



# ***PSE Weekly Howl***

Week of February 5th!

**Bring that KC Spirit Next Week!**



**CHIEFS SUPER  
BOWL SPIRIT  
WEEK**

**MAGIC MAHOMES  
MONDAY:**  
WEAR MAHOMES GEAR OR HEADBANDS

**TRAVIS + TAYLOR  
TUESDAY:**  
WEAR TRAVIS OR TAYLOR GEAR

**“WINNINGEST COACH”  
WEDNESDAY:**  
DRESS LIKE COACH ANDY REID

**GO CHIEFS!**

**Save the Dates: Parent Teacher Conference**

Our spring conference schedule is as follows:

- **Wednesday, February 7th, 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm** held at PSE (Zoom or in person)
- **Thursday, February 8th, 8:15 am - 4:00 pm**, held at PSE (Zoom or in person)
- **Thursday, February 8th, 4:00 pm - 7:15 pm**, held via ZOOM



The poster is a diamond-shaped graphic divided into four quadrants. The top-left quadrant is blue with the text '2024 BLUE VALLEY'. The top-right quadrant is yellow with the text 'SPECIAL NEEDS RESOURCE FAIR'. The bottom-left quadrant is blue with the text '14TH ANNUAL'. The bottom-right quadrant is white with the Blue Valley Schools logo, which includes a stylized blue and white emblem and the text 'BLUE VALLEY SCHOOLS' and 'Education Beyond Expectations'.

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

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**

**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](mailto: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!

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## **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!

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## **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.**

## Yearbook Candid

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

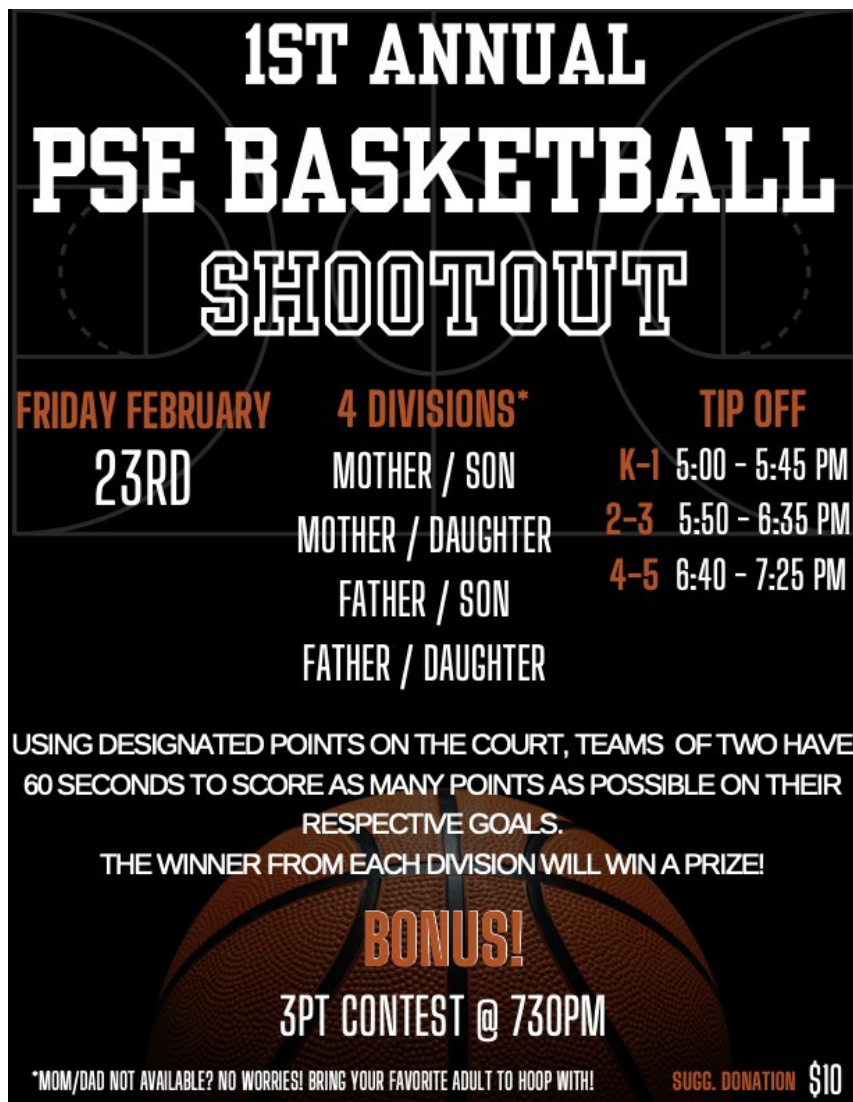
Please use this link to upload your yearbook candid pictures:

<https://images.jostens.com/00l2dllr0KJMvaEbgZkDmiA>

If you receive an error message asking for a User ID, please email [prairiestaryearbook@gmail.com](mailto:prairiestaryearbook@gmail.com) and we will problem solve with you.

Thanks for your help,

Sally Groesbeck, Abbie Moles & Amy Warren



**1ST ANNUAL  
PSE BASKETBALL  
SHOOTOUT**

<b>FRIDAY FEBRUARY</b>	<b>4 DIVISIONS*</b>	<b>TIP OFF</b>
<b>23RD</b>	MOTHER / SON	<b>K-1</b> 5:00 - 5:45 PM
	MOTHER / DAUGHTER	<b>2-3</b> 5:50 - 6:35 PM
	FATHER / SON	<b>4-5</b> 6:40 - 7:25 PM
	FATHER / DAUGHTER	

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!

