#### Westside Community Schools

# **Panther Weekly News**



# February 12, 2021



**Option Enrollment Information** 

See page 2 and 3

March 15 - deadline to apply April 1st - Families notified of placement April 15 - deadline for families to accept or decline spots



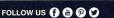
2020-2021 Prairie Lane Elementary Yearbook on Sale February 1 - 19

Online Sales Only Yearbook Price - \$15.00



schoolannual.com

Call Janis Thompson for questions 402-390-6470



Please send an extra mask clean with your child everyday. Thank You!

> See slides 6 and 7 for family resources.



Click here to check our lost and found!

### **Upcoming Events**

#### February

#### 1 - 19 Yearbook Sales

15 No School - Teacher Workday/Building Day PL Community Club Meeting 6:30 pm (In 23 person)

#### March

- Parent/Teacher Conferences 11
- No School 12
- 18 Spring Picture Day

PRAIRIE LANE ONLY NO SCHOOL FOR 19 **STUDENTS** 

23 PL Community Club Meeting 6:30 pm

PRAIRIE LANE ONLY NO SCHOOL FOR 26 STUDENTS

29 - 4/2 Spring Break

#### April

First student day at the NEW Prairie Lane 6 School

5-9 Prairie Lane All Staff Appreciation Week



**PAWSitive Rules:** Be Responsible, Respectful and Safe

# 2021 - 2022 Enrollment Information

**Student In-District Transfer Requests for the 2021-22 School Year.** If you are a District resident who would like your K-6 child(ren) to attend an elementary school other than the school that serves your attendance area for next school year, you must submit a completed In-District Transfer (IDT) Request form to the Office of Student Services for review.

The District gives priority to families living within the District *prior to* placing Option Enrollment applicants who reside outside the District. We must receive a Student In-District Transfer Request form no later than **4:00 p.m. on March 15** for your request to be considered prior to our placement of Option Enrollment students.

IDT forms are available at the ABC Building and our District website. Click here to complete the form electronically. An IDT request form must be completed for any child starting kindergarten next year who has one or more siblings currently attending a school outside their home attendance area. Transfers are approved or denied based on available space and other resources. If you have questions about the in- district transfer process, please call 402-390-2107.

**Kindergarten Enrollment for District Residents: February 1 - March 5**Do you live in the District and have a child who will be ready for Kindergarten this fall? Do you know of other Westside residents with children who will be ready to start school in August?

Kindergarten enrollment for 2021-22 begins February 1. Parents of eligible students should go to westside66.org to begin the enrollment process as early as possible on or after February 1st.

Students entering kindergarten for 2021-22 must be five years old by July 31, 2021. Parents may opt to hold their children out of kindergarten for an additional year. However, Nebraska state law mandates that a child who reaches six years of age prior to January 1 of the then-current school year must be enrolled in school.

If you have questions, you may call the Westside Welcome Center at 402-390-2100.

(...Continued...)

# 2021 - 2022 Enrollment Information, Continued

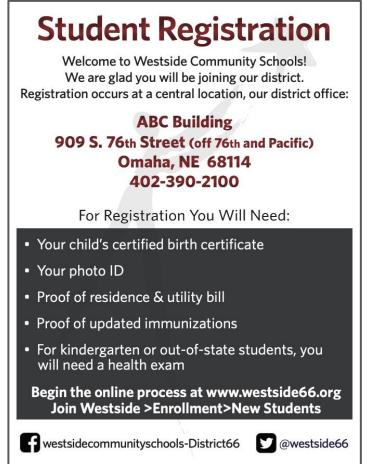
### **Requirements for Early Admission to Kindergarten**

In accordance with Nebraska Statute 79-214, the Westside Community Schools allows for admission of children residing in the District as early entrance kindergarteners through a locally designed testing program. Children of District residents who wish to be tested for early entrance must turn five between August 1 and October 15, 2021. For further information regarding early entrance to kindergarten, please call 402-390-3303.

**Kindergarten Enrollment for Non-District Residents** If you live outside the District and have a child eligible for kindergarten who has a sibling currently attending a Westside elementary school through the Option Enrollment program, you must submit an Option Enrollment Application. Westside's Office of Student Services must receive Option Enrollment Applications no later than 4:00 p.m. on March 15. The application form is available at the ABC Building (909 S. 76th Street) and our district website.

Click here to complete the form electronically.

