Farewell Mr. Merfen

For the past six years, Mr. Merfen has been the steward of Prairie. He's been patient with our children, listened to our ideas and has worked with us to keep Prairie on the right track.

He's helped navigate Prairie through uncertainty and has helped ease our anxieties with the new age of learning through technology.

His sense of humor, kind heart and open mind will be missed as we go into this next year without him.

Scott, thank you for your six years with us. We wish you and your family the absolute best in your new venture!

- Your Prairie Panthers
What A Celebration

It's been an incredible year of memories. We learned about how Prairie was the first school to have a nurse on staff and that our beloved school was the inspiration for the Prairie Village we know today.

Our students had a chance to sample what life was like in the 1800s, even getting an opportunity to experience a One-Room Schoolhouse and walk to school as so many children have done before them.

We welcomed past students and teachers through our doors once again to pay homage to the past and toast the future. Our Fair was the perfect punctuation mark for a year of celebrating 150 years of tradition and community (event photos have been posted here).

There are far too many people to thank in one newsletter entry, but here are many of the parents who worked tirelessly to help us honor our 150th year:

Garden
The Bettenhausen Family

Class Projects
Holly Grummert Jessica Brown Christopher Smith

Open House
Ashley Walburn  Heather Minor  Kate Johnson  Holly Grummert  Jessica Brown  Tricia Stephens
Constance Eddy  Amy Gardner  Erin  Gustafson  Lainie Reuter  Carol Solenberger  Allison
Hughes  Amy Moore  April Crosser  Megan Zahner  Lisa  Bowser  Sally Cook  Otis
Clough  Christopher Smith  Stephanie Meeker  Jill  Opelka  Meg Kroening  Kelly Haas  Stella
Kirkman  Scott Merfen  Cynthia Connor  Maureen Beaudette

Fair
Tricia Stephens  Tessie Wissel  Carol Solenberger  Scott Merfen  Paul Stephens  Ali Tuttle  Mike Walker  Bill Schneider  Betsy  Ordonez  Vanessa Reese  Nancy Weeks  Chad  Wood
The McDermeds  The Walburns  The Chapmans  The Seiberts  The Johnsons  The Wissels
See complete list of parent volunteers here.

Thank you for making this year so memorable for all of us. We are so grateful for you, and your commitment to Prairie.

Get Your Prairie Brick While They Last

We still have some bricks remaining from our Open house celebration. You can purchase them through the office for $20 a piece. They are a one-of-a-kind vintage keepsake of Prairie and
These are the original bricks salvaged from the 1939 building that burned down in 1990. The PTA commissioned an artist to design a stencil of the old building to paint onto the brick, and the bricks were sold for $100/piece to raise funds for a hardwood gymnasium floor (the one we have today).

You can give payment to Seretha and Ellen in the office and choose your brick in the gym.

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End Of The Year Movie Party

Celebrate the end of the school year with Prairie's end of the year Movie Party! We'll be showing Madagascar 3 on May 23 from 8:30-10:00 p.m. Many of you purchased this at the auction. For those who didn't you may order online here.

Bring a blanket or chair - popcorn, cotton candy and drinks will be served. Parents do not have to pay to attend this event.
The Summer Panther Paw Is Here!

Beaches, vacations, road trips, swimming and sleepovers - summer is almost here and there students are ready!

Thank you to Stephanie Meeker and her 6th grade team for keeping these young minds on track.

Click [here](#) to see the full issue.
School Supplies On Sale Now

It's hard to think about next year's school supplies when the school year isn't yet over - but order now and it's one less thing you have to do in August!

Return the order form sent home last week - or you can order online [here](school ID is PRA009).

*Paper orders are due by Monday, May 23rd* (checks can be made payable to Prairie PTA) and online orders are due by June 12th.

Contact [Kerri Bell-Jones](#) with questions.

PTA Quick Links

- **150th Book**: [prairie.ejoinme.org/150book](prairie.ejoinme.org/150book)
- **Volunteer Sign-ups**: [https://goo.gl/R6wFGt](https://goo.gl/R6wFGt)
- **Student Activity sign-ups**: [https://goo.gl/cu9F6C](https://goo.gl/cu9F6C)
- **Payment links**: [http://prairiepta.org/payments/](http://prairiepta.org/payments/)

*Newsletter produced by Amy Morgan*

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