

# Long Prairie-Grey Eagle Principals' Report

**May 2025**

## **One District**

### 1. Staff Appreciation

- a. During the month of May, we want to recognize and celebrate our staff. Every person in our District plays a vital role in the success of our students. Together we are a team that is passionate and dedicated to education and the well being of everyone that is a part of our LPGE Family. We want to thank our amazing staff!

### 2. Educators of Excellence Banquet

- a. Congratulations to Chet Hudalla, Katie Lieser, Lisa Schurmann and Sandra Terwey for representing our District at the Educators of Excellence Banquet.



## **Elementary School**

### 1. Color Run

- a. Our Color Run was a huge success once again. We would like to thank all of the generous donors, the Color Run committee, the Elementary Staff, the Secondary Student Council, the Cafeteria and Custodial staff, the City of Long Prairie, Police Chief Hanson and everyone else who assisted in making this event a success.



## 2. ADSIS Grant

- a. I am pleased to announce that although there were a record number of applications for the ADSIS Grant, we were awarded the grant for the next two years. This grant will help us to continue student services like WIN, Behavior Interventions and the Student Success Center.

## 3. Elementary Graduations

- a. Kindergarten Graduation - May 20 at 9:30 am
- b. Sixth Grade Graduation - May 20 at 1:30 pm

## 4. Author Visit

- a. On May 21, Minnesota Author Kevin Lovegreen will speak to our students and share his passion for books and writing. Thank you to the GRRL - Long Prairie Branch for helping to coordinate this visit.

## **Secondary School**

### **1. Hanson Presented at Caribbean Conference**

The Caribbean Association of Home Economics Inc. (C.A.H.E. 1972) hosted its 25th Biennial Conference in Trinidad and Tobago from April 13-16, 2025, under the theme: “Home Economics, AI, Values, and Attitudes: Interrogating the Nexus.” This was their first in-person conference since the covid pandemic.

A release from the Trinidad Ministry of Education stated that this year’s conference explored the evolving intersection of Home Economics and emerging technologies, particularly the integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) into education and daily life.

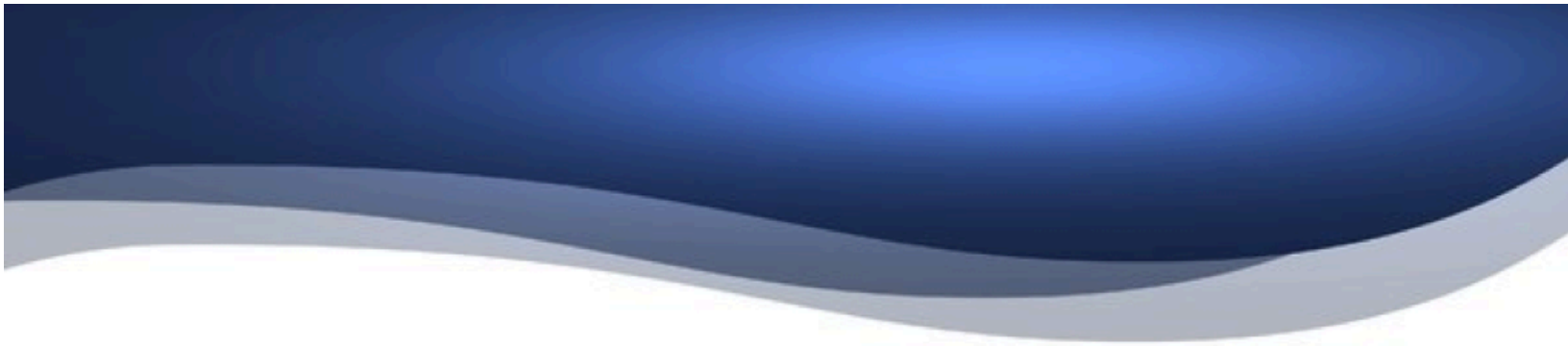
The conference featured major sessions plus a series of pre-conference and in-conference workshops designed to deepen the knowledge and skills of participants across various Home Economics domains.

Jill Hanson from the United States was asked to present Modern Technology in the classroom, showing several technologies that include classroom organization, teaching strategies, and the advantages and disadvantages of AI. Other presentations in Education and Technology included lesson planning with AI, and a Journal Writers’ Workshop—topics which generated high interest among educators as schools increasingly embrace AI-enhanced learning platforms in the Caribbean. Workshops spanned diverse areas, including: Culinary Arts: Roti making, Dhal Puri, Doubles, Samosas, and Tobago’s celebrated Blue Food. In the area of Clothing and Textiles, the focus was on: Techniques in African head wrapping, Sari draping, and Cosmetology with a focus on Make-up Artistry.

The Home Economics Association viewed this conference as a powerful platform for both personal and professional development. It provided educators with the opportunity to exchange ideas, learn new skills, and remain at the forefront of pedagogical innovation.

### **2. Music Department**

- a. Hoagies: During the spring hoagie sale, the students sold 2,500 hoagies. These hoagies were made and assembled in 3 hours.
- b. We went to State Music Solo and Ensemble on May 3rd and got Three Superior ratings and three Excellent Ratings. Most notably, the Saxophone Quartet comprising Hagen Brunkhorst, Leevke Brunkhorst,



Joel Felix and Brayan Botello received a PERFECT score (40 out of 40) for their performance. This is the first time in 28 years that Mr. Speer has had a group get a perfect score!

- c. Student earns all state honors! Congratulations to Nathan Blitz as he has been selected to participate in the 2025-2026 Minnesota Music Educators Association (MMEA) All-State Bands! There are two All-State bands, of equal ability; The Symphonic Band and the Concert Band. Nate will be performing with the Concert Band.

He was selected through a vigorous audition process where he competed with Trumpet players all over the state in every school; All state has no divisions for enrollment; They simply take the best players from every school that auditions students; This means he was competing with the largest schools in the state who have more resources and opportunities for their students to study privately. It is VERY difficult for "outstate" students in small schools to get accepted, so this is a huge honor!

Nate will attend All-State camp in the first week in August at Concordia College in Moorhead MN, culminating with a grand concert at the end of the week. Furthermore, he will be performing with the same group at the 2026 MMEA Mid-Winter Clinic next February! That concert will be held on stage at Orchestra Hall. Congratulations, Nate, for this incredible honor!