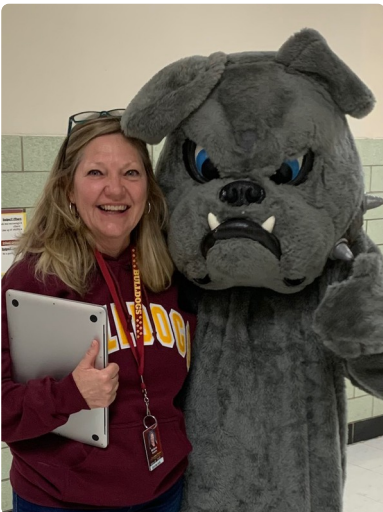


Updates from Superintendent Radeke

September 22, 2023



ANNUAL DATA PRIVACY COMMUNICATION

Dear Families,

Lester Prairie Schools uses a variety of digital resources and tools to support student learning. We refer to these resources and tools as "Technology Providers," as they are defined in statute. As a school district, we want to ensure that technology providers protect student information and academic data. We have contracted with Learn Platform to create a listing of the Technology Providers used by Lester Prairie Schools for your review. Included in this listing you will find the product names, authorized grade levels, approval status, and compliance status.

The unique Learn Platform link for Lester Prairie Schools is

located on the Data Privacy tab under the Technology page on our district website or you can click on the following:

[https://swwc.app.learnplatform.com/new/public/tools?tag-filter-251\[\]=4346](https://swwc.app.learnplatform.com/new/public/tools?tag-filter-251[]=4346)

Please reach out to Marc Wawrzyniak by email at wawrzyniak@lp.k12.mn.us or phone 320-395-2521 ext. 1133 for additional questions regarding specific digital tools used in our Technology Provider contracts.

Sincerely,

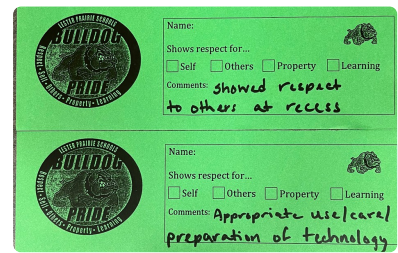
Dr. Melissa Radeke

Superintendent

Lester Prairie Schools

PBIS Focus Tickets

The PBIS Team has been doing phenomenal positive culture-building work. "Focus Tickets" are the newest addition. After researching discipline data from last year, the PBIS Team decided to focus on certain areas to positively guide student behavior. For this first round, the high school teachers will concentrate on appropriate use/care/preparation of technology and the elementary teachers will concentrate on recess behavior.



- Thank you to our HS students for showing Bulldog Pride in using/preparing/caring of technology!
- Thank you to our elementary students for showing Bulldog Pride at recess!

Parents, ask your child about the new Focus Tickets!

STAFF SPOTLIGHT: Arlene Nowak - our new Social Studies Teacher!

A little bit about me: I am from Silver Lake and graduated from Lester Prairie Schools. After graduation, I attended NDSU and graduated in 2021 with a degree in education.

My favorite activity is going to the gym!

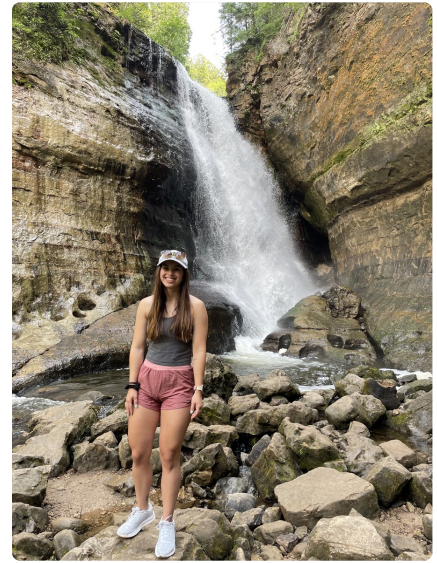
My hobbies are spending time with friends and family, hiking and traveling, drinking coffee, and going to TJ Maxx.

Something you might not know about me is this summer I competed in a Combine Demolition Derby. It was lots of fun!

My favorite movie is The Blues Brothers because the music is great.

My favorite book is Sofia Petrovna because it is an historical novel and very eye opening!

If I could meet any historical person, it would be Winston Churchill because he was a great speaker and always had something interesting to say.



STAFF SPOTLIGHT: Cara Cline - our new Kindergarten Teacher!

A little bit about me: This is my 16th year of teaching. I have two children, a husband, two dogs, and a cat.

My favorite thing that I like to do is be outside in the sunshine.

My hobbies are reading, gardening, and spending time with my family.

Something you might not know about me is that I did my student teaching in Australia.

My favorite movie is Elf because I love Christmas time.

My favorite book is Harry Potter because I am swept away from reality into a magical place where anything is possible.

My favorite sport is football because it was something I bonded with my dad over. We would spend hours on the phone "watching" a game while I was away at college.



