

PRATT PRESS

Please read this important information from the school.
Fadlan akhriya warkan muhimka ah ee ka yimid Iskuulka

Upcoming Events

Monday, January 15

No School
Martin Luther King Jr.
Day

Thursday, January 25

No School
Teachers Professional
Development Day

Friday, January 26

No School
Record Keeping Day

Wednesday, February 7

Winter Walk to School
Day

Thursday, February 1

6:30 – 7:30pm
Roundtable Luxton Park

Friday, February 9th

9:00 am Friendship Cafe
9:25 am Breakfast and
Books

Thursday, February 15

4:40 – 8 pm Parent
Teacher Conferences

Friday, February 16

No School
8 am – 2 pm Parent
Teacher Conferences

From the Desk of Nancy Vague, Principal



Dear Pratt Families.

Happy New Year. I hope that your family had a wonderful winter break. As we begin a new calendar year, teachers and recess staff will be reviewing expectations and renewing relationships in order to create positive learning environments for all.

Please note that January is the coldest month in Minneapolis and when at all possible we will send students outside. It is important for students to bring all of their winter clothing each day. When the temperature goes below 0 degrees we will adjust our recess routines and have them indoors where they will engage in games and active videos.

We are coming to the halfway point in the school year and teachers will be completing report cards on Record Keeping day in January. On February 15th and 16th parents are encouraged to come in and talk with their child's teacher during parent-teacher conferences.

As always, thank you for your partnership in the education of your child.

Kind regards,

Nancy Vague





Yoga Calm Moving and Learning Residency

For six weeks starting in January Pratt will be doing a Yoga Calm Moving and Learning Residency with 1000 Petals. Pratt 3rd, 4th and 5th graders will take part in the residency but all classroom teachers will do a training session to utilize these techniques in their rooms. These residencies were designed to help educators integrate movement, mindfulness and social/emotional learning into their work settings with fidelity and sustainability. This program is a proactive behavioral intervention to help meet the physical, emotional and mental health needs of students and staff by providing on-site coaching and support. Educators team with Certified Yoga Calm instructors for six weeks to implement yoga based movement, social/emotional learning activities and guided relaxation exercises.

Please visit www.1000petals.com for more information

New in every classroom

Thanks to Pratt Parent Teacher Organization each classroom will have a Sootheze animal. This cuddly animal can be heated in the microwave to provide warmth and activate the relaxing natural herbs within (lasts up to 4 hours). Cool in the freezer to enjoy the benefits of cold therapy. By having access to one in each classroom more students will have access to calming and comforting effects they provide when needed.



Kindness Retreat for grades 4/5th

Pratt 4th and 5th graders will attend a one day Kindness Retreat on February 20th. The Youth Frontiers Kindness Retreat inspires character by energizing an entire grade level of fourth- or fifth-grade students in activities that emphasize the value of kindness. The retreat empowers kids to be “everyday heroes” by using kindness to include others, be respectful and make their school a better place. Youth Frontiers' independent evaluation shows that participation in the retreat results in cognitive, attitudinal and behavioral shifts that decrease students' distractions to learning and build a positive school community.

Special thanks to Youth Frontiers for the grant dollars that made this possible and to Prospect Park United Methodist Church for allowing us to use their space.





Roundtable on educational values and priorities

The Pratt Site Council is hosting its first ever roundtable gathering on February 1st from 6:45 - 7:45 pm at Luxton Park Community Center. Members of Site Council will share current information and lead small group discussion in order to hear from families about their educational values and priorities. Site Council will use this information in our 2018-2019 budget discussions.

A light meal and childcare will be provided.

Please RSVP to Lissa Steenerson at lissa.steenerson@mpls.k12.mn.us or (612) 668-1122.



MPS Winter closure Policy



Canceling school is a complicated decision that affects students, staff and families. Our schools provide students with a safe and stable place to learn. Some students rely on the school district for breakfast and lunch. Canceling school may cause some families hardship related to finding childcare. Canceling school is an exception and we do everything possible to keep schools open.

MPS may consider closing school when:

- Wind chill is at -35F or colder at 6:30am
- More than 6 inches of snow falls in 12 hours
- More than 8 inches of snow fall in 24 hours

MPS does its best to inform parents:

- By 6pm the day before cancellation or by 5:30am the day of cancellation

MPS announce cancellations via phone calls, text messages, website, Facebook, Twitter, Radio and Television.

Winter Conferences

Sign up for February 15th and 16th winter conferences will begin on January 16th. At that time you may call the Pratt office at (612) 668-1122 to stop in to sign up.

Parking Reminder!

Please note the NO PARKING signs along the sidewalk in the Pratt parking lot. At no time should parents park along the sidewalk. This is imperative for the safety of everyone coming in and out of the building and for any emergency vehicles.