

Long Prairie-Grey Eagle Principals' Report

February 2026

One District

1. Pillars and Educators of Excellence
 - a. This fall the staff had the opportunity to nominate co-workers for Sourcewell's Pillars of Excellence and Educators of Excellence. We are proud to announce the 2025-2026 LPGE recipients who will be honored on May 6 at the Sourcewell Banquet. Congratulations to:
Pillars of Excellence:
Karen Holt and Jennefer Ramos
Educators of Excellence:
Mary Susan Miklavcich and Ashley Pesta

Professional Development Committee

1. February 16 Professional Development Day
 - a. During the morning, the staff focused on vocabulary. Discussions were held regarding effective teaching strategies for vocabulary followed by high impact tier 2 word list development. Staff also created common definitions that will be put into an alignment document.
 - b. During the afternoon, staff broke into groups to work on curriculum review, relicensure, WIZER trainings, MCA trainings, teamwork, curriculum work, standards work and more.
2. March 23 Professional Development Day
 - a. This day is still in planning stages but will pull together the standards work, vertical teaming and vocabulary development that we have been working on this year. The afternoon will be dedicated to working on grades.

Elementary School

1. I Love to Read Month

- a. The elementary school is celebrating I Love to Read Month this month with our Olympic Theme: Go For The Gold Reading!
 - b. We are enjoying dress up days throughout the month, buddy reading and our annual Breakfast and Books will be held on February 27 from 8:15-9:15.
2. BLAST Meetings (Building Level Academic Support Team)
- a. Each month, the elementary school holds an all day BLAST meeting. Each grade level teacher has the opportunity to meet with the team to discuss strengths and concerns of individual students.
3. MESPA Principal's Conference
- a. One of the highlights were the four keynote speakers: Tom Murray, Dr. Gholdy Muhammad, LaVonna Roth and Phil Januszewski. All were inspiring, full of energy and provided applicable information and skills to make me a better leader.
 - b. The breakout sessions were fantastic. I learned about MnMTSS, making an impact, creating a supportive culture, and supporting diverse learners.
 - c. One of the biggest benefits of attending was the networking and learning from other school leaders.

Secondary School

1. Knowledge Bowl
- a. Mrs. Peterson:
 - i. The season has gone well so far. Our teams tend to start near the top each day, but they struggle to maintain their position. However, our junior high team, consisting of Eddison Bitz, Jayden Richter, and Logan Pesta, recently obtained 1st place at a regular meet. As a team of three 7th graders, they competed against teams of 7th, 8th, and 9th graders, most of which had five members per team. This is quite an accomplishment. The Prairie Conference hosts a meet every year, and the responsibility of hosting rotates among schools. This year was our turn to host, and we would like to thank Josiah Tonder and the River of Life Church for

allowing us to use their space. The meet went well, although we did not manage to secure a medal.

Both the junior and senior high teams have one last meet at the end of the month. This is regions and they will be competing against the best teams from each school. For senior high, if they manage to do well, they would go to the state tournament in April.

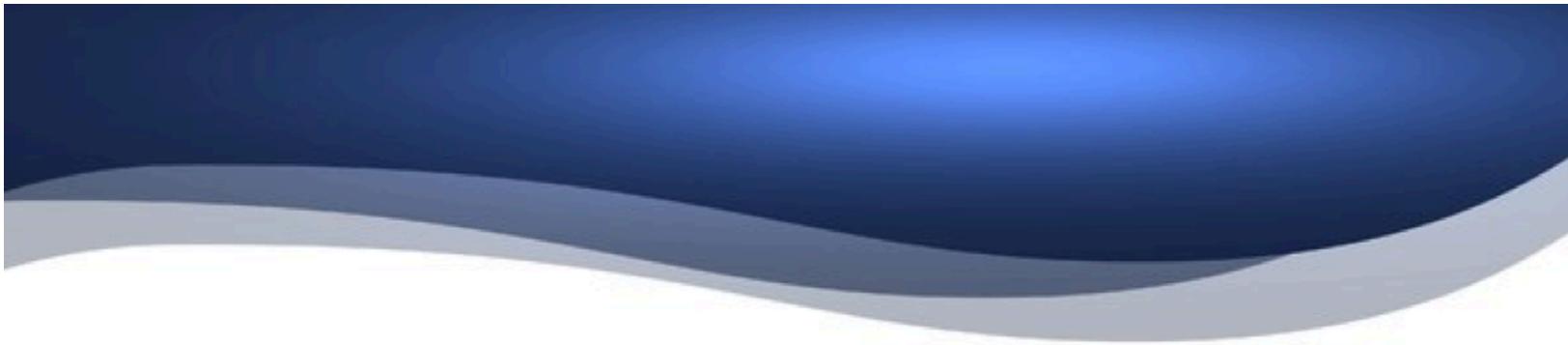


b.

2. FACS - CTE

a. Ms. Hanson

- i. The Career and Technical Instructors have been busy this fall and winter with articulation agreements, which are formal agreement



between high schools and colleges that allows students to earn college credit for approved high school courses. These agreements help ensure coursework aligns with college standards, making the transition to postsecondary education smoother and more affordable for students. Each articulated credit saves the student about \$200. For example, a food student who obtains a B and has the food handler certification, industry certification, can receive 4 credits at Normdale Community College in Business or Hospitality Management - saving a student \$800 if they choose to attend that school. The same course at Hennepin Tech is worth 2 credits and at South Central College is worth 2 of 4 credits for Culinary Fundamentals. Articulation agreements and industry certifications are one way LPGE is aiding workforce development in the needed trades in our area.

3. Special Olympics- Mrs. Waldvogel

- a. "The LPGE Secondary Unified Special Olympics team went on a team bonding field trip to the 46th annual Winter Carnival that was held at Camp Confidence Learning Center in Brainerd, MN. There were over 700 Special Olympics athletes, unified partners, workers, and volunteers who made the day full of fun and new experiences. We had 16 LPGE students attend the field trip, and they all made memories to last a lifetime! Students were hesitant to try dog sledding, snowmobiling, side by side rides, and snow tubing; everyone had a blast and can't wait for next year!"

