



LP School District Newsletter

January 16, 2026



Dear Bulldogs,

January 19–25 is Paraprofessional Recognition Week, a time to celebrate the vital role our paraprofessionals play at Lester Prairie Schools. Our paraprofessionals are essential members of our educator teams, working closely with students to ensure learning is meaningful, supportive, and responsive to individual needs. Through their work with individual students and small groups, they help ensure every learner has the opportunity to grow and succeed.

We think our Paraprofessionals are the best!

- Ashley Alberts
- Tabatha Ainsworth
- Dede Breimhorst
- Lisa Feltmann
- Ashley Heckson
- Kim Heimerl
- Angie Hoover
- Ashley Ostlie
- Sara Ross
- Kim Schauer
- Lauren Trittabaugh
- Jannina Wall
- Kim Walter

We are incredibly fortunate to have such dedicated, caring, and skilled paraprofessionals. Please join me in thanking them for their valuable service and for the positive impact they have on our school culture and student success each and every day. Our paraprofessionals are truly appreciated and valued.

With gratitude,
Supt. Melissa Radeke



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS:** Minnesota is home to more than 20,000 paraprofessionals, who contribute to the success of students and their teachers; and
- WHEREAS:** The support and services provided by paraprofessionals are integral to student achievement. Paraprofessionals take on a wide range of responsibilities to meet the needs of the students in their care. Their dedication supports safe, effective, and engaging learning environments throughout Minnesota; and
- WHEREAS:** Minnesota's Department of Education is committed to excellence in education and recognizes the important role that paraprofessionals play in ensuring success in our schools; and
- WHEREAS:** Minnesota celebrates the essential contributions of paraprofessionals during Paraprofessional Recognition Week.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM WALZ, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim January 19-25, 2026, as:

PARAPROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION WEEK

in the State of Minnesota.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 2nd day of January.




GOVERNOR


SECRETARY OF STATE

The 2026 Lester Prairie School Board meeting dates are listed on the School Board page of the District website. The 2026 dates were approved at the January 12th Reorganizational and Regular School Board meeting. ***All regular School Board meetings begin at 5:45pm in the Media Center, unless otherwise noted.***

The rest of the 2026 School Board meeting dates are as follows:

TUESDAY, Feb. 10th

Monday, March 23rd

Monday, April 20th

Monday, May 18th

Monday, June 15th

Monday, July 20th

Monday, August 17th

Monday, September 21st

Monday, October 19th

Monday, November 23rd

SENIOR SPOTLIGHTS:



Class OF 2026

Name: Camila Montano

Activities in HS: **Band and Choir**

Plans after HS? **Workforce Interpreter**

Favorite memory in school? **Elementary Field Trips**

Advice for underclassmen? **Do not procrastinate**

What are your hobbies or interests? **Art and Crafts, Music, Going outside**

Favorite Movie: **Mrs. Doubtfire**

Biggest Fear: **Not being alone in the dark**

Biggest Pet Peeve: **People who chew loudly specifically gum**

Favorite song/artist: **Stray Kids**

Favorite Quote: **"Calmantes montes alicantes pintos"**

If you could have dinner with anyone famous who would it be? **Francisco Gabilondo Soler (cri-cri)**

What is your dream job? **Small business owner**

Would You Rather?

Lose all of the money you've earned this year OR Lose all the memories you've gained this year?

Never listen to music again OR Never watch any movie or series again?



"ONCE A BULLDOG ALWAYS A BULLDOG"





Class OF 2026

Name: Joslyn Alsleben

Activities in HS: Volleyball, Cheer, Softball, and Trap

Plans after HS? Attend Eau Claire for nursing

Favorite memory in school? Wondering the halls during class with my friends

Advice for underclassmen? Don't worry about what others think of you, be yourself

What are your hobbies or interests? Work, hanging out with friends/family, traveling

Favorite Movie: The Notebook

Biggest Fear: Being alone in the dark outside

Biggest Pet Peeve: People chewing or tapping

Favorite song/artist: Lana Del Rey

Favorite Quote: It always seems impossible until it's done -Nelson Mandela

If you could have dinner with anyone famous who would it be? Jacob Elordi

What is your dream job? Labor and Delivery nurse at Minnesota birthing center

Would You Rather?

Lose all of the money you've earned this year OR Lose all the memories you've gained this year?

Never listen to music again OR Never watch any movie or series again?



