



AUTUMN 2022

CARDINAL CONNECTIONS

A PUBLICATION OF THE PRESCOTT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Highlights
of this
Edition

CELEBRATING TODAY. SHAPING TOMORROW.

Dr. Rick Spicuzza, Superintendent of Schools

The Prescott Cardinals have had an exciting start to the 2022-23 school year and many reasons to be "Prescott Proud." We acknowledge educators, coaches, parents, students, athletes and fans who put forth 100% each and every day. Your support and efforts have resulted in high student achievement results on last year's state and national exams, and an outstanding fall athletics season, including another Three-Peat state girls golf championship!

Unlike national and state news trumpeting declining test scores, Prescott students continue to excel in the classroom with the number of PSD students proficient on state standards well above the state average. In recently released statewide results, Prescott students have outperformed MBC districts and four comparison districts 97% of the time in English-Language Arts (reading, writing and comprehension) and 85% of the time in mathematics.

Student test scores are a prevalent topic among recent news sources. The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), also known as the national report card, places the state of Wisconsin students within the top tier of all 50 states, and more notably, **the top 11% of the state.**

The high academic performance of our students within a high-performing state places PSD in rarified air. Scan the QR code to go directly to our Teaching & Learning website page for all of the 2021-2022 result information.



PSD is committed to a model of continuous improvement. Each school has identified academic goals that raise the bar for the current academic year. In addition, action steps at each site are identified and shared with the director of teaching and learning, student service director and me. Local assessments that are administered 3x per year are used to monitor student progress with immediate site-based interventions and modifications deployed. ***These measures shape our future successes in order for the tradition of excellence in academics to continue at Prescott School District.***

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Inspiring lifelong learners for future success,

EXTREME 'DISTANCE LEARNING'

A trio of exchange students has traveled a distance of 15,960 miles to engage in student life at Prescott High School (more than halfway around the planet), and immersed themselves in American culture. Meet the 2022-23 exchange students.



Sofia Presciutti is from Perugia, Italy, where she lives with her mom and dad, Tatiana and Claudio, and a German Shepherd named Zoe. Perugia is about an hour's drive away from Rome. The city has 166,676 inhabitants and is home to the largest of Italy's nine Nestle production sites.

"Perugia has become famous for chocolate, mostly because of a single firm, Perugina, whose Baci ('kisses' in English) are widely exported," she shared.

The school structure in Italy varies greatly from the United States: students start at 8:00 am and end at 2:00 pm. During these six hours there are only two 10-minute breaks and students eat lunch after school. There are seven types of high school students attend in Italy: classical, scientific, fine arts, teacher training, art, and technical and professional institutes.

Another difference she explained, "When the bell rings to change a subject, the professors change classrooms, not the students. At the end of the five years you must take two to three written and one oral exam depending on the schools you attended."

"I wanted to do a year abroad to meet new people, learn a new language and to experience a different culture than mine."





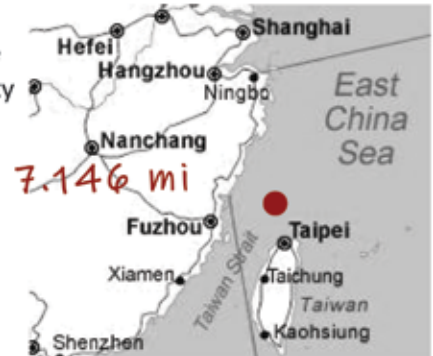
For many years, **Noa Bermudez** has dreamt of becoming an exchange student, “I watched YouTube videos of exchange students talking about their experiences and remember thinking ‘that has to be me.’” She committed herself to working hard in school and was awarded a scholarship to make her exchange experience a reality.

Noa is from Brion, Galicia, a small city of 8,000 people in Northern Spain. In addition to her parents Roi and Ana, her home includes sister, Lia, dog, Lenda, cat, Croqueta and hamster, Tortilla! She attends a high school with 400 students and rides the bus to school daily. Brion is also only 25 minutes from the beach where she spends a lot of time with friends during the summer.

