



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

March 1, 2020

Dr. Erin Roche
Principal

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,

Congratulations to Prescott graduate Shamar Lumpkin ('16) who won a prestigious [Posse Scholarship](#)! That's a full-ride to a highly selective admissions university! Shamar recently visited Prescott and shared his excitement with Teachers Kim Gow and Andrea Edwards. With his permission, I've printed his application below, because it represents so well the Prescott experience.

Erin Roche
Principal

As I try to step out into the past world from the time machine, I realize why middle school was a different experience for me compared to the typical student. It was a new environment, new cultures, new people. It was me going from the majority to the minority. See, I told my mom "I don't want to transfer!" She always replied with the same thing, "There's more out there than black people." I never quite understood what she meant until now--sitting in this time machine.

It turns out, my mom was right. There is more than just black people out there. I experienced it fully. I understand it now. As I walked into Prescott, I did not comprehend how hard it was going to be. I had great friends, but it was still hard. I was happy, but it was hard. I saw my inner demons, but I could not quite destroy them at first. I knew the right answer, but it was hard for me to raise my hand, for the possibility of me getting the answer wrong was--apparently--higher than getting it correct. It was the same thing everyday. I was facing those demons over and over again. These things set me back completely. Before I knew it, I was paralyzed with fear. However, I began to see a sense of leadership, growth, success, and grit emerging--taking me out of that paralyzed state. I finally saw the bigger picture. I was determined to not let the fact that I was the minority in school dictate my performance.

All being true, it took me a while to see those things.



As I begin to open the time machine door and step in the year 2016, I remember where the big change happened.

I was in 8th grade. I recall the days where I would walk into Ms. Gow's class and hear "HEYYY SQUADDDDD!" Immediately, my face lit up with the biggest smile ever. I replied to her, "SQUADDD!"

Ms. Gow played a critical role in my change. I was of course her favorite students. Being in the squad with her had more to it than the freedom to call your teacher squad and get an answer. It meant having a support system; it meant knowing that I am in control of my own success. Ms. Gow taught me so much. She was my reading teacher and because of her I was encouraged to reach and pass "Level Z." She showed me that I should strive for my own education. Thanks to her I realized that I am just as smart, just as powerful, just as capable, and just as able to accomplish my dreams. Being a part of the "squad" meant more than what the outside people saw: a teacher and a student yelling at each other for the fun of it. Ms. Gow showed me a lot about who I can be as a person.

Now in the year 2019, I remember walking into my school and seeing these new faces. I wasn't scared. From my freshman year, I have always embraced myself, challenged myself, and made my presence known around the school. When asked the question "Who are you?" The only answer I have is I am myself. I am myself: the kind, loving, supportive, and determined young man. Because of my past, I have learned that I can do anything. I have learned the value of support, and because of that I only want success for myself and others. I am a leader. I am determined. I am motivational and motivated. I will forever cherish my change in middle school, for it has changed me in the best way possible. And for that, Mom, thank you.

March

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
2 Kindergarten registration for 2020-21 for in-area families	3 Kindergarten registration for 2020-21 for in-area families	4 Word Problem Wednesday —ask your child about today's math word problem Q3 Progress Reports go home	5 Kindergarten registration for 2020-21 for in-area families	6 Kindergarten registration for 2020-21 for in-area families
	10 9am public tour 2nd grade field trip to Nature Museum	11 Word Problem Wednesday 1st grade field trip to Shedd Aquarium		13 
16	17	18 Word Problem Wednesday	19	20
23	24	25 Word Problem Wednesday -8:45 BAC meeting	26	27
30	31	April 1 Word Problem Wednesday	The IL Assessment of Readiness (IAR) required state test will be Tues, April 14-Tues, April 21 for grades 3-8.	

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.

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.

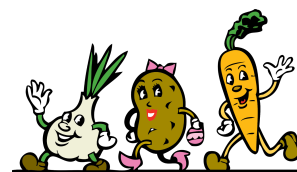
Healthy Eating at Prescott

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 leads to 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!**



Vaccinization

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.

Welcome to Katrina Lemme who will teach 5th graders ELA (aka, Reading, Writing, and Social Studies) while Kelly Abolt is on her leave of absence. Ms. Lemme taught 5th graders at an International Baccalaureate school in the Chicago suburbs and most recently middle schoolers science in Chicago. She earned her BA at Loyola University of Chicago and her teaching license at Kingston University in London. Ms. Lemme will co-teach with Learning Specialist Teacher Nussy Moos and collaborate with 5th grade Math/Science/Writing Teacher Sarah Tracy.

Welcome to Angel Padilla who will work as a Special Education Classroom Assistant with 5th graders and other students. Mr. Padilla earned his BA at Northeastern Illinois University. He has been a volunteer coach for the debate league and co-published articles in peer-reviewed journals on anthropology.

Please introduce yourselves to Ms. Lemme and Mr. Padilla and give them a warm welcome to Prescott School!

Thanks for volunteering!

- ★ Elvira Cruz coordinates UFO.
- ★ Amy Malelo-Shirar coordinates the [Prescott Parents website](#).
- ★ Frank Cho and Jeff Marren coach basketball teams.

Volunteers needed!

- LSC elections on April 22: 6 parents and 2 community reps. See Ms. Collum in the main office for nomination forms. Packets are due to her by 3pm March 5, 2020.

Artwork



BAC Meeting on Wednesday, March 25th 8:45-9:45am

Casandra Cruz, Benefits Coordinator from the Office of Student Health and Wellness Children & Family Benefits Unit will be attending to share information & enroll families on Medicaid and SNAP programs.

Paid by CPS: 3 judges needed for LSC elections all day on April 22. See Ms. Collum in the main office.

Winter Break Fitness Challenge

Congratulations to room 206 for winning the Winter Break Challenge! They exercised the equivalent of 2,350 miles!

Leading the way was Lily Sheppard with 285 miles, Brenna Lacey with 385 miles and Euan Lacey with 427 miles exercised!



6-8th grade Science Quiz Bowl Winners on February 13!

1st Place: Fantastic 4: Weronika Kathrein, Avery Benderoff, Logan Smith and Ruby Drexler

2nd Place: Thesaurus Rex Finale: Chris Muszynski, Ava Marcus, Christa Kulanda, Ayden Hanrahan and Nat Cummings

3rd Place: S.T.E.M. Masters: Zachary Mann, TJ Townes, Anthony Williams, Damani Vazquez, Angel Moreno & Kiemaar Augustine

Basketball teams score big!

Congrats to the 5-6th boys basketball team which made the playoffs.



1st graders explain their heroines and heroes at the Peace Museum

