



Prescott Magnet Cluster School

1632 West Wrightwood Street Chicago, Illinois 60614

Telephone (773) 534-5505 · Fax (773) 534-5542

2009 Golden Apple Award Winner

2010 Winner of Area 6 DRIVE Teacher Award

7 National Board Certified Teachers

2018-20 US Department of Education School Ambassador Fellow

Dr. Erin Roche
Principal

December 1, 2019

Amanda Malsch
Assistant Principal

Local School Council
2018-20

Jennifer Lister
Parent Representative
LSC Chair

Jeff Marren
Parent Representative
LSC Vice Chair

Eric Marcus
Parent Representative
LSC Secretary

Elvira Cruz
Parent Representative

Linda Cho
Parent Representative

Amy Cortis
Parent Representative

Amanda Kirshner
Teacher Representative

Jennifer Phares
Teacher Representative

MJ Ross
Staff Representative

Gina Doocy
Community Representative

Adrienne Walsh
Community Representative

Dr. Erin Roche
Principal

Prescott Partners
Alliant Credit Union
DePaul University
Prescott Parents

Dear Prescott families and friends,

What do we do to make sure that all our students significantly grow from their starting point?

We families, teachers, staff, students, and school leaders hold important roles in answering this question. We've discussed and embraced our vision to *nurture creative minds and caring hearts*. We talked about and identified the outcomes that tell us if we're achieving our vision for all our students. Teachers, students, and parents continue to hold thousands of conversations each year about progress toward that vision.

Sometime this weekend, continue the conversation. Ask your child:

- What are your Hopes and Dreams for the 2019-20 school year? Remember their goals when you talk with them and their teachers.
- Ask your child: How do you feel inspired or disconnected from learning?

These conversations reflect envisioned outcomes and prepares your child's team-- you, your child, and their teachers-- to act toward the outcomes. One example of many is that we want students to be at grade-level in reading and math. Once your child is at grade level, then the planning shifts to push students to above grade level, to deeper connections within the grade level expectations, or to other learning areas.

In spite of factors outside our control at Prescott, we can set up our children to make major impacts on our lives, their lives, and our communities. I look forward to that work with you!

Sincerely,





Erin Roche
Principal

www.prescott.cps.k12.il.us

<https://twitter.com/PrescottCPS>

[In 2018 & 2019, Prescott was one of few schools among 700+ to be named a fully Healthy School.](#)

December

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
Nov 25	Nov 26 Picture Day	Nov 27 Classes continue today	Nov 28 School closed for Thanksgiving	Nov 29 School closed for Thanksgiving
2 Book Fair  3rd grade artwork	3 Book Fair	4 Word Problem Wednesday —ask your child about today's math word problem -7pm Prescott choir performance at Atheneum Theater 2936 N. Southport Ave	5 Book Fair 	6 Book Fair 
9	10 9am public tour	11 Word Problem Wednesday Progress Reports go home	12	13 8th grade graduation photos -8th grade high school applications due in gocps
16 Spirit Week	17 Spirit Week	18 Word Problem Wednesday -Spirit Week	19 Spirit Week	20 Spirit Week
<p>Read a book from Alliant Credit Union or at www.Raz-Kids.com everyday!</p> <p>Practice math at www.ixl.com everyday!</p> <p>Classes resume Thursday, January 2, 2020</p>				
 6th grade artwork	31	January 1, 2019 Happy New Year!	January 2 8:30 School resumes 8:45 Classes resume	January 3 Classes continue
January 6	January 7	January 8 Word Problem Wednesday	January 9	January 10

Parent reminders:



Please make sure that your child is healthy and in school. Children who are not in school are not experiencing Prescott's rigorous curriculum. Prescott's accountability status depends on an attendance rate of 96%. If your child misses more than 1 day per month (10 total days), then Prescott's attendance dips below 95%. Please have high expectations by getting your child healthy and to school on time each day.

All visitors and employees must report to and sign in the office. Visitors may then be escorted to their appointment. Parents may not go directly to classrooms.

Students can be dropped off in the morning between 8:30 and 8:40am. Please do not drop off students before 8:30 as there is no student supervision. If you need to drop off a student before 8:30am, please arrange for child-care with Right at Schools at <https://rightatschool.com/>.



Parents who drive children to Prescott are encouraged to drop off children along Marshfield and not Wrightwood. Marshfield is safer due to less traffic. **Please do not park in the cross-walk, alley, or in the staff parking lot. Your car may be ticketed. Also, please do not drive through the alleys as they are not meant to be through-ways.** Thank you for making Prescott a safe school and for respecting our neighbors!