Noa’s embraced opportunities for new experiences at PSD and has joined the band, participated in Homecoming (playing Powderpuff and in the “trash can” band) and plans to participate in the spring musical. Since her arrival, she has tried new restaurants, camped with her host family on Labor Day weekend and tubed, and went Trick or Treating for the first time.

Noa resides with the VanLoon (Jonathon and Cheryl) family who’ve previously hosted students. Daughters Bridget and Amber attend PHS and were excited to welcome another “sister.” Cheryl said, “I would encourage anyone who has thought about hosting an exchange student to do it. Most of us have a lot going on, but it is an experience of a lifetime for these kids as well as your family who will learn about another culture and gain a new family member.”

Yi-Tieng-Tsai, “Tina,” is from New Taipei City, Taiwan. The population of the city is over four million and industries include technology and tourism. To travel here, she flew 13 hours from Taiwan to New York where she spent four days exploring the city through ASSE. Then a four hour flight to Minneapolis. “I have traveled to Hawaii, America, Japan, Malaysia and Thailand and lived in Singapore for six years.”



Tina wanted to become an exchange student to experience the school life and culture in America. “In Taiwan, we go to school from 7am-5pm, then we go home to complete our studies until 9pm.” She finds that students here have more free time and have many more activities than only studying.

Since arriving in Prescott and attending school, Tina has tried Mexican and home-made foods and is currently working out each day after school to prepare for track season. Tina looks forward to enjoying snow and the winter sports and activities that come with it.

In October, she went to the Mall of America through an ASSE trip and met many exchange students from different countries: Japan, Thailand, Indonesia, Italy, Germany, France and Georgia. Tina also looks forward to celebrating the holidays here, but misses some foods from home - hot pot and bubble milk tea!

While at PHS, she is lives with the Rick and Brandy Navarro family, “It takes a lot of motivation and determination to leave one’s home and travel around the world for an entire school year. We have enjoyed sharing our family traditions and having her with us. She’s honestly become like another daughter,” they shared.



3
PEAT



A HOLE IN ONE AND CLUTCH PUTT LEAD TO A COMEBACK TO REMEMBER, THIRD STATE TITLE

Many of Prescott's family, friends and fans followed the Girls Golf team's season and state tournament play. On day two, we were all wishing to be present to witness their historic comeback win.

Coach Salay described the mood going into day two as "one of focus and determination." The coaches tried to alleviate day two's pressure by encouraging team members to play for each other, instead of focusing on their individual scores. And then something magical happened as they closed their day two, 16-stroke deficit.

"There were a number of final round highlights, first and foremost, Maddie Reiter's incredible hole-in-one on the second-to-last hole!" It was only the 8th ace hole in state tournament history. Next, Rhi Stutz finished with a par and a birdie to cut another couple of strokes off of the deficit. Ava Salay's opponent double bogeyed the second to last hole while she birdied and then proceeded to make a clutch par putt for the tie which was just the second tie in the 51-year history of the state tournament and the first in 44 years." (since 1978)

IN PURSUIT OF ANOTHER STATE TITLE

Salay said the format of the sudden death play-off was very unconventional. WIAA selected hole 1 - one of the hardest holes on the course. The format has all ten players tee-off on the same hole and play at the same time. Etiquette follows regular play so the player farthest from the hole hits and all 10 players tee off. Each team counts their four best individual scores to create the team score. The Prairie School had four scores of 5 and one score of 6; Prescott had three scores of 5 and two scores of 4 for total team scores of 18 to 20. "Rookie sophomores Gabbi Matzek and Jeanne Rohl made the two 4's which ultimately were the deciding factors in winning the state title!"