"ONCE A BULLDOG ALWAYS A BULLDOG"





Class OF 2026

Name: Ryland Rodriguez

Activities in HS: **Football and Track**

Plans after HS? **Auto body at Ridgewater**

Favorite memory in school? **Winning section champs vs GFW**

Advice for underclassmen? **Don't be afraid to ask questions**

What are your hobbies or interests? **Listening to music, food, hanging out with friends**

Favorite Movie: **Maze Runner**

Biggest Fear: **Heights**

Biggest Pet Peeve: **None**

Favorite song/artist: **Juice WRLD**

Favorite Quote: **"Where words fail, music speaks"**

If you could have dinner with anyone famous who would it be? **Snoop Dog**

What is your dream job? **Automotive Paint Technician**

Would You Rather?

~~Lose all of the money you've earned this year~~ OR ~~Lose all the memories you've gained this year?~~

~~Never listen to music again~~ OR ~~Never watch any movie or series again?~~



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PRINCIPAL LEE:

On Monday, January 19, we recognize the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. We are reminded that the civil rights movement was rooted in the belief that every child deserves dignity, fairness, and opportunity. This message remains deeply relevant in public schools. Dr. King's work reminds us that education plays an important role in shaping not only knowledge, but character and compassion.

Here at Lester Prairie, the values of the civil rights movement are lived out every day through our commitment to ensuring that every student feels safe, welcomed, and valued. We strive to create learning environments where kindness, fairness, and mutual respect guide how students and adults treat one another, and where differences are seen as strengths. By modeling these values, we help students grow into responsible, thoughtful individuals who understand the importance of caring for one another and contributing positively to their community. The lessons of the civil rights movement remind us that building understanding and opportunity for every child is ongoing work and that this work is as important today as it has ever been.

AD/DEAN - MR. SCHEEVEL:

I would like to extend a congratulations to Brielle Christen and Eli LaMott on receiving the ExCel Award and also to Payton Fransten and Harrison Engen on receiving the Triple A award. These awards highlight students who are achieving a well rounded education. As an activities director, parent, and member of this community, I firmly believe that a well-rounded education is built on the balanced pursuit of academics, athletics, and the arts. Participation in athletics teaches discipline, teamwork, resilience, and leadership, while involvement in the arts fosters creativity, self-expression, and cultural awareness, skills that are equally essential for lifelong success. When these experiences are grounded in high academic standards, students learn to manage their time, set priorities, and hold themselves accountable both in the classroom and beyond. By encouraging excellence in academics alongside engagement in athletics and the arts, we develop students who are not only competitive and creative, but also intellectually prepared, ethically grounded, and ready to succeed in their future endeavors.

Go Bulldogs!!

Ross Scheevel
AD/DoS/CE

LP Schools

TEACHING AND LEARNING:

Greetings everyone,

Everyone has been settling into the new year with great academic work and a close to our second quarter. Our teaching staff is working through their LETRs training and are starting to see the finish line for our training in the Science of Reading! Also, our AVID program has begun our Tutorial Process, where students are instructed to find a point of confusion in one of their academic classes, in order to work through that particular problem with the rest of their classmates. We have also begun our Winter Testing data collection time for our teaching staff to be able to look at the data and inform their instructional strategies. As we continue moving forward, we will continue to monitor our student learning progress, our curriculum implementation process and the data around formative (quizzes, exit tickets, homework) assessments and summative assessments (Essays, tests, projects) taken inside the

classroom. We thank you for your time and partnership in this process and look forward to continuing updating you all as time goes on.

Sincerely,

Mr. Ryan Sinda
Student Success Coach/MnMTSS Coordinator

COUNSELOR CORNER:

This is a great time for 11th grade students and families to begin planning **college visits**. Visiting a college campus is one of the best ways for students to explore potential options, learn more about academic programs, and get a feel for campus life.

Seniors are allowed up to 3 college visits per school year, and juniors are allowed up to 2 college visits per year. To have the visit count as an excused absence, students must complete a College Visit Request Form and return it to me at least two days prior to the visit.

When possible, families are encouraged to schedule visits when colleges are in session. This allows students to experience the campus during a typical school day and see what student life is really like.

In addition to on-campus visits, we have some college representatives visiting our school this spring. These visits provide another fantastic opportunity for students to ask questions, gather information, and learn more about colleges they may be considering.

Please feel free to reach out if you have questions about planning college visits or completing the required form. We are happy to support students as they explore their post-secondary options!

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!



SCHOOLMESSENGER®

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:

Jan. 16: Last day 2nd Quarter - 11:30 dismissal

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

February 10: Regular School Board Meeting 5:45pm



Next Regular School Board Meeting: TUESDAY, February 10th 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.

radeke@lp.k12.mn.us [Switch account](#)



* 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

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



Melissa Radeke

Melissa is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