Under Option Enrollment statutes, first priority for admission is given to siblings who seek to attend in the District where an older sibling is already enrolled, provided an Option Enrollment form is submitted by March 15 *and* provided that there is space available in a requested building and grade level. If you have questions, you may call Julie at 402-390-2107.



#### WE-SIDE

#### Welcoming Equity Support Inclusion Dignity Everyone

#### UPDATE

One of the primary goals of Westside Community Schools is to be open and honest about doing all we can to make sure every student, staff member, and visitor feels welcome, appreciated, and supported throughout our school district. WE-SIDE has a staff advisory council that has been established to help work on this important initiative.

We look forward to getting past COVID-19 and being able to engage many others, including students, more staff, parents, and community. We look forward to various committees working on a curriculum audit to ensure cultural awareness and fairness, more professional development, more inclusive practices, more grade level programming for students about the importance of respect of all others, and much more as we plan for our exciting future.

Bottom line, we want EVERYONE within our organization; regardless of age, skin color, religion, home address, socio-economic status, gender, beliefs, etc. to feel great about being part of Westside Community Schools. A mindset of "WE" is the key!

#### FEBRUARY CONTESTS INFO OUTLINED BELOW

- In honor of Black History Month, we are sponsoring poetry, photography, and creative video contests in February. See more details below.
  - Submissions should be about Inclusion, equity, respect, teamwork, embracing diversity, Black History, etc.
- Entries need to be turned into your school office or emailed to <u>lucas.mike@westside66.net</u> by 10:00 AM on February 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Gift card prizes and/or Westside gear/swag will be given out to contest winners.

#### POETRY CONTEST

- Divisions for K-2<sup>nd</sup> graders, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> graders, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> graders, middle school students, high school students, and staff.
  - Submissions should be about Inclusion, equity, respect, teamwork, embracing diversity, Black History, or other relevant topics.
- Any and all forms of appropriate poetry will be accepted.

#### PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

- Divisions for K-2<sup>nd</sup> graders, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> graders, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> graders, middle school students, high school students, and staff.
  - Submissions should be about Inclusion, equity, respect, teamwork, embracing diversity, Black History, or other relevant topics.
- Appropriate photographs of all shapes, sizes, colors, etc. will be accepted.

#### **1-2 MINUTE CREATIVE VIDEO CONTEST**

- Divisions for K-2<sup>nd</sup> graders, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> graders, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> graders, middle school students, high school students, and staff.
  - Submissions should be about Inclusion, equity, respect, teamwork, embracing diversity, Black History, or other relevant topics.
- Appropriate videos no longer than 120 seconds will be accepted.

You can view the updated menu in this Panther Weekly News or click here for the online menu link: https://schools.mealviewer.com/school/PrairieLaneElementarySchool

