



# School Information and Updates

## November 7, 2024

### Weather Information and Notifications

During the winter season, be mindful that delays and cancellations are probable. As early as possible, weather and road condition information is gathered from various sources, including city, county, state agencies, meteorologists, and personal inspection by school personnel. The safety of our students and employees is the overriding, deciding factor when canceling or delaying school. For early morning delays or cancellations, the district makes every effort to notify parents around 5:30 AM.

Announcements of College Community weather-related decisions are communicated by the Community Relations Office through multiple CCSD communication platforms such as a text, email, call, website notification, and local media outlets.

[Click Here](#) for additional weather-related information.

### Smart Social Live Parent Q & A Events - Over 350 Prairie Parents Have Registered

**Check out Smart Social's Upcoming LIVE PARENT Q and A Events.** Over 350 Prairie Parents have signed up for Smart Social so far! Smart Social's Live Parent Q&A events offer a valuable opportunity for parents to stay informed and equipped to navigate the complex world of social media with their children. *"I learned more about the social media that my kids want to use, as well as helpful tips to understand my teen's communication with her friends."*  
**Prairie Parent**

### Upcoming Live Parent Q and A Events

**NOVEMBER 7, 12, 19:** Disappearing Messages: Hidden Dangers Parents Need to Know

**NOVEMBER 21:** AI for Student Success: Being Productive and Learning Future Skills

**DECEMBER 2024:** Optimize Parental Controls Without Invading Your Student's Privacy

**JANUARY 2025:** How to Shine Online with Your Social Media Accounts

**FEBRUARY 2025:** Avoiding Strangers and Dangerous Situations

[Register for the Live Events](#)

[Register for Smart Social](#)

## **Food and Nutrition Information**

Thank you for your patience and continued support for our meal program while we work through staff shortages. We are grateful and thankful for CCSD students, staff, and families!!

**Join Our Team!** Come be a part of our team and make a difference in students' lives everyday! [Apply today!](#) Are you looking for some extra income? Want to work with an AMAZING kitchen team? Here's why you'll love working with us:

- **Be a bright spot in a student's day:** Remember your favorite lunch staff from childhood? You could be that person for someone else!
- **A family friendly schedule:** Our hours align with school schedules, making it easier for you to spend time with your kids.
- **No nights or weekends or major holidays** and breaks that match your kids. Enjoy your time off with your family.
- **Paid holidays.**
- **IPERS retirement benefits.**
- **Health, Dental, and Vision Insurance** Available to full time staff (27.5+ hours/ week)
- **Stay Active.** Get your steps in and part of your workout for the day.
- **Make a Difference:** Feed hungry kids so they can focus on learning.

We are filling open positions at Prairie Crest, Prairie Ridge, Prairie Point, and Prairie High School. Experience not required.

### **Free and Reduced Price Meals Application**

Free and reduced meal status for the 2023-24 school year expired on October 9th. If you have not completed the 2024-25 school year meal application and have not received a notification that your children were directly certified, please complete the application now. The application is available [online](#) or printable forms can be found [here](#). Paper applications can also be mailed to you. Please contact the Food and Nutrition Department by email at [vscott@crprairie.org](mailto:vscott@crprairie.org) or phone 319-848-5337 with any questions.

### **Classroom Snacks and Treats**

Did you know that snacks and treats are available for purchase in our elementary buildings from the Food and Nutrition Dept.? All of the items available are Smart Snack compliant and we have allergen friendly options available, too. Orders can be paid for with the funds in your family meal account. [Prairie Elementary Classroom Snack & Treat Order Form](#)

### **Breakfast on Delayed School Days**

Breakfast will not be available on delayed school days. Lunch will be served.

### **Milk Purchases for K-12th Grade**

Milk is available for purchase during breakfast and lunch at all K-12 locations. A carton of milk is \$0.60. Sufficient funds must be available in the student/staff meal account to make the purchase. (A carton of milk is included in the price of a meal. Additional cartons or a carton to accompany a meal from home is \$0.60.)

## **Meal Account Balance**

Please check your family meal account and if needed, please make a payment to bring the account current. View your meal account transactions on the [Total Access Family Portal](#). Login with your Family ID and Password. If you do not remember your Family ID or password, click [here](#). The email address associated with the meal account is the email address listed in Infinite Campus for the primary contact of your household. Payments can be made [online](#) or in any of our school building offices. Cash, check, and cards are accepted in person. Unfortunately, we are not able to accept payment by phone at this time. Payment arrangements can be made as well.

## **Unpaid Student Meal Debt**

Supporting children by helping to pay off school meal debt is a wonderful way to make a meaningful impact this holiday season. Many families do not qualify for free or reduced price meal benefits and they struggle with the cost of school meals and providing food at home. Currently a family of 4 with an annual household income of \$57,725 would not qualify for free or reduced price meal benefits. The application also does not take extenuating circumstances into account such as medical bills. The Lunch Shaming Act was passed in Iowa in 2019. This legislation requires that we feed all students who want to eat breakfast and/or lunch no matter what their meal account balance is. The meal also needs to be made up of the same options as all other students. School nutrition programs are an enterprise fund and are self-funded based on student participation; not through the general fund. School meal program funds and general funds cannot be applied to unpaid meal account debt in the state of Iowa. If you are interested in helping and would like additional information please contact Business Services at 319-848-5220 or the Food and Nutrition Department at 319-848-5337 or [vscott@crprairie.org](mailto:vscott@crprairie.org).