



SPRING 2023

CARDINAL CONNECTIONS

A PUBLICATION OF THE PRESCOTT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Highlights
of this
Edition

AN INTENTIONAL VISION FOR PSD

Dr. Rick Spicuzza, Superintendent of Schools

With the school year at a close, we celebrate the accomplishments of the Class of 2023; we are confident they will continue to live out the PSD mission of “inspiring lifelong learners for future success.” This mission was adopted in 2020 after the school board engaged in an extensive process to align our mission to our core purpose - **learning!** We also refreshed our values and vision, as well as our School Board’s strategic direction. The latter consists of five directives (below) that serve as decision-making guideposts as we intentionally organize our daily work to produce an invaluable experience for students, staff, families and the Prescott community:

SD-1	SD-2	SD-3	SD-4	SD-5
Integrated educational opportunities to maximize the learning of all students.	Comprehensive high-quality instruction, programs and services to ensure all students benefit from Prescott Public Schools.	Professional growth opportunities & deliver high-quality instructional practices to increase student engagement and learning.	Fiscally responsible investments in learning & work environments through ongoing facilities, staffing and program planning.	Safe, respectful and nurturing environments where students, staff, families and community members are valued, engaged and supported.

Since Prescott’s first public school opened its doors in 1853, the district has relied on the dedication and foresight of its administrators, school board and community working in partnership. We will be asking the community to envision what Prescott Public Schools will look like for future generations through our “Vision 2035” process next fall. Three critical areas will be addressed with the objective of articulating:

- ◇ PSD’s Academic Experience [SD 1 & 2]
- ◇ PSD’s Physical Learning Environment that supports and fosters the academic experience we want for PSD students and staff [SD 4]
- ◇ Extra-Curricular and Green Space development to meet the evolving aspirations of the PSD community [SD 4]

Continued on back page

SUPERINTENDENT’S MESSAGE

1, 12

HONORS STUDENTS

2-5

EMPLOYEE MILESTONES

6

MUSIC IS IN THE AIR!

7

CTE PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

8-9

WILLOW RIVER ADVENTURE

10

2023-24 CADEMIC CALENDAR

11

CONTINUED FROM COVER

12





HANNA COOK



MALIA COOK



RIAN ENGELDINGER

SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Recipients

*with highest
distinction*



NORA FRENCH



TAYLOR GRAF



KELCEY HANSON



REBECCA HEINZE



TALLYNNE HUGHES



ADDISON HUPPERT



ERICA JENNINGS



ELLA JOHNSON



MATTHEW LYNES



SYDNEY MAGEE



JORDAN MALMLOV



ISABEL MATZEK



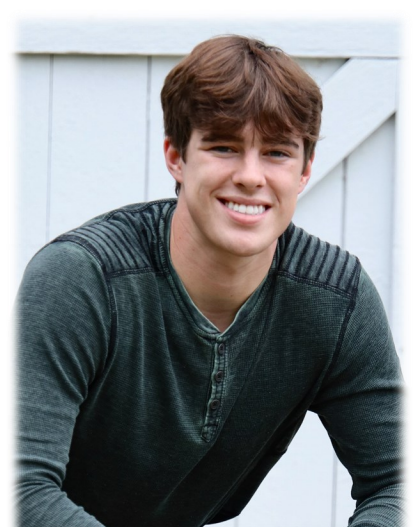
KINSEY PETERSON



MADISON REITER



AURORA RIGHTMAN



TOBIAS RIPLEY



MADISON SCHMITZ

*Let your dreams
be the wings
to carry you
into the future.*



ELLA SCHOMMER



BLAKE SMITH



RHIANNA STUTZ



DEHLIA WARP

MAGNA CUM LAUDE - *with great distinction*



FRONT ROW:
Keola Thomason
Afton Gale
Madasyn Rundquist

BACK ROW:
Dylan Sterud
Carter Lubich
Ava Salay
Shira Stubbe

CUM LAUDE - *with distinction*



Jacob Gulmire
Jaycie Navarro
Adeline Raebel
Aiden Herr

(not pictured,
Shane Butler).

Congratulations to all of our 2023 graduates!



CELEBRATING OUR PSD STAFF

OUR RETIREES	25 YEARS <i>of SERVICE</i>	20 YEARS <i>of SERVICE</i>	15 YEARS <i>of SERVICE</i>	10 YEARS <i>of SERVICE</i>	5 YEARS <i>of SERVICE</i>
Patti Cincoski (11 years)	Robert Glazebrook	Angela Boles	Heather Christenson	Tracey Budworth	Rachel Anderson
Sandy Glynn (16 years)	Brad Matzek	Stacey Campbell	Rebecca Fortney	Nicole Fleming	Melanie Charette
Richard Miles (9 years)	Penny Peterson	Tracy Frankowski	Scott Hamilton	Peter French	Sara Dusek
Bonnie McNary (37 years!)		Tanya Sponholz	Gary Hartung	Kyle Igou	Aria Feia (Dewuske)
			Bonnie Hughes	Jenna Kadlec	Patricia Ferrara
			Wanda Johnson	Melissa Langer	Jessica Kopesky
				Carrie Lebakken	Abbey Skeens
					Isabella Zimmer

At the close of each school year, Prescott School District takes time to celebrate the contributions of its retirees and to recognize employees for their milestone years of service.

