

PSE WEEKLY HOWL

Week of August 11th!

**I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU! WE ARE GOING TO HAVE A
"PAWS-ITIVELY" GREAT YEAR!**

Safety at the STAR!!

As we begin the school year, we would like your diligence, patience, and care as we establish plans and procedures to keep all of our students safe.

- **Drop-off/Pick-up:** I will send an updated traffic map by Monday. **Please note that it will take a few days for our carline to run smoothly. We appreciate your patience as we help everyone learn the process and retrain our school community as we begin the school year.**
 - **School Zone:** Please use extra care when driving in school zones and follow the recommended speed limit.
 - **Parking:** Visitors to our building should park in the side lot or the middle school's parking lot.
 - **Buzz-in Entry:** Visitors should come to the front of the school to acquire access during the school day. At the front entrance, visitors will press the buzzer, show a government-issued photo identification, and state the purpose of their visit each time they visit the school. We ask that guests not hold the door open for another visitor once they have been buzzed in. Instead, allow the door to close for each visitor to go through the procedures. I appreciate your support of our safety procedures.
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Arrival at PSE

As you and your family are getting back into a school routine, please remember that doors will open at 8:25.

Arrival → Doors open at 8:25 AM. Students arrive naturally anytime between 8:25 and 8:40 when class starts. Walkers will continue to use the front entrance on our new enhanced sidewalk. Bus riders will use the new bus lane and enter through the main doors. Car riders will now use the car rider entrance and enter the main doors via the front sidewalks. **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**

Dismissal at PSE

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

- Car riders will be in the gym at 3:35 and remain in their until they are called on the walkie, starting a little before 3:40 PM, when their car has arrived in the car loop. Car riders will leave out the gym doors to the car loop. **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.**
 - We will provide you with a car tag to place in your vehicle. **You may pick up your new car tag at Sneak Peek.**
 - If you pick up your children on the PSE property, we will radio your child out when we see you on the school grounds around 3:40 PM.**** **New location this year**** You will use the sidewalk that goes to the side gym door, #6.** You will continue to write your name on the poster board and wait for us to call your name.
 - Y-Club students will be dismissed at 3:40 PM to go to the cafeteria, where Y-Club is held.
 - **Walkers will be dismissed at 3:45 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 exit POD A with staff who will walk them to the bus.
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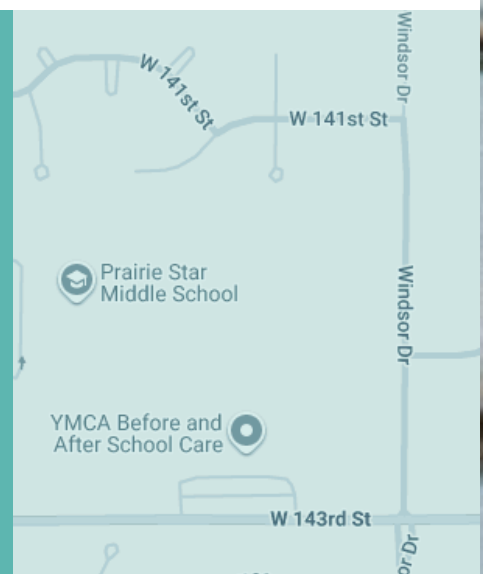
THANK YOU KATIE AND LUAREN FOR SPOILING OUR STAFF THIS WEEK!

Event Information

Fall Individual School Photos

- We will have school photos as an option from 3:00-5:00 in the gym before and during Sneak Peek. You cannot visit classrooms until 4:30, but the gym will be open from 3:00-5:00 for come-and-go school pictures. If you cannot make it, we will have retakes on September 25th during the school day.

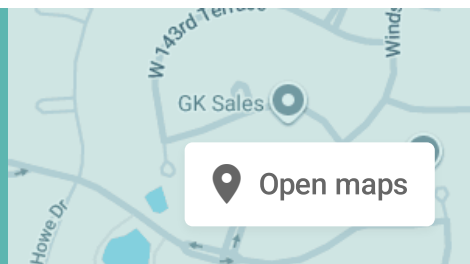
When?