Coach Salay reflected on the closing moments, "Honestly, a win did not look possible without a minor miracle and only a few holes left - events happened that were probably a million-to-one! There was more of a feeling of disbelief and excitement than prior tournament years and the music and cheering were a bit louder on the vehicle ride back than in past years!"

PICTURED TOP: Maddie Reiter displays her prized hole in one ball that greatly assisted the team to the tie during regulation play.

BOTTOM, L to R: Cardinal Girls Golf is coached by Assistant Coach Darren Reiter, Assistant Coach Megan Westerberg, and Head Coach Chad Salay.



ADDITIONAL ACCOLADES

AVA SALAY:	Division 2 State Champion 202 First Team All State Player of the Year Academic All State
RHI STUTZ:	All State Honorable Mention Academic All State
JEANNE ROHL:	All State Honorable Mention Academic All State
GABBIE MATZEK:	All State Honorable Mention Academic All State
MADDIE REITER:	Academic All State
MADDIE RUNDQUIST:	Academic All State



CARDINAL QUEST EXTENDS LEARNING OPTIONS



Prescott School District offers numerous types of intervention, extension, and enrichment activities, one of which is the Cardinal Quest program that offers special classes and extracurricular activities for high-ability students.

“Some students have mastered grade-level content in one or more subjects and seek additional learning challenges,” stated Michelle Jansen, Cardinal Quest Program Coordinator. During school hours, student extensions may include subject extension, accelerated pace, flexible grouping and/or targeted extracurriculars that fulfill the content-area challenge a student desires. Examples include:

- Math Masters for 5th & 6th grades - following a qualifying test, teams of 5 students compete by solving individual and team math problems against other schools
- Future Problem Solvers Scenario Writing Contest (5th-8th grades) - Young writers compete against others in the state with their original futuristic scenarios.
- WI DNR Poetry Contest for 3rd grade - Students compose original poems about air.
- Environmental Speaking Contest (5th-8th grades) - Young speakers compete at the county level by preparing and presenting a 5-7 minutes speech about a current topic on environmental conservation.

In addition, there are extracurricular options for ALL interested students through Cardinal Quest as well. Popular choices are:

- National Current Events League - Students test their Knowledge of well-known events of current events in a series of four rounds throughout the school year.
- Destination Imagination - A creative, problem-solving team event challenging youth to “think outside the box.”
- Drama Rama - Youth actors compete in published manuscript or extemporaneous categories.
- Forensics (6th-12th grades)
- National Spelling Bee - Students compete in three elimination rounds by correctly spelling challenging words.

Prescott School District is fortunate to offer a comprehensive Cardinal Quest program for our high achievers. From Cardinal Quest competitions open to all students, Targeted Extensions for some students, and Intensive Extensions for select students, there are multiple ways in which students can be exposed to challenges to enrich their learning and share their talents.

For more information, visit the Teaching and Learning page on our website: www.prescott.k12.wi.us.





**A
FANATASTIC
FALL AT
PRESCOTT
SCHOOL
DISTRICT**



NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #5
Prescott, WI

ECRWSS
POSTAL - CUSTOMER - LOCAL

Prescott Middle
School Presents:

Disney
**BEAUTY
AND THE
BEAST**



Performance Dates:

December 2 - 7:00pm

December 3 - 7:00pm

December 4 - 2:00pm

Scan QR code or visit our website
Adults: \$12 Students & Seniors \$8



On Sale
Nov. 7

Prescott Performing Arts Center
1220 Dexter Street
Prescott, WI 54021

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| Nov. 23 - 27 | Thanksgiving Break |
| Dec. 2 - 4 | Beauty & the Beast Jr.
(see left) |
| Dec. 12 | High School Band
Concert 7:00 pm |
| Dec. 13 | Middle School Band
Concert 6:00 pm |
| Dec. 19 | Middle School Choir
Concert 6:00 pm |
| Dec. 23 - Jan 2 | Winter Break |

By engaging students, staff, families and our community.