Uniforms orders to directly to homes. The cost will be \$4-10 depending on the size of the order according to Barrel Maker.



Any parent who would like to volunteer at Prescott including chaperones for field trips will need to complete a volunteer application for a level II volunteer at <https://chicagopublicschools.civicore.com> and come to main office with a picture ID for a copy to be made and kept on file at Prescott. If you plan on volunteering as a coach you will need to complete the process to be a level II volunteer which includes a TB test and fingerprinting. *Prescott always needs more volunteers for Project Boost to help struggling readers in Kindergarten and 1st and 2nd grade. Please contact PB Coordinator Ms. Gurda at wgurda@cps.edu to help our 5-7 year olds!*

The Prescott newsletter has become digital. Only the first page-- the letter and calendar-- will go home monthly in hard copy. The digital copies will be housed at the [Prescott Parents website](#) for future reference.

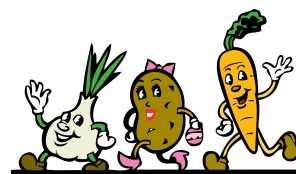
Healthy Eating at Prescott

The Chicago Public Schools Board of Education approved a policy regarding healthy eating at schools. Below is a policy summary of

- Only highly nutritional food for children
- Limit over-eating by letting students and parent know in advance of additional food (e.g., birthday celebration)
- Healthy eating a healthy kids and stronger academic growth

To comply with the policy and to encourage healthy eating, outside food must be approved by the principal at least one week in advance (forms are available in the office). Outside food may only be nutritional. The parent needs to bring the approval to the lunch supervisor. The supervisor collects and returns the form to the principal. Please discourage unhealthy food and food fundraisers that compete with healthy breakfasts and lunches.

Students who **bring lunch from home** can help their families save time and money every day by taking fruit, vegetables, and a cold milk to complement their lunch **for free!**



Vaccination

Thanks for your hard work and persistence to ensure CPS students are protected from all required vaccine-preventable diseases including measles — which is making a notable resurgence outside of Chicago where measles immunization coverage is low. While over 95% of our students comply with district vaccine requirements, a small proportion is still missing one or more of school-required vaccines. Vaccine-unprotected students bear significant risks and pose risks to others as well.

Families, please schedule school physical and vaccination appointments before the start-of-school rush and well ahead of the October 15th deadline. Families can find a health center at <https://findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov/>.

As a reminder, all new students must provide proof of required immunization and health exams at the time of enrollment (including those who enter after October 15th). Currently enrolled students must also provide proof of immunization and exam at specific grade levels (Pre-K, K, 6 and 9) no later than October 15th each year.

Effects of nationwide sub shortage: If there is no sub for a teacher or a staff member, students may continue their learning in another classroom with 4-8 of their classmates. For example, if there is no sub for a 3rd grade teacher, then groups of 4-8 3rd graders for that classroom may be dispersed to the other 3rd grade, 2nd grade, or 4th grade classrooms. This is now common practice across schools.

Water fountains update

Many students and parents have complained that the first floor water fountains have not functioned since last school year. After the new fountains were installed in late Aug, they were found to have old plumbing problems behind the wall. Recently, the district has approved funding to demolition the wall in Room 106 on Fri, 11/29 in order for plumbers to do the work at a later, yet to be determined date. As there is lead paint on the wall, the work must be done according to environmental procedures that comply with safety law and when students are not present (I was told this summer that Prescott parents in the 1980s demanded such procedures and it soon became standard procedure across Chicago!). Their plan is to rebuild the Room 106 wall (behind the water fountains) during Winter Break.

National Blue Ribbon School award in DC

National Board Certified Teachers Amanda Kirshner (1st grade, Room 102) and Jennifer Phares (3rd grade, Room 301) join Principal Erin Roche (also, NBCT) at the National Blue Ribbon Schools award ceremony in Washington, DC, to accept the award. At an earlier ceremony with all 342 schools and their representatives, Erin Roche presented the Terrell H. Bell awards to eight principals from across the nation. Mr. Roche serves as a School Ambassador Fellow with the US Department of Education in 2018-20.

Prescott's National Blue Ribbon School award (seen in the photo) can be seen at the school. The National Blue Ribbon School flag is flown on the playground flagpole.

Congratulations to all our students, teachers, staff, and families for meteoric rise in learning! Keep it up!



Thanks for volunteering!

- ★ Elvira Cruz coordinates UFO.
- ★ Wayne Bock donates a super-helpful monitor to the school.
- ★ Amy Malelo-Shirar coordinates the [Prescott Parents website](#).

Volunteers needed!

PE Teachers Sean Scanlon and Brian Padilla need someone to paint three basketball boards on the gym walls behind rims. Please contact Mr. Scanlon at sscanlon@cps.edu to set up a time to plan the design and paint.

