



In a Falcon Flash

March 23, 2011

Snow Day Make-Up April 22nd

Prairie's snow make-up day will be a half day on Friday, April 22nd instead of at the end of the year as originally announced by the District. The entire district will be in school on April 22nd for a half day to make-up the all district snow day.

Schools at the north end of the district will be attending school on June 20 and 21 to make up their extra days. Prairie High School's last day will be on June 17th. Both June 16th and 17th will be early release days to accommodate finals.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding snow make up days, contact the Battle Ground District Office at 885-5300.

Join Prairie High School's Fresh Start Fun March 25th and 26th

Prairie High School is **inviting** all parents and students to a painting party on Friday, March 25 from 6-9:30 pm and again on Saturday, March 26 from 9:30 am until 3:30 pm.

We will be meeting in the commons, bring your own roller and wear your paint clothing. We will give a paint makeover to the school's main entryway and commons, as well as 10 classrooms. Filbin's Ace Hardware has given Prairie High School a \$2,000 paint donation and all we have to do is provide the painters and rollers. Pizza and pop will be provided for all those who join the painting crew on Saturday.

Ace Hardware's Helpful Hands is a nationwide program awarding paint makeovers in one high school in each state. Prairie High School earned the award in an effort to create an environment that will stir creativity and motivate student learning.

Join Us!!!!

Upcoming Events

March 25th

6:00 - 9:30 pm &

March 26th

9:30 am - 3:30 pm

Painting Project

Prairie Commons

Tuesday, March 29th

Dance Committee

2:30

PHS library

April 4th - 8th

Spring Break

April 12th

HSPE Testing

Science

7:30 - 10:25am

Sophomores Only

April 14th

8th Grade

Open House

6:30 - 8:00 pm

April 19th

Parent Conferences

12:00-2:30

&

5:00 - 8:00 pm

April 20th

Parent Conferences

12:00 - 2:30 pm

April 22nd

Snow Make-Up Day

Early Release

Assessing Science in High School: High School Proficiency Exam (HSPE) Tuesday, April 12th

The Science High School Proficiency Exam (HSPE) will be held on Tuesday, April 12, 2011. It is a one day test beginning at 7:30 and ending at 10:25 am. We will be on a modified testing schedule; with testing from 7:30-10:25, lunch from 10:25-11:00 and first period begins at 11:00am. Students in the class of 2013 and beyond must pass reading, writing, science HSPE, and two math end-of-course exams in order to graduate.

In 2010-11 school year, the new High School Proficiency Exam (HSPE) for grade 10 will assess the same Science standards as previously assessed on the WASL. In the 2011-2012 school year, the High School Proficiency Exam in science will be replaced by a Biology End-of-Course exam, which will assess the new K-12 Science Standards, adopted in June 2009.

As a quick reminder to parents, if your student is testing, please make sure they get a good night's sleep and a good breakfast before the test. Students are welcome to bring a snack. Remind your child that electronic devices such as iPods and cell phones are not to be out or on while testing. Students will be asked to put personal electronic devices into their backpacks, and they will not be accessed during the testing times. Students using

Important Reminders

Athletic Event Cancellation policy

Prairie High School will cancel all sporting events by 1:00 on the day of the contest. This provides us enough time to cancel the buses and officials without being charged. Due to financial constraints, we will generally error on the side of caution.

If you have any questions on our procedure please contact Travis Drake, Athletic Director and Assistant Principal, at 885.5014.

Updated spring sports
schedule:

www.

phsfalconathletics.com

8th Grade Open House April 14th 6:30 pm

Mark your calendars for a visit with Prairie High School

Beginning at 6:30 pm in the main gym with the Principal's Welcome, the Prairie High School 8th Grade Open House will showcase the Falcon's academic, athletic, elective and extra-curricular offerings.

There will be presentations on forecasting and skyward, student guided tours beginning at 7 pm, and various opportunities for you to meet with faculty and athletic representatives.

Join the PHS administration, staff and coaches for a visit and experience all of the opportunities for you and your student as a PHS Falcon.

Parents of the Class of 2014

This year we are preparing all freshmen to conduct a presentation to their parents. Students have or will prepare their presentation during their Falcon Transition class. We are expecting all 9th graders to give their presentation to their parents during conferences on April 19th and 20th. Following your student's presentation, you and your student can visit and meet with the teachers. The presentation will last approximately 15 minutes. More information will be forthcoming.

End of Course Exams Beginning in Spring

Beginning this spring of 2011, students in Algebra and Geometry will begin taking end-of-course math exams. The final dates are undetermined at this point. We are still waiting for some final decisions from the state legislature. Our projected dates are around June 7. The state is moving to end-of-course exams in math so students can be tested on the knowledge and skills they've gained from a specific course rather than on a comprehensive test like the High School Proficiency Exam (HSPE) which assesses overall knowledge.

Attention Parents of current sophomores. Your child has forecasted already for next year's classes. If your son or daughter does not plan on taking Algebra II their junior year, the state requires us to obtain your signature on a form indicating your child is taking a third year math course other than Algebra II. We recommend you come during parent teacher conferences in April to visit with teachers or counselor and sign the form.

In addition, the state translates its math and science exams into six languages (Spanish, Russian, Korean, Chinese, Vietnamese and Somali). Students can listen to the test questions on a CD, but must answer in English. This covers about 80 percent of the English Language Learner (ELL) population in our state.

College Bound Student PSAT and SAT Testing Information

Sophomores

Students typically take the PSAT in October of their sophomore or junior year. The PSAT is an important test for a couple of reasons: it's great practice for the SAT and it's the qualifying test for a National Merit Scholarship. The PSAT is great practice for the SAT, and a high score could qualify you for a National Merit Scholarship. Start your prep in the summer, so you'll be ready come test time in October. Summer is a great time to prepare for the PSAT since the test is only administered in October.

Juniors

Many juniors take the PSAT in October of their junior year followed by the SAT in the winter or spring. Do you have to take the SAT in your junior year? No. But it's generally a good idea because it leaves you plenty of time for a second try if you're not happy with your score. You don't want to put the SAT off until your senior year, while you're also working on your college applications. Spring and summer 2011 SAT dates are below, contact the College Board for registration information.

Seniors

Senior year can be complicated because there are several factors that can affect your SAT testing timeline. Answering the questions below can help you figure out your ideal testing plan:

- Are you applying early decision?
- Are you applying to highly competitive colleges?
- Are your current scores far from your goal scores?
- Do you plan to take both the SAT and the ACT?

If you've answered mostly "yes" to these questions, then October should be your last SAT attempt. If you've answered mostly "no", then you can take the exam up to December of your senior year. We recommend that you prepare for the SAT during the summer before your senior year. If you don't have time in the summer, then begin your preparation as early as possible after the school year starts. There are still two opportunities left to take the SAT this year. Contact the College Board online to register for the following SAT dates.

Test Date	Regular Registration	Late Registration
May 7, 2011	April 8, 2011	April 22, 2011
June 4, 2011	May 6, 2011	May 20, 2011

Join the Dance Committee

We are looking for 5-10 parents who are interested in joining us on the Dance Committee, which will look at our current dance policy. Our first meeting will be on Tuesday, March 29th, at 2:30 in the PHS library. Please contact Travis Drake if you are interested in helping us out. 885.5014.

Questions or comments?

Email us at: perrins.jason@bgasd.k12.wa.us **or call 885-5000**