

The PRATT PRESS

October 2017



Upcoming Events

Wednesday, October 4

Walk and Bike to School Day

Friday, October 6

Breakfast and Books. 9:25-10:00 a.m.

Community Partnership School Update, State of the Schools and Title 1 Mtg. 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Tuesday, October 10

Site Council, 4:45-6:00 p.m.
PTO Meeting. 6 to 7pm

Tuesday, October 17

Parent Teacher Conferences. 4:40-8:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 18

No School for Students
Parent Teacher Conferences. 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 19

No School for Students

Friday, October 20

No School for Students

Wednesday, October 25

Unity Day. Wear orange!

From the Desk of Nancy Vague, Principal

Dear Pratt Families.

We are well into the school year and this month teachers will be preparing to meet with families for parent (family) teacher conference on October 17 and 18.

On the TV monitors at Pratt you will see information about *The Science of Character*. (<http://www.letitriple.org/films/science-of-character>) We are focusing on seven of the character traits that we are calling "Game Changers." They include:

- **Optimism** – stay positive
- **Self-Control** – being in control of emotions, words, and actions
- **Gratitude** – being thankful and returning kindness
- **Social Intelligence** – understanding the feelings of others
- **Curiosity** – wanting to know more
- **Enthusiasm** – being excited to learn
- **Perseverance** – always keep trying

Pratt staff are using this language with students as is appropriate to their age. I would encourage you to ask your child about this throughout the school year.

As always, thank you for your continued partnership and for choosing Pratt.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Nancy Vague".

Nancy Vague



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Parent (Family)/Teacher Conferences

Conferencing with your child's teacher is an excellent way to partner in their school success. Parents/families are encouraged to set up a time on October 17 or 18th to meet with the teachers by calling the Pratt office (612.668.1122). The Pratt secretary has access to the conference schedule for all teachers so is able to coordinate your conference time if you have multiple children. If you are unable to meet on one of those two days, talk with your child's teacher about finding an alternate day.

Flu Shots at Pratt on October 17

Get your flu shot at Pratt Elementary on October 17 between 4:30 and 8:00! (This also the evening of Parent(Family)/Teacher conferences.)

The Center for Disease Control recommends that everyone 6 months and older should get a flu vaccine every year. If you can **catch** the flu, you can **spread** the flu to others who might not be as healthy as you. Getting your flu shot is the best way to protect yourself and others."

If your family has health insurance, please bring your insurance card. Uninsured children will be vaccinated through the Minnesota Vaccines for Children (MNVFC) Program.



New Faces at Pratt

Lissa Steenerson has been selected as the family liaison for Pratt Community School. She will be starting the week of October 2.

In addition to being an active volunteer at Pratt, Lissa has volunteer experience at Luxton Park which is located in the Glendale neighborhood. She has also been involved in art classes through a partnership with Seward Towers and the Seward neighborhood group.

Of her new position Lissa says, "I'm really excited to take on this new role as Family Liaison. As a Pratt Parent I have a lot of the same love and excitement of Pratt as you do and look forward to teaming up with families to see how we can better our community."

Thank you to Pratt School Social Worker Eric Ziegler and parent Ebony Adedayo for participating in the selection process. Thank you to Gini Sanchez for taking care of the family liaison responsibilities in the interim.

Lissa will have a desk in the Pratt main office and her hours will be posted each month on the website.





Unity Day

That's the day everyone can come together – in schools, communities, and online – and send one large **ORANGE** message of support, hope, and unity to show that we are together against bullying and united for kindness, acceptance and inclusion. At Pratt we will focus on the character traits of *optimism* and *social intelligence*.



AMAZE (www.amazeworks.org)

In addition to the new literacy curriculum adopted by Minneapolis Public Schools, Pratt teachers are implementing materials from an organization called AMAZE as part of our social emotional learning.

According to their website: *AMAZE combines our social and emotional learning approach with anti-bias education and the latest research and best practices for preventing bullying and exclusion. We begin with believing that children need to have a positive sense of their own identity, which includes having their identities supported and witnessed by their teachers, friends and community members. This is the root of strong social and emotional development, having a positive sense of who you are without feeling better than anyone else.*

PTO Election Day Bake Sale

The Pratt Parent Teacher Organization will be holding an Election Day Bake Sale on Tuesday, November 7th from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at Pratt School. **Donated baked goods can be dropped off as follows:** Monday 11/6: 8 a.m. -5 p.m. at the Pratt Community Education Office (next to Minneapolis Kids room in Pratt basement), or on Tuesday 11/7 from 7 a.m. – 9 a.m. directly to the sale outside the Pratt gym. **We will also be looking for volunteers** to help package the goodies the evening of Monday 11/6, and to staff the sale on Tuesday 11/7. An on-line sign-up sheet will be available at: http://pratt.mpls.k12.mn.us/pratt_volunteer.

Thanks in advance for your help!

Questions? Contact Pratt Parent, Rachel Hampton at hamptonrachel@hotmail.com

