



Palouse Prairie School
of expeditionary learning

Tuesday Times

Our Weekly Newsletter

Cue Black-Eyed Peas music..."I have a feeling that tonight's gonna be a good night, that tonight's gonna be a good, good night..."

Actually, make that a

PALOUSE PRAIRIE SCHOOL PRESENTS

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N I G H T

See you all at the Kenworthy, tonight at 5:15!

Design Principles & Spotlights

The Having of Wonderful Ideas

Responsibility for Learning

Diversity & Inclusion

Success & Failure

The Primacy of Self-Discovery

Service & Compassion

Empathy & Caring

Solitude & Reflection

Collaboration & Competition

The Natural World

EL's 10 Design Principles reflect both our school's philosophy of education and our core values. They focus our attention on what is important and give all of us something to go back to when we need guidance. We work hard to help our students internalize these principles. One way we do that is by noticing when students are demonstrating a principle and then modeling how to recognize them for it. We call these our "EL Spotlights."

Sasha Bearman, Meradyd Scott, and Satori Zimmerman for representing the K Crew at the District-Wide Science Fair (sent in by Lena and Jonna); the K Crew for giving their full attention when learning how to play a complicated game during movement; Joe Taylor for encouraging his reading group to stay on task and for coming in during recess to practice his sight words!

Responsibility for Learning

Each of us learns within and for ourselves and as a part of a group in a specific process of discovery.

Lena LaPaglia and Savannah Pagel for helping tie the knot and find the beads to a broken necklace; Koyote Zimmerman, Kaija Dybdahl, and Theo Dicus for cleaning up their stuff at recess and then always helping to clean up the other equipment!

Service & Compassion

We are crew, not passengers, and are strengthened by acts of consequential service to others. We are continually asking the question, "How can I make a difference?"

The K Crew for washing their hands as quietly as the could in the hallway and being careful not to bother the other classes; Jack DesRosier for greeting Mrs. Dahlin every morning with a big smile on his face, giving her big hugs, telling her she's the best teacher in the world, and just for making her feel so cared about!

Empathy & Caring

We take care of all those in our community and learn best when there is trust, sustained caring, and mutual respect

Satori Zimmerman for picking up worms at the bus stop after a big rain and putting them back in the grass.

The Natural World

A direct and respectful relationship with the natural world refreshes the human spirit and reveals important lessons. We must learn to be stewards of the earth.

Elijah Johnson for changing his attitude about reading and discovering that he could make big improvements to become a great reader!

Primacy of Self-Discovery

Discovering one's strengths is critically important. When students engage in tasks that require perseverance, self-discipline, craftsmanship, and imagination, they discover that there is more in them than they think.

Enrollment Forms

The deadline to return enrollment forms is this Friday, April 15. We have a waiting list in many grades so it's important that we have your verification you're your child(ren) is/are returning for the 2011-2012 school year. If you need another form, please contact the office as soon as possible – 882.3684

Parent CREW

The Parent CREW will meet next Thursday, April 21st at 3:15pm in the PPSEL cafe. Mrs Dahlin would like to talk with us about the "5K for Play" event in May. This year the 1/2 CREWs will be hosting this event as part of their spring expedition on health and the human body. If you are interested in finding out more about this fun event and how we can help support our teachers and our kids please come to the meeting or email Amy Ball at aeball@att.net.

Happy, Healthy Hearts

~Lizzie Bromley Vogel (1-2 CREW)

"Did you know that the heart has four chambers?"

"Blood goes into the atrium, and then through a valve—like a little door—and into the ventricle."

These are just a couple examples of the comments that have been whirling around my classroom recently. Our expedition is in full swing and the students are doing an amazing job of soaking up knowledge about the heart, circulatory system, food, and digestion.

We have recently completed our first case study. In this study, we looked at how exercise affects our hearts. Since the heart is a muscle, we decided to define "good for our hearts" as an activity that made our hearts beat faster. We did research and made predictions about which activities would do this. Then we learned to take our heart rates and tested out our predictions. It turns out that running, jump roping, and hula-hooping all made our hearts beat quickly (taking a nap, as it turns out, does not). Beginning last week, we decided to start training for the 5K that is coming up in May. Every morning before recess, you'll find us huffing and puffing around the backroom, trying to make our hearts stronger and building up our stamina. We will also be paying a visit to the University of Idaho swim team, to learn about how they keep their hearts healthy, and the various exercises that they do.

Now we are moving into our food case study. We began by sorting food into categories as a class; this proved rather difficult, as the kids saw lots of ways to classify the food. "The hot dog should go with treats, because it has a lot of fat," said one student. "No, it should go with the meat!" said another. The debate continued, and we still have many questions even after examining the USDA's Food Pyramid. This week we will look specifically at how food interacts with your heart, and next week we have a nutritionist coming in, so perhaps she will be able to answer some of our many wonderings.

Board Corner

Programmatic Audit: Just like last year, PPSEL will undergo a programmatic audit conducted by the Idaho Charter School Network. This year's audit will take place on April 13 & 14 and will include family, student, and teacher focus groups. The family focus group will enable families to share their perceptions of the school, without the Board or Staff present. Please come and talk about the school. This helps the school improve, and is part of our reporting to the Charter School Commission. The family focus group will meet on **tomorrow, the 13th, from 2:45-3:30**. Please let Summer know if you might be available to serve on that panel to talk openly about PPSEL and its programs. This is super, super important for our school; we are incredibly grateful to those who participate!

Dates to Remember

Please note...Ms. Clayton was looking at the wrong calendar last week and put down many incorrect dates (Sorry). The correct dates are below:

- 🍏 **April 12, 5:15-8:00. Gr8 Night @ the Kenworthy**
- 🍏 **April 13-14, ICSN Programmatic Audit**
- 🍏 **April 14, 6-9 PM Board Meeting**
- 🍏 **May 5-6, Moscow School District closed, no busing**
- 🍏 **May 20, PPSEL's first annual Schoolwide Spring Celebration of Learning, times TBA**
- 🍏 **May 26, Students' Last Day - but not so quick...**
- 🍏 **May 27, Student-Led Conferences**

Don't forget to order your PPSEL T-shirt! They are organic, clay-dyed, super soft shirts in a variety of styles and colors. Go to <http://www.earthcreations.net> to view the type of shirts and to get sizing information.

*We need at least 40 more orders by this Friday!
Spread the word! Order as gifts!*