

a culture of excellence

Publication of the New Prairie United School Corporation

SPRING 2024



YOU'RE INVITED

Join Us May 9 for NPUSC's College and Career Fair Day!

New Prairie United School Corporation and the Health Foundation of LaPorte will host a Community and Career Fair on Thursday, May 9, at New Prairie Middle School. This will be a fun and engaging event where students and families can learn about career and educational opportunities available to them right here in our own community, including summer job offerings, career and educational career options, summer programming events, such as camps, classes and workshops for students and adults, and other organization and business services available.

If your business or organization would like to be an exhibitor at our event, please scan the QR code below to register or contact Tara White at twhite@npusc.k12.in.us or (574) 654-0292.

● **SESSION 1** (7:00 a.m.-2:15 p.m.)
For students only, and NPUSC will provide transportation for all students to attend the event during the school day.

● **SESSION 2** (5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.)
For all community members, including students and families, and there will be free food, inflatables, prize giveaways and interactive exhibits for all to enjoy.



SCAN CODE FOR



CC Fair Day



What's Inside:

- Upcoming College and Career Fair Day
- NPUSC Named Indiana's First Heart Safe Corporation!
- Olive and Rolling Prairie Celebrate a 95% Pass Rate on I-Read 3 Exams Award
- Elementary Schools Receive New Playgrounds
- The Importance of Online Safety
- NPUSC Athletic Update



MISSION

Our purpose is to Ensure High Levels of Learning for ALL Students



Superintendent's Message

As the 2023-24 school year comes to a close, I want to celebrate all that has been accomplished in and around our schools. We are seeing student achievement thrive in both academics, athletics and co-curricular activities. We were honored to receive the Indiana Department of Education award for 95% pass rate on I-Read 3 exams last school year. We also had several athletic teams and individual students compete at sectionals, regionals and state. And our winter indoor ensemble and show choir made the state finals this winter. Additionally, we have been furthering our College and Career Readiness program with the purpose of helping students prepare for life after graduation. Overall, we are seeing more opportunities for students to learn and grow in all areas. This newsletter will cover all these stories and more.



Additionally, on behalf of the School Board of Trustees, administration, staff and community, I would like to congratulate our soon to be 2024 graduates for their resilience and perseverance. All that you have learned and accomplished here at NPUSC will serve you well into the future. We wish you all the best!

*Dr. Paul White,
Superintendent of New Prairie
United School Corporation*



Celebrate the Heart Safe Corporation Designation With Us

Join us May 20 at 6 p.m. Central at the High School during our monthly Board of Trustee's meeting. We will be celebrating NPUSC being the first in the state to receive the Heart Safe Corporation Designation. The community is invited to this special event.



Jake West - LaPorte High School



Mark Mayfield - New Prairie High School

Sudden Cardiac Arrest

The Risk Is Real.

The Solution Is Simple.

Get Screened.

In case of an emergency



1. CALL



2. PUSH



3. SHOCK

Where is the nearest AED?



PLAY FOR JAKE FOUNDATION

NPUSC Named Indiana's First Heart Safe Corporation!

With the final elementary school receiving the Heart Safe School Designation through Project ADAM, NPUSC is now the first corporation in the entire state of Indiana to receive the Heart Safe Corporation Designation. This designation has been in the works for the past few years. It is largely due to the efforts of NPUSC's HOSA-Future Health Professionals which focuses on helping schools and communities be prepared for cardiac emergencies, the leading cause of death of students at school. In 2021, NPUSC was the first school in the entire state of Indiana to be named a Project ADAM Heart Safe School. Since then, each of NPUSC's schools have followed suit.

Tonya Aerts, PLTW Biomedical Science Teacher and NPUSC HOSA Advisor, has led the charge. She is passionate about educating and empowering others to receive training and spread awareness. She donates much of her time outside of school hours to instruct student athletic teams about knowing the signs of cardiac arrest, explaining the steps to take in order to save a life and even doing practice drills. This year alone, 175 NPUSC students have received CPR certification, a project supported by Play for Jake Foundation. Additionally, more AEDs have been made available on campus, like for athletic trainers and student senate.