ATTENDANCE:

Consistent school attendance is vital to the success students have in school academically, behaviorally, and socially. A student is considered absent (excused or unexcused) if he/she is not physically present at the school. If a student is at a school sponsored activity/event they are considered present. In an effort to improve student attendance, letters will be systematically sent to parents/guardians at the beginning of each month for students who are considered habitually absent.

Lester Prairie Schools' definition of habitually absent: Student who misses more than 10% of the school year. The reason does not matter.

5 absences a quarter

10 absences a semester

20 absences per school year (equivalent to a month of instruction)

The school will request a note from a licensed physician after the 3rd consecutive day of absences due to illness.

From Attendance Policy 503 (the entire attendance policy and student handbook can be found:

<https://www.lp.k12.mn.us/>)

It is the responsibility of the student's parent or guardian to ensure the student is attending school, to inform the school in the event of a student absences, and to work cooperatively with the school and the student to solve any attendance problems that may arise.

If you receive an attendance letter from the school, please set up an appointment with the principal, Mr. Lee, to discuss and create a plan to improve your child's attendance.

Lester Prairie Schools will follow the Minnesota Truancy Laws for unexcused absences. **Three unexcused tardies to school (8:15-8:30) equal one unexcused absence. After 8:30 the student will be considered absent.**

When reporting your child absent from school you must give a reason. If no reason is given, it will be marked as unexcused absence.

End of the day pickup:

You must call the office by 2:15 if you are changing the end of the day pickup routine for your child.

Updates from Mr. Scheevel in the Activities Office:

Soccer, Volleyball, Cross Country and Football are nearing the halfway point of their fall seasons. Visit the school website/activities calendar to find the schedule of games to come out and cheer on your Bulldogs.



Homecoming is the week of October 2nd. Be sure to check out the school activities calendar, the school announcements and/or the insert in the Herald Journal for a listing of the week's activities.

English Language, GED and Adult Basic Education classes continue on Monday, September 25th and Monday Oct 2nd.. Registration for the class is open. Please contact the school activities office to register.

A MediCare information session will be held in the Media Center on Wednesday Sept. 27th starting at 6:00pm



Counselor Corner:

Update on Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Application Changes

The FAFSA Simplification Act is a massive overhaul of federal student aid and including changes to the FAFSA form, eligibility calculation and many policies and procedures for colleges and universities that participate in Title IV programs.

Here are some highlights that initially impact students/families:

- Streamlining the FAFSA Form
 - The **24-25 FAFSA will open sometime in December**- a official date has not been released yet (the FAFSA typically opens in October 1, but due to the significant changes that are being made, it has been delayed this year)
 - Lester Prairie School will provide a Financial Aid Night in January/February depending on

later.

- Expanding Access to Federal Aid
- New Pell Grant and Federal Aid Determination
 - New Pell Grant Formula- will benefit most families and the **goal of this is to get Pell Grant to more students.**
 - EFC (Estimated Family Contribution) is no longer a term/formula- the new term is **SAI (Student Aid Index)** and consists of 3 different calculations/formulas which looks to expand eligibility to more students.

You can learn more details <https://studentaid.gov/help-center/answers/article/fafsa-simplification-act>

Please contact Mrs. Mattson @ mattson@lp.k12.mn.us or 320-395-2521 with any questions.

Does the School District have your most current contact information?

The School District uses the School Messenger Alert System to inform parents of school closings, late starts, early outs, and emergencies. Please make sure we have your current contact information so you receive our communications!



Community members can sign up to receive our inclement weather and emergency messages using a form on our website under the Community tab or [click here](#).



Dates to Know:

October 5 & 9 - Parent Teacher Conferences 3:30-7:30pm

October 11 - Regular School Board Meeting 5:45pm

October 19 & 20 - Education Minnesota (No School)

Next Regular School Board Meeting: WEDNESDAY, October 11th at 5:45pm in the Media Center

Please visit the School Board tab on our website to view upcoming Board Meeting agendas.

<https://www.lp.k12.mn.us/page/2452>



Do you have any comments or feedback to share?

We would love to hear from you because your voice is important to us. Please click on the Google Form below. Thank you!



Comments and Feedback

We would love to hear your thoughts and/or feedback about our school district. Please include your contact information so we can follow up with you.

[Sign in to Google](#) to save your progress. [Learn more](#)

 * Indicates required question

It is the mission of ISD 424 to develop every learner to the learner's maximum potential, to succeed and continue to learn in a changing world.



Lester Prairie Schools

Email: radeke@lp.k12.mn.us

Website: <https://www.lp.k12.mn.us>

Location: [131 Hickory Street North, Lester Prairie, MN, USA](#)

Phone: [320-395-2521](tel:320-395-2521)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/lp424>

Twitter: [@LPBulldogs424](https://twitter.com/LPBulldogs424)



Melissa Radeke

Melissa is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters



