

Contact Information

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Important Dates

April 19—No School, Good Friday

April 26—Reading Celebration Day

May 1—Two Hour Late Start, Staff Development

May 2-3—Third Grade Musical

May 6—PTO Mtg, Park

May 14—Fifth Grade Band Concert

May 17—PTO Carnival

May 21—Geo Bee, 9:45

May 27—No School: Memorial Day

Park Elementary News

ISD 423

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

Volume 8 April 6, 2018

MCAs

Measuring Students' Progress

The third, fourth, and fifth grade students are participating in the Minnesota statewide testing program for reading and math during April (beginning Monday, the 15th). These assessments are called the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments III; the tests measure students' knowledge and skills of the MN Academic Standards in reading and math. In addition, the Minnesota Department of Education mandates that fifth graders complete a science assessment. All assessments will be conducted online. The reading and math tests will be taken in three segments on different days; your child's teacher should be notifying you of the exact dates and times. Parents will be notified of their child's scores during the fall of 2019.

We are required to have a very high attendance rate during our testing dates. While the assessments are given over a series of days, the students will be tested only for a portion of each day. The students and staff are ready for the challenge and together we can make this a positive experience for your child!

Please take a minute to check your schedule and consult your child's teacher to avoid any vacation overlaps, doctor or dentist appointments, or any other conflicts. We appreciate your cooperation!



PTO

Be in the Know

This spring has proved to be a busy time for our organization due to hosting a dance in March and preparing for the Arts & Academics Showcase!

The annual PTO Carnival will be held on May 17. Stay tuned for further event details in the coming weeks!

Creative Writing Contest

Gifted and Talented

Several students from the GT Word Wise class entered a creative writing contest sponsored by SWWC/SMSU, which gave them a chance to express themselves by writing nonfiction, fiction, or poetry. The program is designed to encourage the love of language and writing for all students as well as a way to recognize talented young writers. The winners, their families and teachers were invited to an Awards Ceremony, which was held on April 14, 2019. Awards and a



printed anthology were given to students in recognition of their winning entry. In addition, first place winners in all categories and grade levels were awarded a \$20 gift certificate to Barnes and Noble. Winners were: Lauren Lindemeier 1st -Nonfiction, Delilah Foster 1st -Poetry, Eden Pukrabek 1st-Fiction, Alison Lauinger 1st-Poetry, Sawyer Wick 3rd- Fiction.



Department Spotlight

Minnesota Reading Corps

AmeriCorps Week will be celebrated from March 10th-17th. AmeriCorps has a variety of programs that service a multitude of organizations, such as schools. Minnesota Reading Corps (MRC) is the nation's largest AmeriCorps program. The Minnesota Reading Corps' goal is to help every child become a successful reader by the end of third grade.

To realize its goal, trained tutors are placed in eligible schools and provide supplemental, individualized instruction to students from age three to grade three who are at some risk for not reading at grade level. Park Elementary has been proud to host the Minnesota Reading Corps for the past 12 years. Our current MRC Tutors are, Colleen Wall and Samantha Knick. To the right, you will see a picture of Colleen and Samantha at a recent Family Fun Day event; the two of them helped make cards, sort clothing, and make the tie blankets.



Pennies For Patients

Announcing the Winner



The students raised money for Pennies for Patients again this year. Pennies for Patients is a cancer education program and fundraiser benefitting the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Ms. Aller's class raised the most money, \$282.00, earning themselves a pizza party. See their reaction to the great news to the left! See pictures below of the Student Council members delivering the change to Citizen's Bank.







Department Updates

From the Health Office

Antonia Barrick, ISD 423 School District Nurse

We are finishing up with the time of year where coughs and colds happen and are soon to begin allergy season. As such, there may be some questions about cough drops and their usage in the elementary schools. It is highly recommended that students not have cough drops in school, as they are a choking hazard. The child needs to be sitting and monitored in the health office during the *entire* duration while using the cough drop. At this time, it is recommended that parents/guardians and staff encourage students to drink water, since it has been proven to be just as effective as cough drops. Alternatively, liquid cough medicine can be administered in the health office once parents/guardians sign a Non-Prescription Medication form and medication has been dropped off by a responsible adult. The medication will only be administered for the duration of the symptoms and then a trusted adult must pick up the medication or it will be destroyed. Please remember medication will only be accepted if brought in by a responsible adult, not the student.

2nd Grade Cryogenics

A Cool Experiment

Engineers from 3M amazed second grade students as they learned about Cryogenics, which is the study of extremely low temperatures and the behavior of materials at those temperatures. Students were able to watch and participate as various items were immersed in liquid nitrogen, such as a balloon. They learned about how temperature can change the atoms of solids, liquids, and gases. They were able to see a frozen banana used as a hammer, freeze a rose so it crumbled, and eat "solid" marshmallows! They enjoyed watching a balloon expand, crinkle, and re-expand all without being opened up! It was a wonderful opportunity for our 2nd grade students to learn about the different states of matter.







Walking School Bus

To & From Park Elementary along Franklin Street Wednesdays from April 3 through May 29, 2019



Come walk with your neighbors and classmates!

Adult volunteers will lead a Walking School Bus along Franklin Street every Wednesday from April 3 through May 29, 2019

Morning Pick Up		Afternoon Drop Off	
Franklin St & Linden Ave	8:05 am (late starts - 10:05)	Park Playground Picnic Table	3:25 pm
Franklin St & Fifth Ave	8:15 am (late starts - 10:15)	Franklin St. 4 Fifth Ave	3:35 pm
Arrive at School	8:25 am (late starts - 10:25)	Franklin St. & Linden Ave	3:45 pm

Questions? Contact Park Elementary at 320-587-2837

Poem in Your Pocket

Fostering a Love of Poetry



On Friday, April 12, Park Elementary students celebrated Poem in Your Pocket Day. Students self selected a poem ahead of time and practiced so that they can fluently share their poem with friends,

adults, and students in other classrooms/grades on this literacy celebration day. Students who shared their poem 9 times redeemed a prize at the library.

From Around the Building

Taste Testers

Pizza

On March 5th, the students had the opportunity to taste-test some Hangry Bear Pizza products. What a fun experience!







Third Graders Prepare for the Stage

You're Invited!

The third graders have been hard at work while they practice and perfect songs, dances, and acting for the upcoming grade-level musical. This year's musical selection is *Princess Bluebird and the Seven Dwarfs*. Half of the grade will perform on Thursday, May 2nd and the other half will perform on Friday, May 3rd. The schedule is posted below. Each show will be free to the public.

Thursday's Cast	Friday's Cast
Mrs. Rude's class	Mrs. Lauinger's class
Mrs. Mallak's class	Mr. Nornes' class
Mrs. Schumaci's class	Mrs. Padrnos' class
Mrs. Bussler's Class	Mrs. Macemon's class
	Mrs. Wheatley's class

A Special Visit

Meeting Dr. Campbell

Mrs. Harlander's 2nd graders had a visit from Dentist, Dr. Josh Campbell from the Hutchinson Dental Center.

He gave every student an electric toothbrush! Thank you for your visit, Dr. Campbell!





Building Programs & Activities

PTO Fun Night Pictures

Dancing to the Music

Park and West Elementary students gathered in the Park Elementary gym during the PTO Dance. Below are some pictures from the fun, music-filled evening!

All photos are courtesy of Jim Jordahl, of Jordahl Photography.

















Arts & Academics

Showcasing Student's Talents



Building Programs & Activities

Minnesota

Star of the North Picture Book Award

Park Elementary's Votes:



1st

Place



Place

3rd

Place

Minnesota's Votes:







Student Book Choice Award

Park Elementary's Votes:



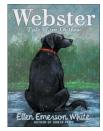
1st

Place



2nd

Place



3rd

Place

Minnesota's Votes:





