feb 28th
FREE event

Optional: scan to purchase Screen Sanity's Middle School Plugged-in Planner. Books will also be available for sale at the event.



Screen Sanity's presentation sponsored by:



Chinese Immersion info meeting set for incoming kindergarten families

Are you interested in providing your child with an immersive educational experience that broadens horizons, enhances cognitive skills and teaches second language skills? Would you like to learn more about Blue Valley's Chinese Immersion Program?

Prospective Chinese Immersion Family Information Session

📅 Monday, Feb. 26, 2023, @ 5 p.m.

📝 [Register for the information session online](#)

🔗 Zoom link provided upon registration

📺 Watch a [video](#) that provides a glimpse into Chinese Immersion classrooms

Online applications for the program will open Feb. 26 with a lottery system determining participation in the program. For more information about the immersion program, visit www.bluevalleyk12.org/immersion.



PSE PTO Scholarships for 2024 Graduates:

Each year the Prairie Star PTO offers two scholarships to graduating seniors who are PSE Alumni

The 2024 deadline to apply is midnight on Friday March 22nd

The first scholarship is in honor of Dr. Laura Swartz, the very first Principal of Prairie Star Elementary. The scholarship amount is \$1,000.00 and will be awarded to a 2024 graduate of one of the five Blue Valley High Schools **who attended Prairie Star Elementary for at least one year and intends to major in Education.**

Application: <https://praiestarpto.membershiptoolkit.com/form/m/272049>

Deadline: Friday March 22nd

The second scholarship is a general PSE PTO scholarship for those alumni displaying the virtues valued at Prairie Star Elementary. The amount of \$1,000.00 will be awarded to a 2024 graduate of one of the five Blue Valley High Schools **who attended Prairie Star Elementary for at least one year.**

Application: <https://praiestarpto.membershiptoolkit.com/form/m/272050>

Deadline: Friday March 22nd



Stacey Sperry

Stacey is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters