

# Prescott Newsletter

May, 2016

Mr. Erin Roche  
Principal

Amanda Malsch  
Assistant Principal

Local School Council  
2014-16

Jennifer Lister  
Parent Representative  
LSC Chair

Lisa St. Marie  
Parent Representative  
LSC Vice Chair

Eric Marcus  
Parent Representative  
LSC Secretary

Paul Carey  
Parent Representative

Jeff Marren  
Parent Representative

Daniela Singleton  
Parent Representative

Amanda Kirshner  
Teacher Representative

Jennifer Phares  
Teacher Representative

Lisa Luz  
Staff Representative

Daniel Korso  
Community Representative

MJ Arons  
Community Representative

Erin Roche  
Principal

Prescott Partners  
Alliant Credit Union

DePaul University

Erikson Institute

Prescott Parents

Prescott PTA

*A Literature and Writing Magnet Cluster School  
2009 Golden Apple Award Winner  
2010 Winner of Area 6 DRIVE Teacher Award  
2013 TNTF Fishman Prize Winner  
7 National Board Certified Teachers*

April 29, 2016

Dear Prescott students, families, and friends,

A couple of months ago, I wrote to you about the exciting five-year strategic plan, *Prescott 2021*, that will guide our future work. The plan brings our community together to answer these questions.

- **Who do we want our 8th graders to be?**
- **What does the journey of PreK-8<sup>th</sup> grade look like?**
- **What are our roles as students, parents, teachers, staff, and partners to support our students' journey and arrival to 8th grade?**

*Prescott 2021* serves as a map to guide the Prescott School community and partners work over the next five years. With the achievement of *Prescott 2021*, our students' learning will embody our mission and vision. Academics, social-emotional learning, physical growth, arts growth, and moral growth provide lenses through which the Prescott community can view the realization of this strategic plan. A draft of the plan's driving questions is below.

1. How do students show mastery of learning in science content and thinking scientifically?
2. How do students show mastery of Social Studies content and thinking like a historian/economist/ethnographer/geographer?
3. What does student writing look like in 2021?
4. How do students show mastery of knowing right from wrong as well as social-emotional skills, such as self-management, growth mindset, self-efficacy, and social awareness?
5. How do we envision the arts in 2021?
6. How do we envision Physical Education and wellness in 2021?
7. What does MTSS and early intervention look like for our students' learning in 2021?
8. What does teacher and staff capacity look like in 2021 to support high-level, holistic student learning?
9. How do we envision before and after-school programs in 2021?
10. What do we envision our learning facilities to look like in 2021?
11. What does Prescott alumni involvement look like?
12. What do our students' 21st Century skills look like in 2021?
13. What does financial stability look like in 2021?

Our Future Problem-Solving Bowl team (Christa, Madison, Olivia, Chris M, and Gael) is a great example of well-rounded, strong academics showing what they know—what we want for all our students as a result of *Prescott 2021*. Our team won 5<sup>th</sup> place at the state contest at ISU!

As we meet at Family Math Game Night on Thurs, May 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:30, the *Celebration of Learning* on May 27, or in other places, I look forward to getting your ideas about the next five years.

Sincerely,

Erin Roche  
Principal



Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri
2 Teacher & staff appreciation week	3 Teacher & staff appreciation week	4 <b>-Word Problem Wednesday</b> —ask your child about today's math word problem  - Teacher & staff appreciation week	5 5:30pm Family Math Game Night  Teacher & staff appreciation week	6 UFO day  Teacher & staff appreciation week
9	10 9am School tour (open to the public)	11 Word Problem Wednesday	12	13
16	17	18 Word Problem Wednesday  Progress Reports go home	19 5pm Poetry slam finals and Art  Exhibit/Competition at Chicago Public Library at 1200 W. Fullerton	20 -UFO day
23	24	25 Word Problem Wednesday	26 Choir field trip to Millennium Park	27 2:45pm <i>Celebration of Learning</i> in gym  6pm Middle School dance
30 School closed in observance of Memorial Day	31	June 1 Word Problem Wednesday	June 2	June 3  UFO day

**Parent reminders:**



**Please make sure that your child is healthy and in school.** Children who are not in school are not experiencing Prescott's rigorous curriculum. Prescott's Level 1+ status depends on an attendance rate of 95%. If your child misses more than 1 day per month (10 total days), then Prescott's attendance dips below 95%. Please help to keep Prescott's Level 1 status by getting your child healthy and to school on

time each day.

**Parents who drive children to Prescott** are encouraged to drop off children along Marshfield and not Wrightwood. Marshfield is safer due to less traffic. **Please do not park in the cross-walk or in the staff parking lot. Your car may be ticketed or towed.** Thank you for safe school!



**If you are interested in taking your PreK child to a playground during school hours, please consider Wrightwood Park or other nearby playgrounds.** Prescott's playground and Little Gym are not available as they are used by Prescott students before, during, and after-school hours and for liability reasons. Thanks for keeping your child safe!