We thank them for their dedication to improving the lives of the numerous learners they have impacted over the years and their collective efforts to help achieve PSD's mission "To prepare lifelong learners for future success by engaging students, staff, families and the community."



Sandy Glynn, center, with colleagues Sandy Campbell (left) and Melissa Miller (right).



Bonnie McNary and family celebrate at the recognition luncheon: daughter-in-law, son, husband and grandson!



This spring, Ms. Siewart's K-5 music classes held a series of three concerts. Fourth and fifth graders brought the audience back a few decades with sing-along selections from the '70s-'80s. Each student sang a solo, had a speaking part or participated in a group instrument or dance selection.

Positive and Happy Music was the theme of the second-third grade concert where students had a solo, small group, speaking, kazoo, or drum part. Each third grade class also performed a folk dance that was paired with a pop song.

The kindergarten and first grade concert closed out the series with the theme Music Throughout the Seasons; first grade students also played a kazoo selection.

(Photos by Bob Siewart)



**CAREER AND TECHNICAL
EDUCATION CLASSES**
*Spark** INNOVATION,
**CRITICAL THINKING &
HANDS-ON LEARNING**



With installation of the wood planer purchased with funding from the Fast Forward grant, the Career and Technical Education (CTE) program labs at Prescott High School are better equipped and flourishing. CTE's diverse areas of study expose students to potential careers and provide them with the knowledge and skills necessary to succeed in the future.

Approximately 480 students enroll in one or more of CTE's elective classes that encompass options from Construction Methods and Solid Modeling I and II, to Architectural AutoCAD and Power Technology, within one year. Whereas some students are exploring a potential vocation, others seek to empower themselves with a lifelong skill. "I want to be able to figure out things on my own and not have to pay someone else to do tasks that I can do myself," stated Power Technology student, Megan Richter.



CTE instructors Kyle Schmidt and Logan Figueroa begin each 12-week course in the classroom with 2-3 weeks of intensive safety training followed by 3-4 weeks of "stepping through the design process" for classes that are project-based like Solid Modeling or Wood Technology. For other courses, such as Welding I, students work to improve skills by practicing different processes in fine joinery that are assessed by form accuracy and strength.

This year, the CTE students have extended their competencies beyond the classroom by building several wood storage cabinets for the high school, as well as bean bag boards to use during the Enrichment period. The program has also shared student skills with Freedom Park to assist with their fundraising efforts by building a 4' sign to measure progress toward the Freedom Park fundraiser goal. They also designed and engraved coasters and other items for the non-profit learning center to sell.

Students in Power Technology learn about the operation and maintenance of small engines, as well as tool identification, alternative energy sources and how to follow a shop manual. A major course assessment is to completely



disassemble and then reassemble a two or four stroke engine. In order to practice diagnostic skills, Mr. Figueroa reached out to colleagues and community members who had small engine tools that were not operating properly - and had a huge response. Students have been completing diagnostic tests on lawn mowers, weed whippers, four wheelers, scooters and boat motors - the epitome of hands-on learning!

“We are fortunate that K-8 STEM students have exposure to critical thinking and problem solving skills necessary for success in our curriculum,” stated Mr. Schmidt. In the future, he and Mr. Figueroa have plans to strengthen the program by continuously adding more tooling, hands-on experiences and life skills that align to the Wisconsin state standards. This will increase the number of students that are college and career ready by the time they graduate from Prescott High School.



1. Wood Tech students designed and built six cabinets to use for storage at the high school. 2. A welding student practices his joinery techniques. 3. Mr. Schmidt poses with students after showing them how to ensure that a cabinet base is square. 4. Mr. Figueroa demonstrates how to adjust the flame for a proper weld. 5. Wood Technology students designed and engraved coasters for a Freedom Park’s fundraising campaign. 6. Power Technology student Megan Richter goes to work to diagnose and offer solutions to a faulty lawn mower engine. 7. The wood planer trims boards to a consistent thickness for student projects.





Fifth grade students had a learning adventure when they traveled to Willow River State Park for their 'Trout in the Classroom' fieldtrip. Students watched the fish roe develop in their STEM classroom and watched again while they were released into Willow River.

Members of the Kiap-TU-Wish chapter of Trout Unlimited dredged the river so students could study the macroinvertebrates and do nature journaling. They were also shown water testing and how to cast a fly fishing rod.

After a quick lunch, everyone hiked to the falls and explored.

Student favorites included, "The weird bugs, being outside all day, hiking to the falls and...lunch!"

