

# PRAIRIE ELEMENTARY BULLDOG TRACKS

David Engelking, Principal  
December 2017

**BUDDY SAYS  
"READ FOR 20  
MINUTES  
EVERY DAY"**



## UPCOMING EVENTS

BAND/ORCHESTRA CONCERT 1:15-2:00	DEC 15
LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS	DEC 19
WINTER BREAK BEGINS DEC 20-JAN 4	
STUDENTS FIRST DAY BACK	JAN 4
NO SCHOOL	JAN 12 & 15



## COLD WEATHER HAS ARRIVED

As winter sets in, please remember to dress for the weather. Students need to have warm shoes, gloves, hats and coats daily, as we try to go outside almost every day. Please be sure your child is dressed warmly for outdoor recess.

We do not have staff on duty to supervise students who are dropped off prior to doors opening at 8:05. However, morning Latchkey is available through the Haysville Activity Center (529-5922). If you are dropping your student off prior to 8:05, please have your student wait with you in your vehicle during cold weather. If this is not possible, please make sure they are dressed appropriately while waiting to enter the building. We appreciate your cooperation.

## PTO UPDATE

We hope to have some skate nights scheduled after the first of the year.

Our next PTO meeting will be held January 18th at 6 p.m. at Prairie Elementary in the cafeteria. Please park in the east side parking lot and enter through the east door.

Please email  
prairie.elementary.pto  
@gmail.com, if interested in joining.

**BAND AND ORCHESTRA  
CONCERT  
IN THE PRAIRIE GYM  
DECEMBER 15,  
1:15-2:00 P.M.**

## FOOD SERVICE

The district's meal charging requirements are as follows. A charge account for students paying full or reduced price for meals may be established with the district. Students may charge no more than \$5 worth of meals to this account. Charging of a la carte or extra items to this account will not be permitted.

Any student failing to keep his/her account solvent, as required

by the district, shall not be allowed to charge further meals until the negative account balance has been paid in full. Students who have charged the maximum allowance to this account and cannot pay out of pocket for a meal will be provided an alternate meal consisting of cereal and milk.

Payments for school meals may be made at the school or online

at [www.myschoolbucks.com](http://www.myschoolbucks.com). Students, parents, and guardians of students are encouraged to pre-pay meal costs. Please note, funds can take up to an hour to post to an account when added online. Funds can not be transferred from one account to another, even for siblings, unless you fill out a "Transfer of Funds" form.



## THE AMAZING BRAIN:

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### POSITIVE PARENTING BUILDS HEALTHY BRAINS

The word DISCIPLINE means “to teach or train.” Positive approaches to discipline work because you are teaching your child how you want her/him to behave. When children learn, they are building new connections in their brains. Children learn best through relationships that make them feel safe, secure, and nurtured. When you build a trusting, warm and supportive relationship with your child, you are also helping to build your child’s brain. Positive parenting helps your child’s brain to mature and to learn from you how to deal with stress in a healthy way.

Linda Burgess Chamberlain, PHD, MPH



### LITERACY FIRST

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Did you know that students must learn approx. 3,000 new words per year in order to acquire the vocabulary knowledge needed in high school?

- Three hundred to five hundred of those must be taught explicitly.
- Some of the best ways to ensure your child is learning new words is to have conversations with them every chance you get. Talk to them while you are making dinner, driving them to swimming lessons, waiting for the dentist or doctor to come in. Make every opportunity count – they are only young once!
- Sometimes it is difficult for children to learn new words. To help make cognitive connections, try having your child illustrate the word they are learning or create a game out of it.

If you have any questions about Literacy First please feel free to contact your child’s teacher, or check out the official website: [www.literacyfirst.com](http://www.literacyfirst.com)

## PANDO INITIATIVE

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We all know the holidays can be stressful, so here are some tips from Paul Gobel (from the University of North Texas) for surviving the economy this holiday season:

1. Pay with cash; spend money you already have.
2. Think before using your credit card. People tend to spend more when using credit cards.
3. Create a budget and stick to it.
4. Keep track of how much you have spent on gifts, dining and entertainment.
5. Shop alone when you’re doing the bulk of your gift buying to cut down on impulse purchases.
6. Steer clear of high-priced fad items, and instead, buy practical gifts; resist the little extra presents.
7. Shop online to take advantage of lower costs and free shipping.
8. Don’t spoil the kids, try substituting a high-ticket item with a special “date” with your child.



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