



SUPPORTING LEARNING

Academic Honesty

At Parkers Prairie Elementary we value academic honesty. Some learning experiences are designed to be completed in groups, or with partners. Other experiences and assignments are meant to be completed independently. When assigned work is meant to be done independently, we trust that students will not do work for others, will not have others do work for them, and will not take the work of others and present it as their own.

Student Assistance Team

The Student Assistance Team (SAT) is a group of professionals who work together to design interventions to help students who are struggling with some aspect of the school experience. Referrals to SAT may be made by parents or school personnel. If you have a concern about your child, contact the child's classroom teacher to discuss whether a referral may be appropriate.

Child Study Team

The Child Study Team is a group of special education teachers that review student information prior to and following a special education assessment. All special education referrals must be processed through the Child Study Team. This team helps to verify the appropriateness of the referral, which special assessments should be administered, and whether or not the student meets Minnesota criteria for special education services.

Field Trips

Field trips are an important extension of our school curriculum. In order for all children to benefit from these activities, appropriate behavior from students is necessary. Students are typically transported to field trips on busses owned and operated by Rick Arvidson. Parent permission for field trips needs to be given in advance of participation. Students will be released during field trips to parents or guardians only. These releases should be arranged in advance by submitting a written request to the teacher or advisor in charge of the trip.

Homework

Homework provides an opportunity for parents to become partners in their student's learning process. You can help your child succeed with homework by providing a quiet place, away from the distractions of siblings and T.V. to complete the work. If your child is routinely spending more than an hour on homework, at any grade level, please discuss it with your child's teacher. Since the needs of each child are different, homework assignments may vary from child to child within the same class.

Measures of Academic Progress (MAP)

Beginning in the 2007-2008 school year, all students in the elementary will participate in a computerized assessment referred to as Measures of Academic Progress (MAP). This assessment will be administered either two or three times per year and will provide information about the learning gains and needs of each individual student. During parent conferences, teachers will provide information to parents about how to interpret the results of the MAP assessments.

Minnesota Academic Standards

Academic standards in language arts, math, science and social studies have been adopted for K-12 students in Minnesota. Each set of standard defines specifically what students should know or be able to do within a particular subject area. Instructional staff members at Parkers Prairie Elementary continually work to incorporate these standards into the local curriculum.

Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCAs)

Third through sixth grade students take the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment (MCAs) in the spring of each year. The tests evaluate student skills in reading and math and are based on the Minnesota Academic Standards. The scores are used to see how children are progressing and to evaluate our school's instructional program. Student attendance on testing days is very important. No Child Left Behind, the federal education law, requires that districts have at least a 95 percent participation rate on these tests. Student results from the MCAs are mailed directly to parents or guardians.

Panther Kids Club – School Age Childcare

In an attempt to offer a safe, convenient option to parents of school aged children, Parkers Prairie Elementary has an onsite childcare program. Panther Kids' Club provides supervision from qualified and nurturing staff both before school (6:00 – 8:00) and after school (3:00 – 6:00). Care is also available on most school holidays, early dismissals, and during the summer (6:00 – 6:00).

The program features:

- Reasonable rates
- Nutritious snacks
- Fun activities
- Homework help

For more information about **Panther Kids Club** or to register your child, call 338-4079 ext. #321.

Student Support Services

Parkers Prairie Elementary School provides academic support services to students through the following programs:

- **Targeted Services** - The Targeted Services program provides assistance in extended day and extended year classes for qualifying students who need extra support with reading, writing, and/or math. Students qualify for these services through recommendation by a classroom teacher. If you think your child needs additional assistance with reading, writing, or math, contact the classroom teacher.
- **Title I Program** - At the elementary level we offer Title I services to provides supplemental instruction in reading, writing and math. Students who are recommended by their teacher will be considered for Title I programming. If you think your child needs supplemental instruction in one or more of these areas, contact the classroom teacher.

Special Education Services - Students who demonstrate special educational needs and meet disability criteria as defined by the state of Minnesota are eligible for special education services. Special education services are provided at the elementary school in the setting that is determined to be least restrictive for the student.