"We are so appreciative of the Kiap-TU-Wish chapter of Trout Unlimited, Retta Isaacson of Pierce County and Dean Hansen for making this field trip such an unbelievable experience for our students," stated K-5 STEM teacher, Karey Sizemore.



2023-2024

Approved Academic Calendar

* August 30/31 - R2L - Ramp Up to School

SEPTEMBER

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

OCTOBER

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			

NOVEMBER

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	

DECEMBER

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

JANUARY

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

FEBRUARY

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	

MARCH

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29


APRIL


MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30			


MAY

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	31

Summer School June 10 - June 28

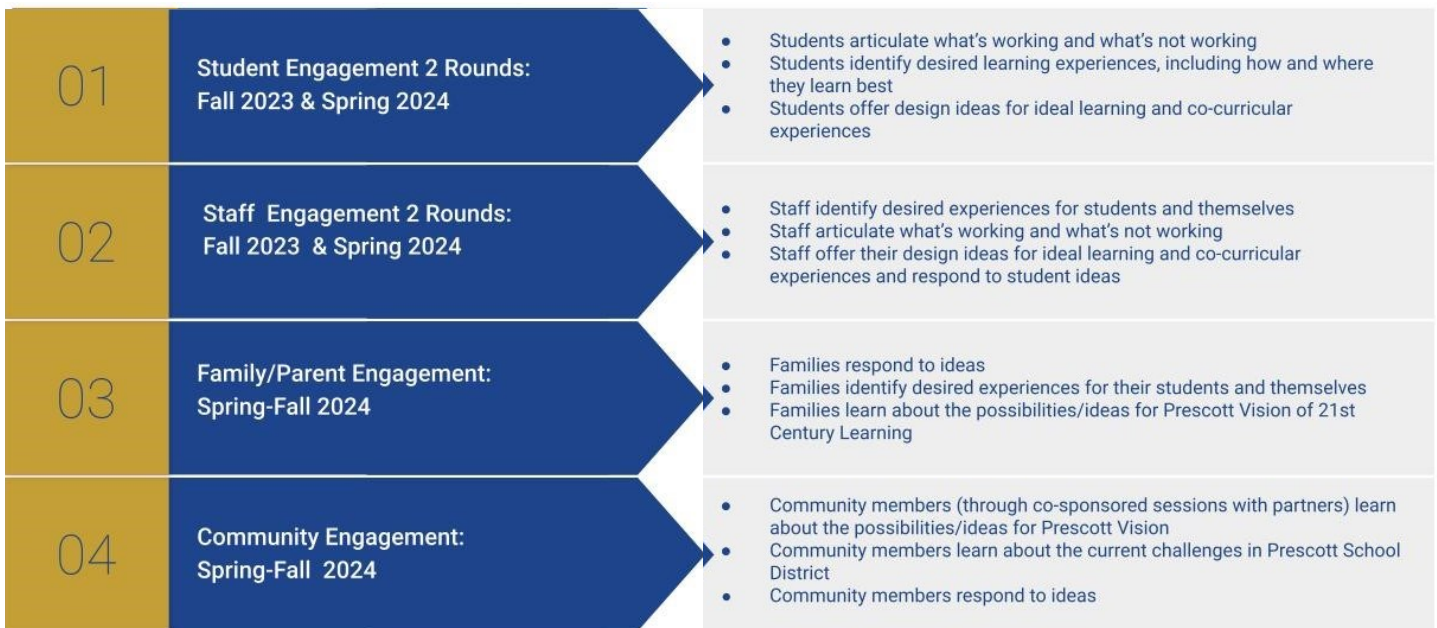
 First/Last Day of School

 No School Students (PD Day Staff)

 No School Students & Staff

VISION 2035 - PROPOSED PROCESS AND TIMELINE

Through this collaborative undertaking, we lift our eyes to the next horizon of 2035 to ensure PSD continues to meet the highest expectations and delivers on a shared desired daily experience for students, staff, families and the larger PSD community. I look forward to the engagement of many interested parties to ensure continued success here at Prescott Public Schools. See how far we have evolved since 1853, below!



UPDATE ON COMMUNITY INVESTMENT IN OUR SCHOOLS

This summer, PSD will be a center of activity as we kickoff essential and necessary infrastructure updates approved by the \$15 million bond referendum: 2023 asbestos abatement, plumbing, electrical and generator replacement updated and integrated fire alarms and PA systems. Exterior building and blacktop replacement will be more visible items to name *just a few*. Summer of 2024 projects include roof replacements, windows and exterior repairs to retain the integrity of our building envelopes.

Additionally, we are readying classrooms to prepare for next year's grade-level exchange with grades 6-8 moving to MIS and grades 4-5 to the current middle school facility. The layered work of moving two buildings while undergoing major construction work will be a massive feat that we hope to unveil to our families and students during

back to school events. Visit our website for ongoing updates: www.prescott.k12.wi.us



First Prescott Public School - 1853 (photo credit, the State Historical Society of Wisconsin)