Monday, Aug 11, 2025, 03:00 PM

Where?

Prairie Star Elementary School, West 143rd Street,
Leawood, KS, USA



Back to School Events: Building Visitors and Safety/Security

We are thrilled to welcome our entire school community back on campus soon. Back-to-school events are just around the corner, and we would like to share our plans for welcoming everyone back and ensuring their safety and security.

Class Assignment on ParentVue - Monday, August 11

Families can log into [ParentVue](#) to find out their classroom assignment for the 2025-26 school year on Monday, August 11th at 4:00 pm.

Sneak Peek - Monday, August 11

Sneak a Peek event on August 11 from 4:30-5:30. This is an opportunity for you to walk your child into the school, see their classroom, meet their teacher, take pictures, and explore our wonderful learning spaces. This is not a required event, but it will be a great opportunity for adults to accompany their child into the building.

First Day of School (Grades 1-5) - Wednesday, August 13

The first day of school is always an exciting day! Our PSE staff is excited to help welcome our students back for another great school year on Wednesday, August 13th. All elementary schools in Blue Valley will follow our standard safety procedures upon arrival and will only allow students into the building upon arrival. This plan helps us utilize our standard arrival procedures and ensure safety – even on the first day of school. Feel free to come to campus and plan a goodbye, hug, and/or first day photo with your child on our front lawn before wishing them well on their first day. Thank you for understanding the importance of a safe and secure arrival.

Kindergarten Orientation - Wednesday, August 13

Kindergarten families will receive a separate email with instructions for the Kindergarten Orientation sessions on this day. We will have a specific safety plan for Kindergarten guests during these sessions. We will meet in front of the building, where I will be checking your government-issued identification card before we walk into school together.

**THANK YOU COLIN, LAUREN AND ALL OF OUR VOLUNTEERS FOR
THE BACK TO PACK BASH!**

🏒 FIRST ANNUAL PRAIRIE STAR ICE SKATING NIGHT! 🏒

Lace up for special bonding time at Bluhawk!

We're thrilled to announce Prairie Star Elementary's inaugural Mother/Son Ice Skating Evening—a fun night of bonding on the ice! Join us for an unforgettable evening where moms and sons can glide together and create lasting memories.

Event Details:

📅 **Date:** Friday, August 22nd

🕒 **Time:** 5:45 - 7:45PM

📍 **Location:** Bluhawk Ice Arena / 7781 W 159th St. Overland Park

💰 **Admission:** FREE (covered by PTO!)

🏒 **Skate Rental:** \$6 per person

****WAIVER:** Please fill out before event: <https://bondsports.co/organization/388/form/1418>



 **1ST ANNUAL PSE
MOTHER / SON
Skate Night**

AT BLUHAWK

Join us at the ice rink!

- Admission is covered by the PTO
- Skate rental is available for \$6

📅 **FRIDAY, AUGUST 22ND 5:45- 7:45PM**

📍 **BLUHAWK 7781 W 159TH ST OVERLAND PARK**

SKATE WAIVER:  <https://bondsports.co/organization/388/form/1418>

EVENT OPEN TO ALL "MOTHER-LIKE" FIGURES

WE ARE HIRING!



JOIN OUR AMAZING TEAM AT PRAIRIE STAR ELEMENTARY

Open Positions:

- SPED Para II
- SPED Para II (3 days/ week)
- SPED Para II (1 day/ week)
- SPED Para I (2 available)



SCAN THE QR CODE TO APPLY

UPCOMING DATES:

- **August 11th**
 - Pictures are in the gym on August 11th from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.
 - Class Assignments: You will receive a welcome email from your child's teacher at 4:00 pm
 - Sneak Peek: Meet your teacher and see your classroom, buy school spirit wear, learn about PTO opportunities, and enjoy an ice cream with your friends and neighbors from 4:30-5:30
- **August 13th**
 - First full day of school for 1st - 5th; 8:40 am-3:45 pm
 - Kindergarten Orientation: sign up here- [Kindergarten Orientation](#)
- **August 14th**
 - Full day for Kindergarten: August 14th, 8:40 am-3:45 pm
- **August 21st**
 - Back to School Night: adult-only event to learn classroom information
 - Session 1: 5:00-5:30 pm
 - Session 2: 5:45-6:15 pm, this is a repeat of Session 1 for families with multiple students or who couldn't attend Session 1

Register for the 2025-26 school year today.