**BONUS!**  
**3PT CONTEST @ 730PM**

\*MOM/DAD NOT AVAILABLE? NO WORRIES! BRING YOUR FAVORITE ADULT TO HOOP WITH! **SUGG. DONATION \$10**

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## 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.

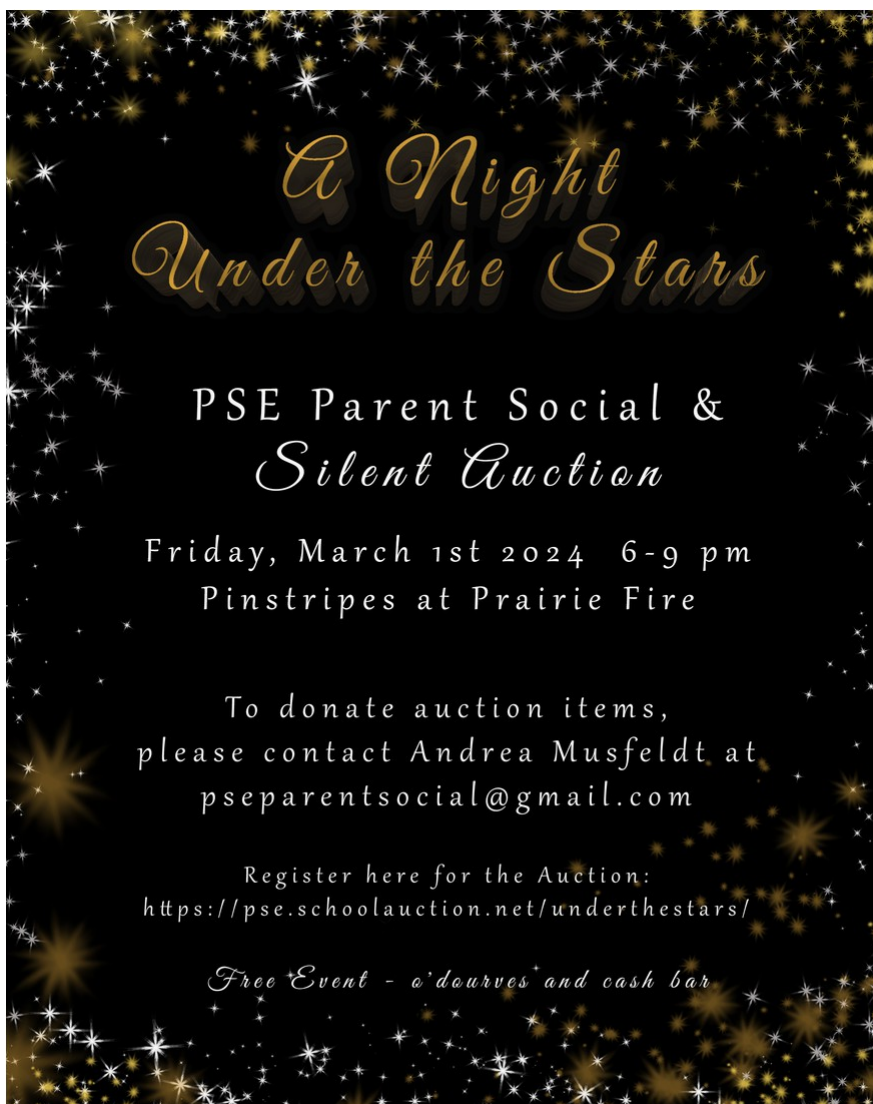
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## PTO Parent Social Auction-A Night Under the Stars!

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](mailto:pseparentsocial@gmail.com)  
Register here for the Auction: <https://pse.schoolauction.net/underthestars/>

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## 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!

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## Planning for Inclement Weather Days in Blue Valley

As the winter months continue, there is always the possibility of inclement weather. When extreme weather conditions exist, the district may cancel school or utilize a two-hour delayed start when temporary adverse weather conditions exist. When possible, inclement weather announcements will be made the day before so staff and families can plan. More information about inclement weather (including 2-hour delayed starts) can be found on the district [website](#).

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## Securly Home:

Have you ever wondered how to monitor your child's usage on their Blue Valley device? We have parent tools that will allow you to receive notifications to ensure your child is using their device safely. School staff members monitor these devices during the school day and intervene, when necessary. However, parents can receive alerts if concerns arise when students use devices after school hours—including weekends and school breaks. Check out the [Securly Home](#) Parent Portal App here.

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## 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.**



## Safe Learning Environment

*Blue Valley Schools is committed to promoting and fostering a safe environment in and around all of our schools. Through the convergence of physical and intellectual security measures, we are continuously working to prevent, mitigate, respond to and recover from a wide range of emergencies. Please check out [available ways to report safety concerns](#).*

REGISTER  
NOW!

# Starting STRONG

MIDDLE SCHOOL EDITION

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29  
6-8PM | HILLTOP CONFERENCE CENTER



## 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:



**Stacey Sperry**

Stacey is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters