



Contact Information

Park Elementary Office

320-587-2837

Dan Olberg

Principal

[Email](#)

Mary Getzke

Assistant Principal

[Email](#)

Building Nurse

320-234-2734

School Website

www.isd423.org

Hutchinson Bus Lines

320-234-0888

Important Dates

February 4—PTO Meeting

February 6—2 Hour Late Start Day

February 7—Grade 5 Band Concert

February 15—School Day (snow make up day)

February 18—No School/President's Day

February 22—Reading Celebration Day

February 28—CR Youth Choir Concert

March 4—PTO Meeting

March 7—End of Trimester

March 7—PTO Family Fun Night/Dance

March 8—No School for Students/Teacher work day

Park Elementary News

ISD 423

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

Volume 6
February 4, 2019

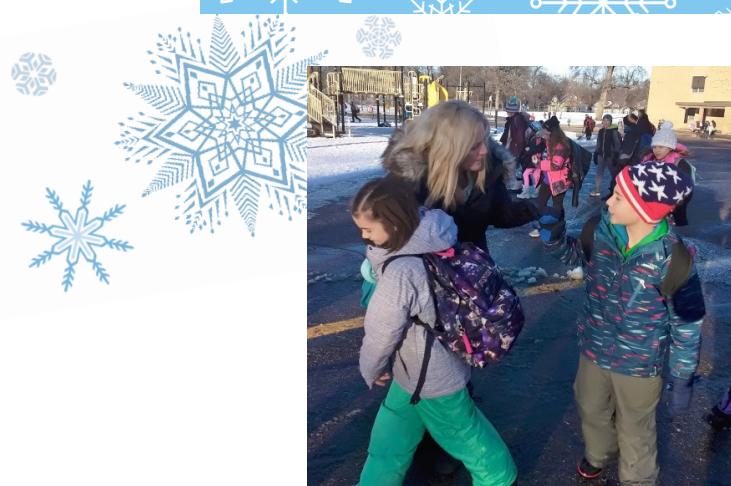
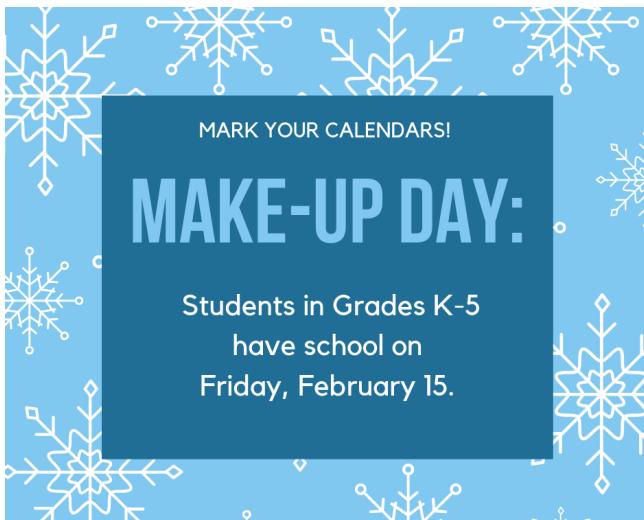


Making Change to Make a Difference

An Annual Fundraiser

It's time to empty that coin jar, clean out those couch cushions, and check your pockets for **Pennies for Patients!** Park Elementary School will be collecting spare change and other donations to support Pennies for Patients, a cancer education program and fundraiser benefitting the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. As an added incentive, the classroom with the largest collection will earn a pizza party.

Collections will take place from **Monday, February 4th through Friday, February 22nd.**



No matter the weather, Mrs. Sarah Smith walks her 2nd Graders to the bus to say goodbye.

Interested in receiving text messages from the school?
Type "follow @parkelem" to the number: 40404 to get signed-up!
This message service is provided by Twitter.

Department Updates



Department Spotlight

Title 1/Intervention Assistants

Title 1 is a federally funded program designed to provide help for students who need extra support in math, reading and/or language arts. Its goal is to help students succeed in the regular classroom and reach grade level performance. Park Elementary has 11 paraprofessionals who serve in our Title 1 department. These staff members are assigned to help students in all four grade levels. They are imperative to the successes of Park students and are a great asset to classroom teachers. Together, this department has over 100 years of cumulative experience!

Those who are a part of our Title 1 staff are pictured below.



Pictured: (Back Row, Left to Right) Gwen Stenzel, Sue Severin, Sam Simonson, Joyce Ludowese, Peggy Kwitek, Julie Monahan
(Front Row, Left to Right) Lindsey Miller, Donna Bordson, Sara Redekopp, Nancy Gapp, Jen Wicklund. Not Pictured: Kim Bollin

From the Cafeteria

Want to know what the menus are for the month of February?

[Click here](#) to see the breakfast menu and [click here](#) to see the lunch menu. As a reminder, breakfast is free to all of our students and is served every school day except for late-start days.

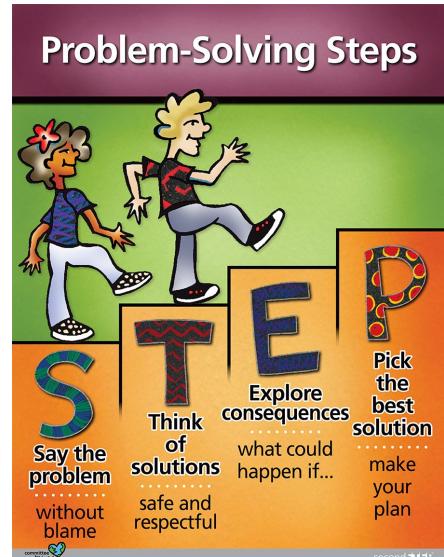


Counselors' Corner

Jill Bridge and Valerie Huepenbecker, LSC

Everyone has problems that need solving. The counseling department has been working with all grade levels to help students identify how to calm down "strong feelings" so that they can think clearly. Calming down helps one think so that he/she can solve problems. Our counselors have been teaching the following steps that students can use to help solve problems.

S: Say the Problem without casting blame. Stating a problem in a way that blames the other person can cause hurt and angry feelings. No one wants to feel hurt or angry. When people are hurt or angry, it makes it harder to solve the problem. Here's a scenario-based question: two kids are arguing about the rules to a game. How would you state the problem without blame?



T: Think of solutions.

Providing various resolutions builds cognitive skills and can prevent students from using hasty, aggressive responses to problems.

E: Explore consequences. This step helps students think through cause and effect to avoid using solutions that could create more problems. Students are taught to consider whether an option is respectful. This technique helps build a student's capacity for empathy by enlisting perspective-taking skills during the process.

P: Pick the best solution. Both students work together to pick the best option so they can have a win-win solution.

These skills are designed to build students' abilities to handle interpersonal conflicts effectively. Students who are capable of calming down and solving their own problems are often more successful in school and in their interpersonal relationships.



PTO

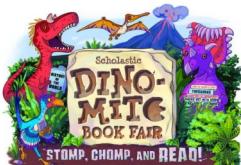
Be in the Know

The PTO just recently hosted its annual Family Skate Night, which was greatly attended by families from both Park and West Elementary! Student Council members were there to serve hot cocoa. What a great way to embrace the winter weather!



Pictured: Claire, Isabel, Sydney, and Eric.

March 7th is the PTO Family Fun Night Dance! We hope to see you there! An event flyer will be sent via Email as we get closer to the date.



The Scholastic Book Fair (held during winter conferences) was a great success due to the tremendous work of library staff, Park specialists and Helping PAWS. Thanks to all the

volunteers! In addition, we thank every person who purchased books, whether it was for their own child or a classroom donation.

PTO is always looking to add volunteers to its roster. Consider attending one of the monthly meetings; the next one is scheduled for February 4th at the Park Elementary Library.

To email the PTO president, [click here](#).

Don't Forget to Order Your Yearbook!

Use the order form that was sent home or order online at ybpay.lifetouch.com

**Order Deadline:
February 15, 2019**



Park Programs and Activities

PTO

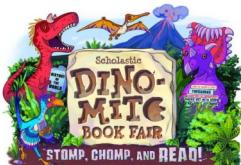
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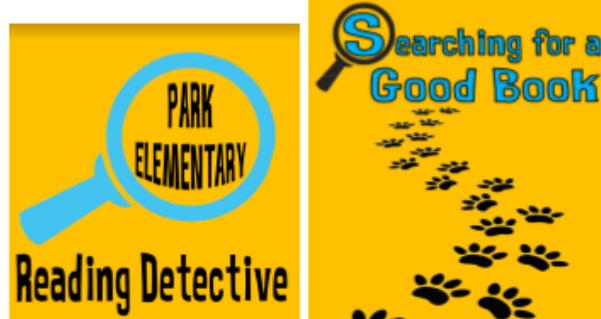
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2018-19 READ

Shirt Days



September 28

October 26

November 16

December 14

January 25

February 22

March 29

April 26

May 24

Science Matters

Six White Mystery Powders

Fifth grade students used the scientific method while conducting the following tests: microscope, water, vinegar, iodine and heat (yes - with real flames!) to identify each mysterious powder. Science is our Super Power!



Pictured: Here are some students doing the "Heat Test."

Park Programs and Activities

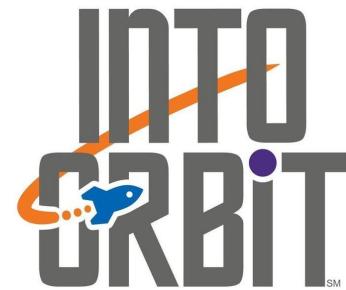
TigerBots

Heading To State

The TigerBots FIRST LEGO League team competed at a sectional tournament on January 12th. This was their second tournament of the season. The TigerBots were one of 48 teams at the competition and scored in the top third of their division. This earned them a spot in the State Tournament. The TigerBots are one of the top 66 out of 638 Minnesota teams. That's the top 10% of Minnesota teams!

Since the sectional tournament, the team has been working hard to program more robot game missions. They have also been expanding their research about the comfort of astronauts sleeping in space and how sleep deprivation affects work performance. They are using this information to improve their presentation.

The TigerBots will compete at the MN FLL State Tournament on Saturday, February 23rd in St. Paul. You can see more photos and videos from the tournament and follow the team's progress at the State Tournament on the their website: tiny.cc/parkLEGO.



Park Elementary History

80 Years of Educating Hutchinson Youth

January 31st was the 80th anniversary of the dedication ceremony of Hutchinson's "new school" - the current Park Elementary building.

In 1936 a bond vote passed (894 to 148) and plans moved forward to build a new school in part through \$209,375 in grants from the PWA. The south school building at the corner of Glen and 2nd was vacated to make room for the new building. During construction, students in grades 1-6 attended classes at City Hall, the Armory, and the Masonic Temple.

The move into the new building was made at the end of December 1938. The school housed grades K-12 with some classes still taking place in the adjoining H.L. Merrill building. There were two classrooms for each elementary grade 1-6. Some of the rooms featured in the new building were home economics rooms for cooking and sewing, including a dining room, bedroom, and bath room. The building also had dedicated rooms for Girl and Boy Scouts as well as several industrial training rooms for drafting, wood working and metal work.

The superintendent's office was also included in the building. The jewel of the building was the foyer leading to the 1,086-seat auditorium.



Learn more about the history of Park Elementary under the Resources tab of the Park website, isd423.org.

Library Lowdown

Book Madness

For the Book Coopertition (a amalgamation of cooperation and competition), students are encouraged to read and write responses to books they've read with a school-wide goal of 3,200 responses. In the first 5 days, students wrote 241 book responses. If the goal of 3,200 responses is reached, Mr. Olberg and Mrs. Getzke will wear chicken costumes and dance the chicken dance for the school.

In addition, each classroom is working together to read the books in the "Madness" bracket (pictured below) where students will vote narrowing down the Sweet 16 to the Elite 8, continuing to vote for the Final 4 and ultimately one book will emerge as the Park Elementary champion.



Mrs. Thode's fourth grade class met with Mrs. Bussler's third grade class to recommend books as part of the Book Coopertition challenge.



Top New Books

Park Elementary Library's Top New Books (by holds)

