



<https://prescottparents.com/> (773) 534-5505

2019 National Blue Ribbon School, Golden Apple Award Winner, 8 National Board Certified Teachers, 18 Google Certified Educators, Excelling Creative (Arts) Schools Certificate, **Prescott School 2022 Exemplary Summative Designation**

Prescott School

Emails for this newsletter were pulled from Aspen on 8/2/22. If you have an updated email, please contact Clerk Ms. Williams at clpalmer6@cps.edu. **Please sign up for digital access to your 1st-8th grader's grades via Parent Portal in Aspen.** Contact Ms. Williams.

December 16, 2022

Prescott families and friends,

In *The New Meaning of Educational Change*, Michael Fullan reminded school principals two decades ago that one of the most important responsibilities is to ensure stability for students, teachers, and staff. Everyday we experience minor bumps, and we respond to smooth those bumps. We know we're doing a good job if students, teachers, and staff don't feel those bumps. Their days continue with the routines, so their minds and hearts are open to new concepts, new content, and relationship-building. The teaching and learning continues for all students.

Similarly, when the school receives major bumps, such as the recent budget deficit or two unexpected leaves of absence, we do the best we can, again, to smooth those bumps. At our best, we solve the problem and students, teachers, and staff do not feel the bumps. If the solution is out of our sphere of control, then we do our best to communicate the problem, the solutions that are in our control, and the assistance we've requested from the district or others who have that control. We sometimes put out a call for "all hands on deck" to all do what we can to help fill in the gaps.

I want to say a special thanks to Special Education Teacher Syd Shadrack for helping fill the middle school gap in recent weeks, as well as countless others who have pitched in here and there to keep stability for students.

Erin Roche, Principal
Meghan Breyer, Assistant Principal

Prescott School 2022 Illinois Exemplary Summative Designation

***In 2016 and 2019, Chicago Magazine ranked Prescott in the top 15 schools in the city
In 2018 and 2019, Prescott was one of few schools among 700+ to be named a fully Healthy School***

Click here to learn more about ways to protect your child(ren) from RSV and Covid

Hagase un cliq aqui para aprender mas de como prevenir el Virus sincitial respiratorio (RSV)

Calendar of upcoming events

December

17 Girls 5/6th basketball game at Clemente HS 2pm v. Goethe
19 Spirit Week: Pajama Pant Day
20 Spirit Week: New Years Best
21 8:30-8:45am Choir performs in the gym-- families invited!
21 Spirit Week: Dynamic Duo
22 Spirit Week: THROWBACK DAY-- dress like the 1990s or early 2000s
22 9:45 K-2 Culture Celebration-- 1st floor hallway
22 End of Quarter 2
22 8th grade graduation photos
23 No school for students: Staff professional development day
(Students who aren't dressed in Spirit Week clothing must wear a uniform)

January

9 Classes resume
10 School tour 9am
11 2nd Quarter report cards go home with students
11 Q2 Student-Led Conferences at home anytime 5-7pm.
14 Girls 5/6th basketball game at Clemente HS 10am v. Bell
16 School closed in observation of Dr. MLKing's birthday
19 Girls 5/6th basketball game at Clemente HS TBA v. TBA
21 Girls 5/6th basketball game at Clemente HS 12pm v. Mozart

**Prescott School 2022-23
Calendar (updated)**

**Prescott School absent
form/ Formulario de ausencias
de la escuela Prescott**

**5/6th Girls basketball schedule--
updated here**

**Details of the Choir performance
Wed, 12/21 at 8:20 in the gym**

Goodbyes and hellos

Security Jennifer Walls has departed Prescott for another opportunity. We thank her for her care for students and wish her the best! The school is in the final stages of a replacement.

Our 7th/8th grade Pre-Algebra and Algebra Teacher Esther Page went on an unexpected leave of absence recently. The school has "all hands on deck" to keep math learning going forward. Sub Teacher Rachel Gruss has been the consistent adult in the classroom. Special Education Teacher Syd Shadrick continues to co-teach for part of the day and prepare and deliver advisory lessons. Principal Erin Roche teaches the Algebra and pre-Algebra. We waiting for HR to approve a temporary middle-school math-certified teacher we have hired. As soon as HR responds, we will update the community. Thanks for everyone's patience and high expectations of continued 7-8th grade learning.

Prescott has found a Special Education Teacher for one of our vacancies-- Prescott's very own 5th grade Teacher Ms. Abolt! Working hard the past several years, she completed her Special Education endorsement. She will transition to the position January 9th.

To replace Ms. Abolt's excellent teaching in 5th grade, we've hired Briana Schwabenbauer who has been teaching for five years in Wisconsin and Oak Park. Ms. Schwabenbauer has taught middle grades students (4-5th graders) in all subjects. She already knows Prescott's English Language Arts (ELA) curriculum *Units of Study*, book clubs, and ways to build strong classroom community. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a degree in Elementary Education. She holds an English as a Second

Language (ESL) certificate, and has published in a peer-reviewed journal *Journal of Literary Research* on literacy development of immigrant youth. Ms. Schwabenbauer is currently a Policy Fellow with *Teach Plus* (Teacher Amanda Hazelip is a former Policy Fellow as well). She is scheduled to begin teaching 5th graders on Monday, January 9, 2023, pending HR approval. Please introduce yourself and welcome Ms. Schwabenbauer to Prescott School!

Physical Education

With World Cup fever at the center of today's global headlines, students from Rooms 304 (6th Grade) and 306 (4th Grade) took part in an exciting game of line soccer. Using a balloon ball, students were tasked to display their soccer skills in friendly competition. Line soccer is inclusive, meaning all students are engaged regardless of skill level. Each student must do their part to ensure that their team is successful, whether it is scoring, defense, or playing goalkeeper. The activity not only focuses on performance tasks such as kicking and moving, but also verbal and non verbal communication skills, as well as offensive and defensive strategies (NASPE Standards 1-5).

Health Education

Parents and caregivers can learn about sexual health as well as their children! We encourage parents to attend these **in-person parent education sessions** and **virtual sessions** that will help equip them with the knowledge and skills to talk to their children about sexual health with confidence!

The second round of Sexual Health Education (SHE) has concluded for the following classrooms:

8th Grade 305
6th Grade 205
4th Grade 201
Kinder 101
2nd Grade 107

The third round of SHE will begin in the third quarter. Parents/Guardians whose child(ren) will participate will be informed.

Thank you to the entire Prescott Community, Parents, and stakeholders for understanding the importance of this course content. For more information about the CPS SHE curriculum, including the updated curriculum for K-2, please visit the district's website: [CPS Sexual Health Education](#). Thank you everyone for your support!



Counselor's Corner

8th grade families:

- Congratulations for making it to the GoCPS finish line! Private school applications can still be submitted over the next couple of weeks, and Intrinsic - Downtown's application is not due until March, so there are still other options available to increase your chances of receiving a high-quality offer.
- While we do not have a date yet for when offers will be released, it is typically done in March.

6th grade families:

- The High Jump application is open now until February 13th! High Jump is "designed for intellectually curious and academically motivated students seeking a high school experience that will challenge them socially and academically" and was created to provide these experiences to students who otherwise may not have that opportunity. Learn more about the program [here](#) and start your application [here](#).

All families:

Looking for ways to support your child(ren)'s mental health or support them through a challenging time?

1. Erika's Lighthouse, who provides mental health and wellness curriculum for schools, is now offering self-paced family engagement workshops. Click [here](#) to access the workshops and a parent handbook.
2. CPS is partnering with an organization called Big Health to provide two personalized digital programs that use cognitive and behavioral techniques to address poor sleep, worry, and anxiety:
 - **Sleepio** is a sleep improvement program that teaches you to establish healthy sleep patterns to get a better night's sleep and wake up energized.
 - **Daylight** is an app that helps you gain control over your worry and anxiety by addressing the underlying causes of worry and teaching techniques that can be practiced in as little as a few minutes a day.

[Counseling Referral Form](#)

Prolific Prescott Artists!

Art Teachers Ms. Ammons and Ms. Bullard nurture art skills, art history knowledge, and studio space for Prescott students to create amazing works. Check out the incredible number of high-quality K-8 artworks by our Prescott students in our online art gallery, and be sure to sign up on Artsonia so your student's work can be included!

Prescott Art Gallery



Gifts

by Kassandra Mora, Grade 7

The bow was my favorite because it was just relaxing to color. Least favorite was the gifts because its wasn't turning out how i wanted it to. I did best on the gradient wash. With watercolors, don't just color in a place with paint, have a leading edge and paint from that.



Christmas Watercolor

by Parker Lee, Grade 7

My favorite part was doing the wreath and my least favorite part was doing the plants. I did flat, gradient, and a transitional washes and i feel like i did the flat wash best. Advice I would give to someone working with watercolors is to not make things tiny, because it will be hard to fill in the details. I made a Christmas wreath with a bow on top and in the middle. I put candles and plants on the middle bow. I also put ornaments on bow.

Christmas Morning

by Greta Martin-Kroll, Grade 7

This project was so fun but sooo hard, I probably did it like 4 times over because I kept messing up! But overall i think the outcome is great and Im really proud of this :)



Happy Holidays

by Bella Bandle, Grade 7

My favorite part was the ornaments and the pretty colors. My least favorite was the berries because they could have been better. I used gradient, flat, and transitional washes. The one I felt the best with was gradient. Some advice I would give to someone is to not use so much water so pne color does not blend with another color. What inspired me was my love for the holidays. I made my work with watercolors and pencil.

Sign up to get notices about your child(ren)'s artwork from Artsonia

Congratulations! Thank you! Help needed!

Thanks to parents Jennifer Crosby and Ed Finegold for coaching 5/6th girls basketball. Check out the team's schedule above and cheer on the girls!

Thank you to all the 6th grade parents that donated money to make the staff lunch possible today! Special shoutout to Happy Aceves and Edwin Castañeda (Josue's parents) who helped me set up and pick up the pizzas. Thanks also to parent Susan Bailey (Seamus' mom) for the desserts, drinks and fruit salad.

Get your child their Covid booster!

Federal health officials have approved an updated COVID-19 vaccine, also known as a "bivalent booster," that protects against Omicron variants.

Who can get this updated booster?

Chicagoans 5 and up who have received their primary COVID-19 vaccine series should get this new booster at least two months after their last COVID-19 dose or booster. Visit [Chicago.gov/boost](https://www.chicago.gov/boost) for more information.

Where can I get this booster (or my primary COVID-19 vaccine series)?

Visit cps.edu/vaccinations

Student weekly Covid testing registration for 2022-23

Covid-19 Guidance for Prescott families and staff

Get your child a Covid booster! Obtenga una dosis de refuerzo para su niño/a!

Orientacion de Covid-19 para las familias y el personal de Prescott

Early Dismissal, Alternative Pick-up, and Building Access