It's all about helping people. For more information, please like and follow the NPUSC HOSA-Future Health Professionals Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/NPHOSA #JAM



NPUSC ATHLETIC UPDATE

FOOTBALL - Third Straight Sectional Championship

The 2023 New Prairie football season was characterized by perseverance and persistence. After the opening game ended in a close loss to rival Laporte, the team went on to win seven out of their next eight games. In the first round of the tournament at home, the Cougars defeated the Brickies 49-14. They went on to earn the Sectional Championship at Culver Military in another great performance 43-14. Unfortunately, the Cougars' season ended after going on the road for a third straight week against the eventual 4A state runner-up Northwood Panthers. Coach Casey McKim commented, "The 2023 Cougars accomplished a lot despite injury and illness."



GIRLS GOLF - First IHSAA Sectional Championship

Girls golf finished with a 20-4 overall record and were 9-2 in the Northern Indiana Conference which tied for the highest overall NIC finish in school history. The team earned the program's first IHSAA Sectional Championship by shooting a school record of 374. Additionally, senior Jayden Flagg was the Sectional Medalist shooting an 85. The team qualified for the IHSAA Regional for the sixth time in school history. Individually, Jenna Bauman (2nd Team), Kerrigan Evans (HM), Jayden Flagg (2nd Team) and Hannah Kole (HM) earned All-NIC Honors.

WRESTLING - Individual State Record

The New Prairie Wrestling team had a great season, finishing with a 26-8 record. The team was regional runner-up and clinched seventh place at Team State. Eight wrestlers from the team received all-conference awards, while four were sectional champions. Jeffrey Huyvaert set a state record with an impressive 398 takedowns in a season. He also placed fifth at the state finals.



DANCE TEAM - State Qualifiers

The New Prairie Dance Team (NPDT) had a remarkable 2024 season. They competed at four IHSDTA invitationals over the course of the season, placing top three in AA Pom at each. Post season, they competed at the IHSDTA North Regional, where they brought home Regional Runner-Up in AA Pom and advanced to state in both AA Pom and AA Hip Hop. At the State Championship, held at the Indiana Farmer's Coliseum, NPDT scored their season high in both routines. Honorable mentions went to Kendel Coursel and Allie Colalillo who competed in the Senior Solo division. Additionally, Kaylee and Maddie Kienitz competed in the Senior Duo division with a heartfelt duet which advanced to State and placed ninth. Coach Sydney Palmer shared, "We could not be more proud of this team for fighting through adversity and accomplishing so much this season!"



GYMNASTICS - Individual State Qualifier

Senior Anna Jasnieski recently competed in the IHSAA State Finals for gymnastics on vault, making it her second time qualifying for and competing in the State Finals on vault. At Regionals in 2023, she had a record setting score for herself and New Prairie.

In 2024, she was named to the Second Team Academic All State for Indiana. Coach Liz Boehm shared, "Anna has been MVP all four years of her high school gymnastics career, setting multiple records and consistently winning events at regular season meets."

GIRLS BASKETBALL - Sectional Championship

This year's girls basketball saw the most successful season in program history with a record of 20-6. The wins included ECU Bi-County Champions and Sectional Champions! The season concluded with:

- IBCA/Hoosier Basketball Magazine Top 60 Seniors 2024-Morgan White and Jayden Flagg
- 3 NIC all conference selections (Jayden Flagg - 1st team NIC, Jolie Johns - 2nd team NIC, Morgan White - NIC Honorable Mention)
- 3 IBCA All State Honorable Mention selections (Jayden Flagg, Jolie Johns, Morgan White)
- 6 IBCA and ICGSA Academic All State selections (Kaylee Hoggard - 1st team, Jaleigh McBride, Maci Ernspenger, Jayden Flagg, Jolie Johns, Morgan White - Honorable Mention).

Coach Aimee Litka shared, "The team worked tirelessly to achieve at this level and was led by a veteran group of seniors who will be missed but have left a mark on the program."

GIRLS SWIMMING - Individual State Qualifier

Swimmer Emma Tulacz qualified for the IHSAA State swim meet at IUPUI on Feb. 9-10, 2024, in the 50 Freestyle. She also set the school record in the 50 Freestyle, breaking her previously held record by one second. Emma was the first female swimmer at New Prairie since 2015 to qualify for the state meet. She finished 12th in the state.



Elementary Schools Receive New Playgrounds



All three of New Prairie's elementary schools are proud owners of brand new playgrounds! Each has bright, beautiful equipment donning school colors. The students are thoroughly enjoying the new pieces, exploring and learning about safety as they play. Some of the new pieces include climbers, spinners, obstacles courses and multiple slides.

The Importance of Online Safety

More and more young people have access to unfiltered social media. While on the surface this might seem like a fun way to stay connected with friends and share funny videos, the internet can actually be a very dangerous place. This is especially true for young, developing minds that might not have the maturity to know when something is unsafe or unwise. Online safety is a must.

Seeing the need, NPMS held a Smart Social family night in March with the purpose of educating parents on how to navigate their child's social media presence and accounts. This included educating parents about social media, creating boundaries around their child's use of social media and screen time and what to look for to keep their kids safe as they navigate a world that is increasingly open via social media platforms and the internet. If you missed this event, please don't miss out on downloading the Smart Social App!

You're Invited

You are invited to attend meetings of the School Board of NPUSC. These meetings are generally conducted at 6 p.m. CST on the fourth Monday of each month in the Superintendent's Office, 5327 N Cougar Rd., New Carlisle, IN, unless otherwise advertised.

School Board

Phillip King..... President
 Jason DeMeyer..... Vice President
 Jill Smith..... Secretary
 Dale Groves..... Member
 Rich Gadacz..... Member

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 Rolling Prairie Elementary..... (219) 778-2018

Our Website

www.npusc.k12.in.us

 Find us on
Facebook



Visit Our Website for our
 up to date School Calendar



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OLIVE AND ROLLING PRAIRIE CELEBRATE I-READ 3 EXAMS AWARD

Each year, third grade students in the state of Indiana are administered the IREAD-3 test which measures foundational reading skills. For the first time, the state honored schools that met the 95% literacy goal, a benchmark they hope for all Indiana schools to reach by 2027.



This year, both Olive and Rolling Prairie elementary schools were recognized for achieving a pass rate of 95% or higher. Olive Township Principal Tara Bush is proud of her school. She says, "Although this is the first time the state has publicly celebrated this accomplishment, Olive has scored above 95% since 2017. We are extremely proud of this, as we know how important it is for students to be reading on level by the end of third grade."

Rolling Prairie Principal Dr. Pamela Moore also shared, "We are honored and proud to be part of the first group of schools to be recognized for meeting the state's 95% literacy goal." These schools are two of 241 total Indiana schools to reach this goal.

Olive celebrated by acknowledging the work of the team of administrators, teachers, paraprofessionals and more. Principal Bush added, "It takes everyone to make this happen. Although it is our norm and has become expected, the work the entire staff puts into ensuring high levels of learning for all is constantly recognized."



Additionally, she truly believes this is an example of increased levels of learning achieved through the work of our Professional Learning Communities."

Rolling Prairie also celebrated through coming together as an entire school at the end of their third nine weeks to celebrate the students' growth and achievement. Dr. Moore also personally thanked all the staff who assisted the school in reaching this goal. She shared, "It takes a team approach, all members of our school community, to ensure all of our students are successful."

Principals Bush and Dr. Moore also attended the celebration held at the Indiana State House to receive their IREAD-3 awards from Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education.