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6.20

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
SPV – Baby Carrots 1	Groundhog Day 2	3	4	5
Corn Dog on a Stick (chicken) Or- Italian Hoagie A Th Or- Yogurt & Cheese Stick with a WG Soft Pretzel Ranch Beans Chilled Peaches	Punxsutawney Phil's Cheesy Chicken "Phil"ly Or- Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich w/a Cheese Stick Or- Yogurt & Cheese Stick with Assorted WG Bread Sweet Potato Fires Banana	Pizza Hut Pizza Or- Chicken Salad Croissant Or- Yogurt & Cheese Stick with Assorted WG Bread Romaine Salad with Croutons Raisins	Turkey Gravy over Mashed Potatoes and a WG Ciabatta Roll Or- Asian Chicken Wrap Or- Yogurt & Sunflower Seeds w/a WG Ciabatta Roll Mashed Potatoes with Gravy Strawberries	Grilled Cheese Sandwich with Tomato Soup Or- Turkey & Cheese Hoagie Or- Yogurt & Cheese Stick with Assorted WG Bread Crisp Celery Sticks Applesauce
SPV – Grape Tomatoes 8 WG Waffles with Sausage Links – Or- Roast Beef & Cheese Hoagie – Or- Yogurt & Cheese Stick with Assorted WG Bread Breakfast Yams Blueberries	9 Sweet & Sour Popcorn Chicken with Brown Rice Or- Ham & Cheese Hoagie Or- Yogurt & Cheese Stick with Assorted WG Bread Asian Vegetables Pineapple Tidbits Fortune Cookie	10 Cheeseburger on a WG Bun Th Or- Southwest Chicken Wrap Or- Yogurt & Cheese Stick with a WG Soft Pretzel Crinkle French Fries Orange Wedges	11 Chicken Parmesan over Noodles with WG Garlic Bread Or- Turkey BLT Sandwich Or- Yogurt & Sunflower Seeds with WG Garlic Bread Romaine Salad with Croutons Chilled Pears	Abraham Lincoln's 12 Birthday Cheesy Chicken Enchilada Bake Or- Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich w/a Cheese Stick Or- Yogurt & Cheese Stick with Assorted WG Bread Seasoned Black Beans Chilled Peaches Double Chocolate Chip Cookie
SPV – Baby Carrots 15	Mardi Gras 16	17	18	19
Westside No School Warm Ham & Cheese WG Croissant T Or- Yogurt & Cheese Stick with Assorted WG Bread Baked Beans Fruit Medley	Popcorn Chicken Po'boy with Cajun Sauce Or- Italian Hoagie A Th Or- Yogurt & Cheese Stick with a WG Soft Pretzel Jazz'd Potato Wedges Banana Powdered Sugar Beignets (Donut Holes)	Pizza Hut Cheese Pizza Or- Tuna Salad Croissant Or- Yogurt & Cheese Stick with Assorted WG Bread Fresh Broccoli Mixed Fruit	Big Ol' Meatball with WG Garlic Bread Or- Crispy Chicken Wrap Or- Yogurt & Sunflower Seeds with WG Garlic Bread Roasted Butternut Squash Applesauce	Cheesy Tuna Bake with Potato Chip Topping & a WG Soft Pretzel Or- Turkey & Cheese Hoagie Or- Yogurt & Cheese Stick with a WG Soft Pretzel Mixed Vegetables Strawberries
SPV – Grape Tomatoes 22	23	24	National Chili Day 25	26
George Washington's Birthday Sausage & Cheese Biscuit Or- Roast Beef & Cheese Hoagie Or- Yogurt & Cheese Stick with a Fluffy Biscuit Glazed Carrots Blueberries	Chicken Fried Chicken with Gravy and Assorted WG Bread Or- Turkey BLT Sandwich Or- Yogurt & Cheese Stick with Assorted WG Bread Mashed Potatoes with Gravy Banana	Hot Dog on a WG Bun The Or- Southwest Chicken Wrap Or- Yogurt & Cheese Stick with a WG Soft Pretzel Cowboy Beans Chilled Peaches	Chili Mac with Noodles with Assorted WG Bread	Cheesy Nachos Or- Buffalo Chicken Wrap Or- Yogurt & Cheese Stick with Assorted WG Bread Seasoned Green Beans Fresh Apple

8 oz. nonfat flavored or 1% unflavored milk served daily. Menus subject to change. The Denotes PORK in main entrée. The Denotes BEEF in product WG = Whole Grain This Institution is an equal Opportunity provider.



# Westside Community Schools Family Resource Center Food Pantry and Clothing Closet

Any family with a student attending a Westside school can receive items from the Food Pantry and Clothing Closet as needed.



## Contact a District social worker for additional information and/or appointment:

#### APRIL ANDERSON

Hillside, Loveland, Prairie Lane, Rockbrook, Swanson, Westbrook, Westgate and ECC Office: (402) 408-8914 anderson.april@westside66.net

#### KATE HEBENSTREIT

Oakdale, Paddock Road, Sunset Hills and WMS Office: (402) 452-3147 hebenstreit.kate@westside66.net

### SARAH FEHRINGER

Westside High School and West Campus Office: (402) 343-2613 fehringer.sarah@westside66.net

## \*New location: 7770 Hascall Street

Entrance at the north door of the Pipal Park Community Center next to Westgate Elementary School

## **Need Additional Support?**

Westside's team of school social workers function as a link between the home, school and community. They can connect families with community resources for financial hardships, mental health supports or any other barriers that may affect student success.



NEBRASKA CHILDREN'S HOME SOCIETY children first.

# Raising Your Grandchildren: Challenges and Joys

Tuesday, January 26th 12:00-1:00 Presentation will be streamed via Zoom Register online at nchs.org

In Nebraska, more than 28,000 children live with grandparents or other relatives. Of these children, more than 4,500 have no parents in the home. Hear first hand experiences from grandparents raising their grandchildren at this free, virtual event.

This presentation is open to all grandparents and skipped generation caregivers in the Omaha and Lincoln metro areas.

Call/text 402.677.9102 or email familycenter@nchs.org with questions.