



Park Elementary News

ISD 423

Celebrating lifelong learning and building a school community that encourages learning, respect and communication.

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Important Dates

November 5—PTO Meeting at Park @ 3:45

November 7—2 Hour Late Start

November 8—PTO Bingo/ Title 1 Night

November 9—Veterans Day Program

November 9—Picture Retakes

November 12-16—American Education Week

November 16—Reading Celebration Day

November 22-23—Thanksgiving Break / No School

November 29—Last Day of Trimester 1

Tiger Fund Grants Awarded

Supporting Innovative Ideas in the Classroom

Park Elementary is proud to claim that three grants from the 2018-2019 year were awarded to some members of our staff. Among those given an award was our Special Education Department for a program called "Reading Pillowcases" where students will be able to create and sew a unique pillowcase with the goal to promote a lifelong love of reading. Another donation was granted to Mr. Durham, Park Elementary Technology Teacher, for the purchase of small robots, called Ozobots, to help students learn coding. Mrs. Rude, a third grade teacher, was bestowed with a grant to purchase math manipulatives and games to help make learning math fun in meaningful ways. An enormous THANK YOU goes out to the ISD 423 Foundation for supporting student learning!



To read about the remainder of the other grant recipients, [click here](#).



Mrs. Rude's third grade students, pictured above, posed with the games and manipulatives that their teacher was able to purchase, made possible through a grant from the ISD 423 Foundation.

PTO

Be in the Know

Come join us! We hold our monthly meetings on the first Monday of the month, alternating between the Park Elementary Library and the West Elementary Library, beginning at 3:45 PM. The upcoming meetings will be in the Park Elementary Library on Monday, November 5 and Monday, December 3 in the West Elementary Library.

We are eagerly anticipating the first PTO Family Fun Night of this school year! On November 8, from 6:00-7:00 PM, we will be playing rousing rounds of BINGO! Click [here](#) to see the event's flyer. Come join in the fun!





Department Spotlight

Food Service

The Food Service department has seven staff who prepare two nutritious and tasty meals a day for students: breakfast and lunch. In addition, we have two cafeteria supervisors who help maintain an orderly environment while students eat and wait to be dismissed for recess. This department has an impressive 47 years of combined experience in food service at ISD 423!



A labor of love, the Food Service staff worked on creating lunch kits that were served in October (see left

image). Each kit was individually prepared. Its contents included carrots and peppers, dressing, apple sauce, pita sandwich and a cookie. The kits were a major hit!

A reminder that Park Elementary offers free breakfast to all of our students, except for late start school days. The breakfast serving time is from 8:15—8:45 AM.

Pictured below are the members who proudly serve our students.



The Food Service staff are pictured above, left to right: Deb, Katie, Carol, Bonnie, Amanda, Ronda, and Rachael.



Pictured above are our Cafeteria Supervisors, seated from left to right: Sandy and Jen.

Healthy Options for School Lunches and Snacks

Antonia Barrick, ISD 423 District Nurse

Needing ideas for some healthy choices for your child's lunch or snack? Read below for some great options!



Lunch Storage Tips:

- Compartmentalized lunch kits, or small reusable BPA-free plastic containers, keep food items separate and appealing.
- Reusable ice packs can keep perishables, like yogurt, safe for consumption.

Some Tasty Vegetable Bites:

- Cherry tomatoes and baby carrots with hummus or a favorite dip
- Celery stuffed with light cream cheese and sprinkled with raisins
- Lettuce with chopped apples, cherry tomatoes, sugar pea pods and a mini-container of dressing

Protein Power:

- Turkey and cheese slices in a rap, or rolled and sliced into "pinwheels"
- One or two deviled eggs
- Low-sugar or plain yogurt that can be sweetened with honey, layered with fresh fruit, and/or a small portion of low fat granola
- Whole grain pita with tuna salad and thinly sliced cucumbers and sweet bell peppers

Snack Worthy Suggestions:

- Whole grain baked tortilla chips with salsa or fruit salsa
- Whole grain pretzels with soft cheese or hummus to dip
- Thinly sliced apples or pears that are topped with cheese or mini chocolate chips and raisins/craisins

Remember, lunch should include a serving of fruit, vegetables, a good source of protein, a healthy beverage and a healthy treat for dessert or snack (examples provided above).