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- For more registration information, visit www.bluevalleyk12.org/registration

LOTS OF PSE INFORMATION FOR THE 25–26 YEAR!

Understanding Payments in Blue Valley

Blue Valley Schools uses several secure systems to manage school-related payments. Each system the district uses is designed for a specific purpose and specific items or fees. This [quick guide](#) can be found on the BV Website to provide guidance for making payments

Attendance Alert Options

Every day PSE opens its doors to students for a day filled with learning. When a student does not arrive at school or unexpectedly misses a portion of the school day, we are concerned and want to make sure you are aware that your child is absent.

Beginning Thursday, Aug. 14, families will be notified of unexpected absences through email, phone, text, and optional push notifications. PSE families can expect automated attendance messages by email, phone, and text at 9:35 a.m. if a child is absent and his/her absence has not already been reported by a parent/guardian. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to call the school to report an absence or reply to the automated email or phone message.

Families who would also like a push notification can download the ParentVUE app and manage their notifications. If a child has an unreported absence when a teacher submits attendance, then a push notification will immediately be sent to the parent/guardian's mobile device.

Interested in push notifications? Simply download the ParentVUE app ([iTunes app store](#) or [Google Play](#)), enable push notifications in device settings, and select attendance notifications through in-app settings.

Reminder of Personal Electronic Device Expectations for BV Students

Blue Valley Schools is committed to providing a safe, positive and productive learning environment for its students. To support this commitment and to limit distractions for all in the learning

environment, the Board of Education approved the Student Use of Cell Phones and Related Personal Electronic Devices policy in 2024.

As a reminder, the following guidelines were implemented last school year and will be continued in 2025-26:

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Student personal electronic devices (PEDs) are to be silenced and stowed away at all times.

- If a student needs to contact their family during the school day, they can use either the main office or classroom phone, with permission.
- If family members need to reach their child, they should call the main office phone.

2025-2026 Blue Valley Calendar Change

We would like to share a change in the Blue Valley calendar for this school year that will impact Blue Valley staff and families of kindergarten students. Please note that the 2026 Kindergarten Kick-off has been rescheduled. The new date for this event is **Friday, April 17, 2026**. On this day, current kindergarten students will not attend school as we welcome and introduce the school to our incoming students and their families. To view the 2025-26 calendar, please visit www.bluevalleyk12.org/calendar.

QUICK LINKS!

- Lunch Account & Payment Information - <https://lingconnect.com/main>
- Lunch Menus - [Lunch menus](#)
- Weekly Howl for Incoming Kindergarten families - <https://secure.smores.com/n/tqzcr>
- Last week's HOWL- <https://secure.smores.com/n/neavt>

PSE School Supplies

If you need to purchase school supplies, you can find them on the PSE website or view the pdf below.



School Supply 2025.pdf

Download

104.5 KB

LUNCH VISITORS BEGINNING September 3rd!

Lunch Visitors: If you would like to visit the lunchroom during your child's lunch, you are welcome to join us after Labor Day. This is a chance to come during special occasions or when your schedule allows. The students are always so excited to have lunch visitors.

Here are some guidelines we ask you to follow:

- You will need your government-issued photo ID to enter the building
 - Check in at the office and obtain a visitor's sticker
 - If a grandparent, aunt, uncle, etc., want to visit for lunch, they must be listed as an Emergency Contact in our student information system or not be allowed to enter the building. Please call the office to add people before the visit.
 - If a visitor brings food, it can only be shared with your student
 - We will have a visitor's table in the lunchroom for you and your student to sit and eat
 - Check out at the office after your student's lunch
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Stacey Sperry

Stacey is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters