

# PSE Weekly Howl

Week of August 4th!

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## Welcome to the 2025-26 School YEAR!

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### Fast Facts:

Doors will open this year at **8:25 am** for students to begin arriving.

School starts at **8:40 am**

Walkers dismiss at **3:45 pm**

**\*\*\* NEW \*\*\***Car lane starts at **3:40 pm** to relieve congestion on 143rd Street (It will begin around **3:35** the first couple of weeks as we learn our dismissal routine. Thank you for your patience!)

**School starts for Grades 1- 5:** Wednesday, August 13th

**Kindergarten Orientation sessions:** Wednesday, August 13th, 9:00 and 10:30

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### Back to the Pack Bash - August 7th, 4-6pm

Get ready to kick off the school year with our Back to the Pack Bash on August 7th from 4–6 PM!

This fun-filled event is the perfect way for families to reconnect and celebrate the start of a new year. Kids will love the live DJ, bubble truck, and the chance to play with friends on the playground, while parents can relax and socialize. **The 5th-grade class will be fundraising for their graduation ceremony by selling snacks and drinks at the event.** It's a great opportunity to support the school, meet other families, and make lasting memories. Don't miss this exciting evening of music, bubbles, and fun!

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# 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

### **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.

#### Event Information

##### **Fall Individual School Photos**

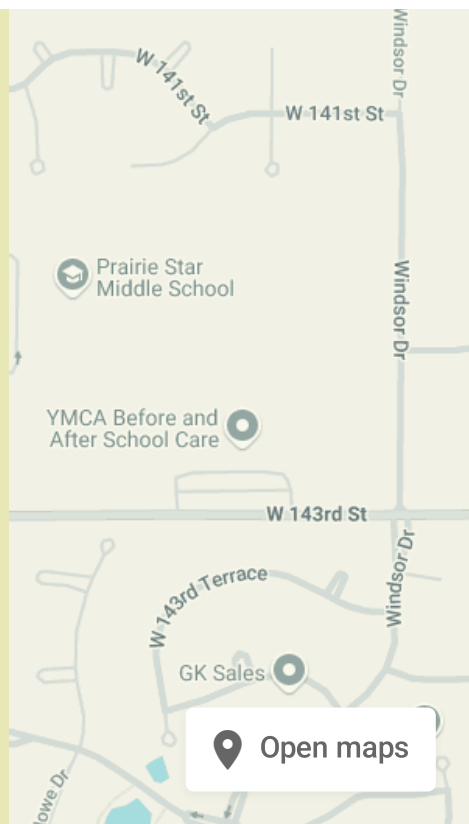
- **We will have school photos as an option from 3:00-5:00 in the gym before and during Sneak Peek. You cannot visit classrooms until 4:30, but the gym will be open from 3:00-5:00 for come-and-go school pictures. If you cannot make it, we will have retakes on September 25th during the school day.**

#### When?

**Monday, Aug 11, 2025, 03:00 PM**

#### Where?

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



### **Upcoming Dates:**

- **August 7th**
  - Back-to-School Activity by our PSE PTO
- **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
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## **Register for the 2025-26 school year today.**

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- For more registration information, visit [www.bluevalleyk12.org/registration](http://www.bluevalleyk12.org/registration)
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## ***Lots of PSE Information for the 25-26 year!***

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## **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

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## **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.

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## PSE's view on cell phones and smart watches during the school day.

To provide the most effective learning spaces possible, the following guidelines are in effect concerning personal cell phones and associated personal technology devices (CP/PTD) at the elementary school level: CP/PTDs are defined as any device designed for personal communication, digital information transfer, or electronic gaming/play.

CP/PTDs are not allowed to be in use by elementary school students during the school day. The school day is defined as anytime the student is on campus property on a day in which school is in session. CP/PTDs are to be kept in backpacks out of sight and are to be powered off. Should the need arise for a student to contact parents during the school day, the main office phone or the classroom phone should be used for such a call. Should the need arise for parents to contact their child, the main office phone should be used for such a call.

CP/PTDs used to monitor identified student health needs such as blood sugar levels are allowed and must be approved by the principal.

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## 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](http://www.bluevalleyk12.org/calendar).

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## Quick Links!

- Lunch Account & Payment Information - <https://lincconnect.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/m4gpz3>
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## Traffic Pattern Coming Soon!

Our brand new traffic pattern will be coming soon. I will send all the details on arrival, dismissal, and traffic pattern next week.

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## General Reminder for Visitors During the School Day:

We will welcome visitors into our buildings this year and would like to share a general reminder that all elementary schools in the district utilize the buzz-in entry system for visitors during the school day. Visitors will need to come to the front of the school. 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 you have been buzzed in. Instead, allow the door to close for visitors to go through the procedures. Thank you for your support of our safety procedures.

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## 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

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## 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