REMINDER: Fifth grade full band rehearsal is scheduled to begin on Wednesday, December 5.

Swapping Books

You're Invited to Join!

BOOKSWAP



How it works:

1. Students bring *gently-used, good condition* children's books to school **December 3-6**.
 2. For each book a student brings, (s)he will select a different gently-used, good condition book during recess on December 6. Students will pick a maximum of five books. If a student brings more than five books, those will be considered a donation towards students who are unable to bring a book to swap.
*Books published in 2010 or newer and in good condition will be exchanged for like books. Books published in 2009 or older and in good condition will be exchanged for like books.
 3. To be considered for the swap, **books must be appropriate and geared towards children grades 2-5**. Appropriate examples include: children's chapter books, picture books, nonfiction.
- ***No board books or adult books, please.

Questions? Contact Ms. Shadis, Teacher-Librarian at 320-234-2616 or [email](#) her.

2018-19 READ Shirt Days



September 28
October 26
November 16
December 14



January 25
February 22
March 29
April 26
May 24

Project Bookshelf

A Donation Opportunity

Are books on your children's holiday wish list? There is a group of children wishing to receive a book as a gift, but whose family cannot afford to give them one. Would you consider donating a new, unwrapped book to be distributed by the McLeod County Social Services? Book donations may be dropped off in the chimney-decorated box in the Park Elementary Library until December 7 (pictured above). If you prefer, monetary donations to purchase books are also welcome and should be sent to: Friends of the Library, c/o Hutchinson Public Library, 50 Hassan Street SE, Hutchinson. Thank you!



Read Side by Side

A Presentation to the School Board

At the most recent School Board meeting, some students did a fantastic job as they presented about our new reading curriculum, called *Read Side by Side* (they are pictured below). The students gave an overview of the program, which uses novels, to teach about components of reading and comprehension. Each grade level has a different set of novels that they are fortunate to read during the school year. All the books are broken down into four quadrants; the student presenters explained how they and their peers analyze, interpret and apply information found in the text. Frequently, students meet in small groups, referred to as book clubs, to discuss different talking points and questions that are inspired by the novel they are currently reading. To read more about the program, please visit the curriculum's website by [clicking here](#).



The Student Presenters, from left to right: William D., Kadi P., Mr. Olberg, Shareese S., Sophia W., and Elliot R.

Fall is in the Air

Fire Safety Day

Leaving a Lifelong Impression with Students

Members of the Hutchinson Fire Department visited with second graders in October to discuss the importance of fire safety education. Students had the opportunity to examine the gear that firefighters wear to protect themselves, practiced exit drills during a smoke simulation, and saw new heights while riding in one of the fire truck buckets. Thank you, Hutchinson Firefighters, for your time and providing this invaluable experience!



Autumnal Activities

Embracing the Season in and out of the Classroom

Park Elementary was host to numerous fun, fall activities during the month of October. Pictured below, from left to right, is a sampling of some of the events: fall festival stations in Mrs. Rude's class, fourth grade was able to visit the Wright farm, and some fifth graders created pumpkins on an enlarged matrix during math class.



Measuring with Maps

A Lesson in Geography

Fourth graders in Mrs. Withers' class used maps to become better acquainted with scales and distances. Students measured to find the distance between Hutchinson and other cities (with using the scale of 1 inch = 20 miles). Next, students used a U.S. map to find distances between Minneapolis and other cities around the country. It was a great, hands-on lesson!



Science Matters

Egg in a Bottle Experiment

As a part of the weather unit, fifth grade scientists observed the relationship between temperature and pressure. This observation culminated in an experiment where students had to get a hard boiled egg in and out of a bottle. To get it in, they had to drop the pressure (by drastically lowering the temperature) whereas to get it out, they had to blow in the bottle (see right picture).