Girls on the Run

Over 20 girls ran in Grant Park on Sat, Nov 23! Way to go, girls! Thanks to Ms. Kirshner and Ms. Swanson for coaching!

Mathletes Team competes in Chicago Jr. Math League (CJML)

The Prescott Mathletes both the 8th and 7th grade teams took 2nd Place in the grade levels at the CJML (Chicago Jr. Math League) competition on 11/9. Zachary M took 1st place in the 8th grade competition. Look at all those medals! Moran coaches the Mathletes team.

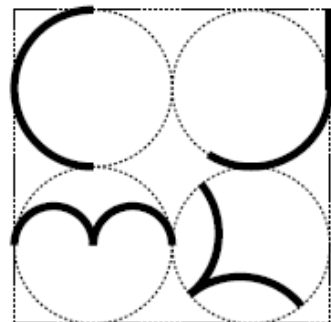
7th grade Team is currently in 5th place in the city with 45 points

8th grade Team is currently place in 4th place the city with 39 points

Congratulations to individual leaders

1. Zachary M with 17 points and 1st overall in the city in 8th grade division!
2. Natalia M with 13 points and 14th overall in the city in 7th grade division!

Check out the stats at <http://www.cjml.org/stats.php>.





Prescott School (updated 11/25/19)

2019-2020 Master Calendar

During summer, winter and spring intersessions, be sure to have your child take advantage of www.razkids.com and www.ixl.com to help continue to growth in reading and math!

<u>AUGUST</u> 29 → Kindergarten Meet-and-Greet (4:30) 29 → Back-to-School Popsicle Party, Wrightwood Park (5:30)	<u>JANUARY</u> 2 → Classes resume 14 → School Tour (9am) 20 → <i>Martin Luther King Day, no school for students</i> 30 → End of Q2 31 → <i>No school for students, Teacher PD</i>
<u>SEPTEMBER</u> 3 → First day of school! 10 → School Tour (9am) 12 → Curriculum Night K-5th grade, all parents attend 16-20 → Spirit Week 20 → Field Day (Rain out date 9/27) 25 → Middle School (6-8) Curriculum Night, all parents attend	<u>FEBRUARY</u> 5 → 2Q report cards go home 7 → Recognition of Learning (students only) 11 → School Tour (9am) 13 → Family STEM night 17 → <i>President's Day, no school for students</i> 21 → Celebration of Learning
<u>OCTOBER</u> 2 → Q1 progress reports go home 8 → School Tour (9am) 14 → <i>Columbus Day, no school for students</i> 17 → Family Reading Night	<u>MARCH</u> 2-6 → Kindergarten registration for in-area students begins 4 → 3Q progress reports go home 10 → School Tour (9am) TBD → Illinois Assessment of Readiness (3-8th graders)
<u>NOVEMBER</u> 7 → End of Q1 8 → <i>No school for students, Teacher PD</i> 11 → <i>Veteran's Day, no school for students</i> 12 → School Tour (9am) 13 → <i>Q1 Report Card Pick-Up, Parent/Teacher Conferences</i> 15 → Recognition of Learning (students only) 15 → High School applications due (8th graders) 21 → Literacy Character Parade 22 → Celebration of Learning 26 → Picture Day K-7, 8th grade grade pictures 28-29 → <i>Thanksgiving Break, no school for students</i>	<u>APRIL</u> 6-10 → <i>Spring Break, no school for students</i> 14 → School Tour (9am) 16 → End of Q3 17 → <i>No School for students, Teacher PD</i> 20-24 → Book Fair 22 → <i>Q3 Report Card Pick-Up, Parent/Teacher Conferences</i> 24 → Recognition of Learning (students only)
<u>DECEMBER</u> 2-6 → Scholastic Book Fair 10 → School Tour (9am) 11 → Q2 progress reports go home 13 → 8th grade graduation pictures, all other retakes 16-20 → Spirit Week 19 → Cultural Celebration (K-2) 20 → Celebration of Learning (rescheduled from Oct 25) 23 <i>Winter Break begins, no school for students</i>	<u>MAY</u> 1 → Celebration of Learning 8 → Art Show (K-8) 12 → School Tour (9am) 14-16 → Drama Club performances 20 → 4Q progress reports go home 22 → Walk-a-thon 25 → <i>Memorial Day, no school for students</i>
	<u>JUNE</u> 5 → Middle School Dance 8-12 → Spirit Week 9 → School Tour 11 → 8th grade graduation 12 → Kindergarten celebration 12 → Recognition of Learning (students only) 18 → Last day of school!