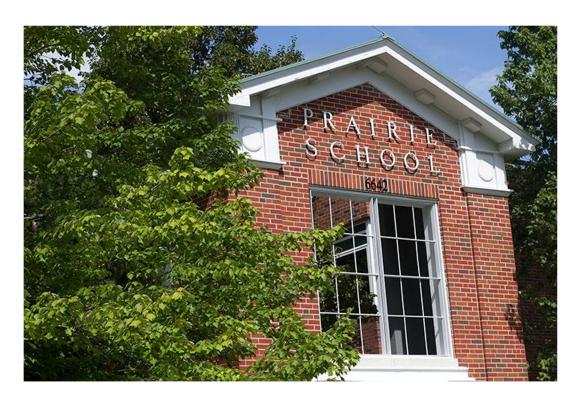


Prairie Fund Annual Meeting

NOVEMBER 16, 2021

What is the Prairie Fund?



PRAIRIE FUND PURPOSE

To provide resources, **beyond tax funding**, to stimulate excellence at the School by supporting delivery of special programs and services to **enhance the learning environment** for the children attending the School, increasing the effectiveness of instruction at the School, and strengthening ties between the School and the community.

Prairie Fund Board Members

- Chair Gina Monger
- Vice Chair Kate Sullinger
- ▶ Treasurer Matt Myers
- Secretary Megan Lynch
- Past Chair Sally Cook

- At-large Members
 - ▶ Kelly Askew
 - ► Liz Beedle
 - Matt Clark
 - ▶ Natalie Smith
 - ▶ Angie Turpin Nelson
- Auction Chairs Mandi Chappell & Julie Prewitt
- ▶ **PTA Liaison** Katie Gahagan & Erin Knighton
- Non-voting Members:
 - Principal Kristen Jones
 - ► Teacher Representative Molly Miller

Why was the Prairie Fund created?

2001

KS Funding Formula

We fell below the threshold and our nurse & reading specialist were both cut to half time.

2002

Prairie Fund

The Prairie Excellence in Education Fund was officially formed with an idea that it was temporary.



501(c)(3) non-profit, tax exempt status was obtained.

Gym Floor

Parents joined funds to upgrade the gym floor to a wooden court vs. a sport court.

May 1st Fund

Parents raised over \$60k in 3 weeks to fund the 2 positions for the next year.

2003

Auction

The auction was created & became the main source of funding.

2021

PTA & Prairie Fund – What's the difference?

PTA

Small-scale fundraising

Supports teachers & staff

Plans events to enhance the Prairie educational experience

Fosters Prairie's community
Provides volunteers



Prairie Fund

Large-scale fundraising + tax deductible

Funds educational positions that benefits all students

Supported by Prairie parents and businesses who want to financially provide for Prairie's growth

Overview of Funding & Funding Needs

- ▶ Annually, we need ~ \$121,0000 to fund three half time positions:
 - Counselor
 - ▶ Math specialist
 - Reading specialist
- ► Class Parties raised \$22,206 this school year! Thank you to the AMAZING hosts, cohosts and donors for helping setting a new school record!
- Corporate Sponsors raised \$12,500 this school year!
- Prairie Luminary Event raised \$4,645 last year, our inaugural year. It raised ~\$2,700 this year.
- ► The Auction, our largest fundraiser, will occur in person in February 2022. Last year, the auction event raised \$65,000, net of expenses.

How do I provide feedback?

- Ad hoc/Informal Methods
 - ► Talk to a Board Member
 - ► Talk to Mrs. Jones
- Formal Mechanisms
 - Annual Fund Meeting each year
 - Surveys on an as needed basis
- ▶ Get involved!



2022-2024 Board Nominations

- ▶ The Prairie Fund is actively seeking nominations for the 2022-2024 term
- ▶ We will send out an all-school email with all the information for nominations.
- ▶ If you have any questions, please reach out to Sally Cook, Nominating Chair.

AUCTION Sneak Peak!

- ▶ Tentative Date: **Sat.**, **Feb. 26**, **2022** for an in-person auction event
- Auction Quick Facts:
 - ▶ Food and beverage is included in your ticket price
 - ► There is a silent auction with a variety of items at a variety of price points
 - ► There is a live auction with higher value items
 - ► Fixed price items such as parent parties and experiences for students donated by the Prairie staff will be available for purchase
 - ▶ If you can't be there you can still bid!
- Ways to help
 - ▶ Donate an auction item
 - ▶ Volunteer for a committee
 - ▶ Buy your tickets and encourage your friends to attend as well!

Contact Us

prairieauction22@gmail.com

