

# 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

## Upcoming Events

### February

**1 - 19 Yearbook Sales**  
15 No School - Teacher Workday/Building Day  
23 PL Community Club Meeting 6:30 pm (In person)

### March

11 Parent/Teacher Conferences  
12 No School  
18 Spring Picture Day  
19 PRAIRIE LANE ONLY NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS  
23 PL Community Club Meeting 6:30 pm  
26 PRAIRIE LANE ONLY NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS  
29 - 4/2 Spring Break

### April

6 First student day at the NEW Prairie Lane School  
5-9 Prairie Lane All Staff Appreciation Week



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

Online Sales Only  
Yearbook Price - \$15.00

ORDER YOUR YEARBOOK **ONLINE!**



**HOW TO ORDER:**  
VISIT [SchoolAnnual.com](http://SchoolAnnual.com)

**CLICK** on "Buy Your Student's Yearbook"

**ENTER** the school name, city and state  
**PLACE** your order!



Call Janis Thompson for questions 402-390-6470

[schoolannual.com](http://schoolannual.com)

FOLLOW US

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!](#)



**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](http://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.

## Student Registration

Welcome to Westside Community Schools!  
We are glad you will be joining our district.  
Registration occurs at a central location, our district office:

**ABC Building**  
**909 S. 76th Street (off 76th and Pacific)**  
**Omaha, NE 68114**  
**402-390-2100**

For Registration You Will Need:

- Your child's certified birth certificate
- Your photo ID
- Proof of residence & utility bill
- Proof of updated immunizations
- For kindergarten or out-of-state students, you will need a health exam

Begin the online process at [www.westside66.org](http://www.westside66.org)  
Join Westside >Enrollment>New Students

## 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 [lucas.mike@westside66.net](mailto:lucas.mike@westside66.net) 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>



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>SPV – Baby Carrots</b> 1 <b>Corn Dog on a Stick</b> (chicken) Or- Italian Hoagie 🐷 🐷 Or- Yogurt & Cheese Stick with a WG Soft Pretzel Ranch Beans Chilled Peaches	<b>Groundhog Day</b> 2 <b>Punxsutawney Phil's Cheesy Chicken "Phil"ly</b> Or- Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich w/a Cheese Stick Or- Yogurt & Cheese Stick with Assorted WG Bread Sweet Potato Fries Banana 	<b>Pizza Hut Pizza</b> Or- Chicken Salad Croissant Or- Yogurt & Cheese Stick with Assorted WG Bread Romaine Salad with Croutons Raisins	<b>Turkey Gravy over Mashed Potatoes and a WG Ciabatta Roll</b> Or- Asian Chicken Wrap Or- Yogurt & Sunflower Seeds w/a WG Ciabatta Roll Mashed Potatoes with Gravy Strawberries	<b>Grilled Cheese Sandwich with Tomato Soup</b> Or- Turkey & Cheese Hoagie Or- Yogurt & Cheese Stick with Assorted WG Bread Crisp Celery Sticks Applesauce
<b>SPV – Grape Tomatoes</b> 8 <b>WG Waffles with Sausage Links</b> 🐷 Or- Roast Beef & Cheese Hoagie 🐷 Or- Yogurt & Cheese Stick with Assorted WG Bread Breakfast Yams Blueberries	<b>Sweet &amp; Sour Popcorn Chicken with Brown Rice</b> Or- Ham & Cheese Hoagie 🐷 Or- Yogurt & Cheese Stick with Assorted WG Bread Asian Vegetables Pineapple Tidbits Fortune Cookie	<b>Cheeseburger on a WG Bun</b> 🐷 Or- Southwest Chicken Wrap Or- Yogurt & Cheese Stick with a WG Soft Pretzel Crinkle French Fries Orange Wedges	<b>Chicken Parmesan over Noodles with WG Garlic Bread</b> Or- Turkey BLT Sandwich 🐷 Or- Yogurt & Sunflower Seeds with WG Garlic Bread Romaine Salad with Croutons Chilled Pears	<b>Abraham Lincoln's Birthday</b> <b>Cheesy Chicken Enchilada Bake</b> 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
<b>SPV – Baby Carrots</b> 15 <b>Westside No School</b> <b>Warm Ham &amp; Cheese WG Croissant</b> 🐷 Or- Yogurt & Cheese Stick with Assorted WG Bread Baked Beans Fruit Medley 	<b>Mardi Gras</b> 16 <b>Popcorn Chicken Po'boy with Cajun Sauce</b> Or- Italian Hoagie 🐷 🐷 Or- Yogurt & Cheese Stick with a WG Soft Pretzel Jazz'd Potato Wedges Banana Powdered Sugar Beignets (Donut Holes)	<b>Pizza Hut Cheese Pizza</b> Or- Tuna Salad Croissant Or- Yogurt & Cheese Stick with Assorted WG Bread Fresh Broccoli Mixed Fruit	<b>Big Ol' Meatball with WG Garlic Bread</b> 🐷 Or- Crispy Chicken Wrap Or- Yogurt & Sunflower Seeds with WG Garlic Bread Roasted Butternut Squash Applesauce	<b>Cheesy Tuna Bake with Potato Chip Topping &amp; a WG Soft Pretzel</b> Or- Turkey & Cheese Hoagie Or- Yogurt & Cheese Stick with a WG Soft Pretzel Mixed Vegetables Strawberries
<b>SPV – Grape Tomatoes</b> 22 <b>George Washington's Birthday</b> <b>Sausage &amp; Cheese Biscuit</b> 🐷 Or- Roast Beef & Cheese Hoagie 🐷 Or- Yogurt & Cheese Stick with a Fluffy Biscuit Glazed Carrots Blueberries	<b>Chicken Fried Chicken with Gravy and Assorted WG Bread</b> Or- Turkey BLT Sandwich 🐷 Or- Yogurt & Cheese Stick with Assorted WG Bread Mashed Potatoes with Gravy Banana	<b>Hot Dog on a WG Bun</b> 🐷 Or- Southwest Chicken Wrap Or- Yogurt & Cheese Stick with a WG Soft Pretzel Cowboy Beans Chilled Peaches	<b>National Chili Day</b> 25 <b>Chili Mac with Noodles with Assorted WG Bread</b> 🐷 Or- Ham & Cheese Hoagie 🐷 Or- Yogurt & Sunflower Seeds with Assorted WG Bread Romaine Salad with Croutons Chilled Pears	<b>Cheesy Nachos</b> 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. 🐷 Denotes PORK in main entrée. 🐮 Denotes BEEF in product WG = Whole Grain  
 This Institution is an equal Opportunity provider.



All meals come with fruit, 100% juice, and milk.

Monday: OMELET WITH TOAST 

Tuesday: FRENCH TOAST STICKS 

Wednesday: BLUEBERRY MUFFIN 

Thursday: SAUSAGE BISCUIT 

Friday: CINNAMON ROLL 

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.



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**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](https://www.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](mailto:familycenter@nchs.org) with questions.