

LP School District Newsletter

January 30, 2026

Dear Bulldogs,

February is "I Love to Read Month" - a time to celebrate reading and books. I talked with some of our elementary students about reading and asked them about their favorite books, where they like to read, and advice to fellow readers. It was a joy to hear their ideas. I loved their reader advice. And I just might need to pick up an *automatic bookmark* suggested by a very enthusiastic 6th grade reader. Check out his video!

Your fellow enthusiastic reader,
Supt. Melissa Radeke



This 5th grade reader thinks reading is fun and calming. Aubrey loves to read in her swing chair at home. She likes to read longer books because they take up more time and she won't get bored. Right now she is reading Snoop and Growing Home.



This first grader loves to read every night with her dad! Frankie's favorite place to read is by the fireplace. Her favorite book is Waiting is Not Easy by Mo Willems. (Yes, she knew the author!) Her advice to other readers: "It's fun!"



This reader loves to read because it passes time quickly. Michael doesn't have just one favorite book because "there are so many options!" He really likes the Stick Dog Series. His favorite place to read is in bed. Sometimes he reads for

Her advice to other readers:
"You should read instead of watch TV because then time flies.



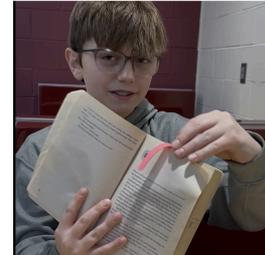
This 2nd grade reader loves to read because "there are so many good books out there!" Grant doesn't have a favorite book because he likes so many. He reads more than 20 minutes each day. He'll read anywhere, but his favorite place to read is in his bed. His advice to other readers: There's always a good book out there!



These two readers are in 4th grade. They find reading relaxing and both usually read around 20 minutes each day. Greta's goal is to finish the Harry Potter series. Ellie likes reading a variety of books, but sometimes she reads her favorites over and over. "I've read Diary of a Wimpy Kid, like, 10 times!"

Greta likes to read in her bean bag chair. Ellie likes to read by her cows! "Sometimes I read to the cows and they 'moo' back at me!" Their advice to other readers: Even if a book is hard, keep going because there are surprises along the way.

more than one hour! His advice to other readers: Always pick what you like and if you keep going, you'll eventually succeed in finishing the book.



This 6th grader really loves to read! Caleb says there are books for everyone. He likes sports and adventure books because those are things that interest him. His favorite author is Mike Lupica because he writes sports books. Caleb likes characters who have interesting experiences - "like one kid who won a million dollars!" He reads anywhere between 20 and 40 minutes a day. He read the latest Diary of a Wimpy Kid Party Pooper in 3 days. He loves his automatic bookmark because he reads a lot!

Check out this video about his automatic bookmark:
[***LINK***](#)

His advice to other readers: Read out loud with a parent or an adult. They can help with words and its more fun!

SENIOR SPOTLIGHTS:

PRINCIPAL LEE:

Parent–Teacher Conferences are important, no matter what grade their child is in. Typically, the elementary conferences are very well attended. When students get to 7th grade, many parents stop coming. Parent teacher communication is just as important at the middle and high school level as it is at the elementary level. Conferences give parents and teachers time to talk face to face about how a student is doing in class, both academically and socially. Grades and standardized assessments alone do not tell the full story.

When parents attend conferences, it sends a clear message to students that their education matters. Students do better when families and teachers are working as a team. These conversations help build trust, set shared goals, and support students as learning becomes more challenging each year. By attending Parent Teacher Conferences, you are taking an important step in helping your child grow, learn, and prepare for the future.

Parent Teacher Conferences are Thursday, February 5th and Monday, February 9th from 3:30-7:30. Hope to see you there!

TEACHING AND LEARNING:

Greetings everyone,

Our educators have been busy at work this New Year! We have been diving deep into interventions in the classroom and how our Core instruction really impacts all of our students. We have been working through our science of reading program - LETRs and are nearing the finish line for our phase 1 Read Act process! As our educators continue this work, I can truly see the strong dedication everyone has to Lester Prairie Public Schools. As we move into the future, we will continue to work through the Minnesota Department of Education Read Act, refine our instruction and organize our work around the Minnesota State Standards. We are also going strong with our AVID Elective class in 9th grade, where students are working through their career project dedicated to finding which career choice may eventually fit their interests. In the Avid Elective Class, we are also working on Tutorials - a process where students find a point of confusion in their everyday work, and work to solve that problem with the support of their peers! We greatly appreciate all of the support from home and we could not do this work without the support of our families.

Sincerely,

Mr. Ryan Sinda

Student Success Coach/MnMTSS Coordinator

COUNSELOR CORNER:

January is National Thank You Month

January is National Thank You Month, a perfect time to focus on gratitude and appreciation in our school community. Throughout the month, students have been learning and practicing ways to express thankfulness both at school and at home.

Students in grades 7–12 wrote thank-you letters to school staff during advisory, recognizing the many adults who support them each day. Our K–6 students focused on gratitude and thankfulness as their “Star Quality” of the month and will explore these themes during Social Emotional Learning Classroom lessons with me.

Families can help continue this learning at home with simple gratitude practices:

- Share one thing you’re thankful for at dinner each day

- Encourage your child to write a thank-you note to a friend, family member, or teacher
- Start a family gratitude jar and read the notes together at the end of the month
- Model appreciation by saying “thank you” often and sincerely

Practicing gratitude helps children build empathy, positivity, and strong relationships.

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:

February 5 & 9: Parent Teacher Conferences 3:30-7:30pm
February 10: Regular School Board Meeting 5:45pm
February 13: Staff Development Day - no school
February 16: President's Day - no school





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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Melissa Radeke

Melissa is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