**Healthy Eating at Prescott**

The Chicago Public Schools Board of Education passed a policy regarding healthy eating at schools. Below is a summary of the policy.

CPS policy

- Only highly nutritional food for children
- Limit over-eating by letting students and parent know in advance of additional food (e.g., birthday celebration)
- Healthy eating → healthy kids and stronger academic growth



To comply with the policy and to encourage healthy eating, outside food must be approved by the principal at least one week in advance (forms are available in the office). Outside food may only be nutritional. The parent needs to bring the approval to the lunch supervisor. The supervisor collects and returns the form to the principal.

## You can access the Prescott library from home

<https://library.cps.k12.il.us:9058/?config=5500#bookriver>.

Parents can help children find available books in the Prescott library **AND** read thousands of e-books online at home. Type the word "dog" in the blue search box and click "Go." You can type in a book title, subject, author or key word in the blue "search" box.



You will see the results for your search -- the titles of the books will be in blue. Any title with the words "electronic resources" next to the title shows a book that can be read online. The e-books require the this username and password:

username: 5500 password: 5500

Happy reading!

## Art at Prescott



You can follow our progress through the year or contact me through Art Teacher Ms. Ammons blog: [www.prescottpaint.blogspot.com](http://www.prescottpaint.blogspot.com) . We will also have an online art gallery through which you can view or purchase student artwork, such as this 1<sup>st</sup> grader's artwork (as part of a larger study on India) in the first floor hallway. Look for the Prescott Elementary page on [www.artsonia.com](http://www.artsonia.com) .

## THANK YOU•THANK YOU•THANK YOU•THANK YOU•THANK YOU•THANK YOU

Thanks to the parents of Amanda Malsch for upgrading the adult bathrooms on the first and second floors (see photo to the right).

Thanks to parent Michael Lacey for building the edible garden raised bed, to parent Janette Gilmarten for organizing the materials for the garden, and to Teacher Rachel Blundy for organizing the Earth Day activities in the garden.

Thanks to Teacher Beth Ammons for organizing the art exhibit at the Lincoln Park Branch Library.

Thanks to Meghan O'Callahan, Sarah Fried, Lauren El-Mofty of the Parent Education Committee for organizing the PARCC/Common Core State Standards/NWEA presentation given by Dr. Kiljoong Kim, Policy Analyst, Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago.



Thanks to Michael and Risa Appelbaum for donating several bookshelves to classrooms and for assembling others.

Thanks to Jen Bowers and Zari Gotay for laundering choir shirts for the performance at Navy Pier.

Thanks to Michelle Pennington for coordinating the Book Fair.

Thanks to Liliana Salamanca, Jenny Rivera, and India McClary for donating snacks for the PARCC.

Thanks to SHALANA JAQUESS for donating several boxes of books.

Thanks to Valentine Bock for donating stickers to memorialize Pam Downing in shared books.

## Cold Weather Guidelines

The below is taken from CPS' Playwell Guide section on Weather, p. 11. Parents, please make sure your child is well dressed with an appropriate hat, scarf, gloves, and footwear to be outside during recess. All elementary principals should adhere to the following cold weather guidelines for recess.

Below 15° F with or without wind chill: Recess should be held indoors. Above 32° F with or without wind chill: Recess should be held outdoors. Between 32° F and 15° F with or without wind chill: Principals should use discretion when determining whether to hold recess outdoors. The following factors should be considered:

- Precipitation: Snowy and icy conditions should be evaluated for student safety and attire.
- Student preparedness: Students should have appropriate outdoor attire to stay warm and dry during recess.
- Playground safety: The playground equipment and surface (i.e., icy conditions) should be evaluated to determine whether students can safely play outdoors.

At Prescott, the recess supervisors individually make the decision about going outside for recess depending on the weather at that moment. In cold or snowy weather, please make sure your child wears boots. Without boots, your child cannot go outside to recess in snowy weather. If your child needs assistance getting boots, please contact Counselor Pam Pierini at 773.534.5505 or [pwulffen1@cps.edu](mailto:pwulffen1@cps.edu). Our goal is that all children can enjoy recess daily.

## Prescott Mathletes placed in multiple levels at the all-city competition at the end of March.

### Video competition (all city)

- Prescott 7th grade team came in 3rd place citywide: Samuel St. Marie, Andrew Sanchez, Shreyas Sriram
- Prescott 6th grade team video came in 2nd place citywide: Lily, Quin, Alex, Melanie

### Contest 3 (Sat, 3/25/16)

- 7th grade team came in 8th place: Shreyas Sriram

### Overall combined scores for entire year contests 1-3

6th grade

- Team 6th place in Division B
- Individual competition: Shreyas Shriram place 7th in individuals in Division B

Congratulations to all Mathletes and Coach Ms. Moran

## Check out the PreK-2<sup>nd</sup> graders' paper drive for Earth Day! They collected over 250 pounds of paper to recycle!



## Whitney Young HS students, including a Prescott graduate, presented to 1<sup>st</sup> graders in Ms. Stewart's and Ms. Kirshner's class about water pollution.

