



Consistent Attendance is Important to Student Success

Thank you for a great first quarter! As you know from previous communication, College Community Schools is working on increasing the number of students who are present at school for over 90% of school days. Consistent attendance sets predictable, healthy routines that students can carry with them throughout school and after graduation.

Next week, Building Facilitators and Deans will be contacting parents via email if one or more students within the family have missed 10% or more of school time. Research shows that it's very common for students and parents to underestimate absences and attendance rates can improve simply by sharing the amount of missed school time with families.

If your student is having difficulty with consistent school attendance, we want to help! Please reach out to your school's principal, dean, building facilitator, or counselor. Their contact information is [linked here](#).

Kirkwood to Host Active Threat Drill on November 15

On November 15, Kirkwood will be hosting an active threat drill on their main campus. The event will involve simulating an active threat in Jones Hall and will include many local law enforcement, fire department, hospitals, and EMS agencies. As part of the drill, participating emergency responder vehicles will be using some main campus roads until their part of the exercise is finished.

Students taking classes at Kirkwood have been notified. A [web page](#) has been created by Kirkwood regarding details. Representatives from College Community Schools will have an opportunity to observe the active threat drill on their campus.

Take 5 for Prairie Video Series Episode I

Check out the 1st episode of our Take 5 for Prairie Video Series. In this episode we will introduce you to an exciting new initiative called Prairie Ready. Prairie Ready aims to inform our efforts to develop K-12 programming and experiences for students with a focus on their success beyond high school. [Click here](#) to check out Episode I

Job Fair - Saturday, November 5

The College Community School District Job Fair is only a week away! Don't miss the chance to meet with department directors and apply for positions in early childhood, special education, transportation, maintenance and food and nutrition on **Saturday, November 5 in the District Office Building from 9AM to 11AM**. For more information, [click here](#).

Meal Account Balances

Meal Account Balances: Unfortunately, free meals for all children expired at the end of the school year June 2022. At that time, all meal accounts had a positive balance. **Since the start of school in August 2022, we have many accounts that have gone negative.** Please take a moment to check your family meal account balance and if you are able, please make a payment if your account has fallen below \$0.00.

All meal accounts are family accounts and the balance is shared between all of the students on the account. Deposits for your child/children(s) lunch account can be made in the office/school store or online. **Cash and check deposits can be turned into the office or a deposit can be made online using In Touch by visiting <https://ia-collegecommunity.intouchrecepting.com/>**

To **view the purchases made on your Total Access Family Meal Account** visit <https://crprairie.totalk12.com/Index.asp>

Information on the automated email balance notifications:

Here is how the frequency of the automated balance notices are determined. The district level for the account is determined by status level (free, reduced, full priced, etc...) and each status has its own warning level. Full pay receives a notice when the account reaches \$10 per person on the account. For example, if this account has 2 students and the status of those students is full pay, the notice will be sent one time when the account reaches \$20.00. If the account falls below \$0.00, a notice will be sent daily until the balance is \$0.00 or above.

Free and reduced price meal application:

If you feel that you may qualify for free or reduced price meals, free and reduced price meal applications can be completed at any time during the school year. If you have already applied but have had a reduction in income or change in household size, you may re-apply at any time during the school year. Our online free and reduced meal application may be completed by visiting: <https://onlineapp.totalk12.com/MuZWtwXsSr2SvuJ9ZfSY>

Online Menus: <https://prairiepride.nutrislice.com/m/>

Resources for food pantries and meal sites: <https://www.crprairie.org/parents-students/ccsd-family-resources-homepage/food-assistance/>

Please feel free to call Ginny at 319-848-5337 or email vscott@crprairie.org OR Hilary at 319-848-5340 or email hschmidt@crprairie.org if you have any questions regarding your family meal account.

New Prairie Podcast

Future Now Coordinator Sam Black talks about the program and their efforts to engage more students in grades 7-12. Sam shares the importance of making students aware of resources and opportunities that the College Community School District offers. The program enables students to explore their future post-graduation. [Click here](#) to listen to the Prairie Podcast.