



# School Information and Updates

**September 4, 2025**



## **Prairie Summit YMCA Beam Signing Event**

Excitement is building! The College Community School District, in partnership with YMCA of the Cedar Rapids Metro Area and Conlon Construction, held a Beam Signing Event on the site of the new Prairie Summit YMCA which is scheduled to open in the spring of 2026.

Check out the [VIDEO](#) and hear from our Prairie swimmers, staff, local leaders and our community about the Prairie Summit YMCA!

## **Sign Up for Smart Social: Social Media Can Have a Lasting Impact on Students**

Approximately 300 Prairie families have now signed up for Smart Social! **Smart Social** is a platform designed to help parents navigate the digital landscape and to help ensure their children's safety and well-being online. By signing up for Smart Social, parents can become more informed, empowered, and proactive in their efforts to protect their children and foster their positive online experiences. **The College Community School District is providing Smart Social at No Cost to Parents.**

[Click here](#) to register for your free online Smart Social Account or you can [click here](#) to sign up.

## **Smart Social: 5 Back-to-School Digital Safety Tips for Protect Your Family**

The start of a new school year isn't just about supplies and schedules, it's also the perfect time to check in on your child's digital habits. From posting that first-day photo to setting screen time limits, small choices can have a big impact on your child's safety, privacy, and future. In this guide, parents will learn smart back-to-school tips every family should consider so students can balance texts, trends, and TikTok with real-world success.

[Click here](#) for safety tips for your student and family.

## **Become a Substitute Teacher or Substitute Para with College Community!**

We're always excited to welcome compassionate individuals to substitute in our classrooms as substitute teachers and substitute paras. The pay rate for substitute teachers is \$18.75 per hour and the hourly wage for substitute paraprofessionals is \$16.25 per hour.

Sign-up and register through Grant Wood AEA to substitute in our district. To get started go to their website [here](#).

There are many perks to being a substitute for Prairie:

- **Flexible schedule:** Sign up for as many or as little sub opportunities as you'd like.
- **Various options:** District-wide access to opportunities means being able to sign up for preferred grade levels or buildings. (Or keep things fun and accept assignments across the district!)
- **Substitute Bonus Program:** Get rewarded for subbing at Prairie.
  1. **Substitute teachers** earn \$18.75/hr for their first 10 days of subbing with a wage increase of \$23/hr beginning on day 11!
    1. Plus, earn 1 day (8 hours) of additional pay if you substitute 15 days per quarter OR 2 days (16 hours) of additional pay if you substitute 25 days per quarter.
  2. **Substitute paras** earn \$16.25/hr. If you substitute as a para for 15 days per quarter, you can earn 1 day (8 hours) of additional pay OR if you substitute as a para for 25 days per quarter, you can earn 2 days (16 hours) of additional pay.

### **Employment Opportunities with College Community School District!**

We're hiring full-time special education paraprofessionals across the district with a starting salary of \$17.47 per hour.

- Positions available in K-12 classrooms
- Choose between classroom support and student-specific roles
- View and apply for openings [here](#).

*Interested in a more flexible schedule? Consider becoming a substitute paraprofessional with a starting salary of \$16.25/hr. To get started, register through Grant Wood AEA's SubCentral platform [here](#).*

### **Fall Activities Underway for the Prairie Hawks**

Come out and support the hawks at a number of home events this fall. To find the full schedule of events, see the [Prairie High School Calendar on Bound](#).

### **Avoid the line and save with an Activity Pass**

Admission to home events is cashless. To avoid the line, we recommend [purchasing tickets](#) in advance on Bound. If you plan to attend a number of events, activity passes are a great way to save. Family [activity passes](#) are \$150 (plus processing fee for up to 4 tickets) and a Single adult pass is \$80. Activity passes can be used at most home events. We are excited to announce that we will continue the "free admission" of Prairie 7-12 students with their Prairie School ID.

## **New Football Entrance & Concession Stand**

This year's football season kicks off with the opening of the new concession stand located right near the main stadium entrance. Restrooms are still located underneath the home stands near the old concession stand area.

## **Pride of Prairie Award Nominations**

Nominate someone today who represents the Pride of Prairie. This prestigious annual award is presented by the Prairie School Foundation to give recognition and show appreciation to an individual(s) who exemplifies the Prairie Spirit and a loyal commitment to our Prairie Schools.

**Nominations are due by noon, Friday, September 26th, 2025.**

[Click here](#) to nominate a person who represents the Pride of Prairie.

## **Become a Prairie Volunteer**

At College Community School District, our dedicated volunteers are essential to bringing our motto, "Success For All," to life and enhancing our students' educational experiences. We invite you to apply to volunteer for the 2025-2026 school year by completing our [online application](#). Your support in classrooms, libraries, at events, and on field trips is highly valued and appreciated by our entire district. Please note that applications must be submitted annually at least two business days before you plan to volunteer, and all volunteers will undergo a background check.

## **New Nutrition Software - Meal Magic**

This school year, the district transitioned to a new nutrition software called [Meal Magic](#) after being notified last spring that our previous program would no longer be supported. Our team worked quickly to find and implement a suitable replacement before the start of school. One feature we had hoped to retain was the ability for families to share funds across multiple student accounts. Unfortunately, no available programs offered this option. We have communicated our desire for this feature with Meal Magic in future updates. However, for now parents will need to deposit funds into each individual account or transfer funds between students. Funds can be transferred between students in the [Meal Magic Family Portal](#).

### **Meal Magic Family Portal: Transfer Funds Between Students**

- Login to Family Portal. <https://crprairie.familyportal.cloud/>
- Click on the name of the child who has funds. (If the student chosen does not have funds the transfer button will not show up.)
- Click on the blue "Transfer" button. Enter the information to transfer.

## **Free and Reduced Price Meal Approvals**

If you received a letter stating your child(ren) was/were approved for free or reduced price meals and there are additional children in your household that were not listed on the letter, please contact the Food and Nutrition Department immediately via email [vscott@crprairie.org](mailto:vscott@crprairie.org) or phone 319-848-5337.

**Breakfast Available to All Students**

Breakfast is available to all students daily when school is in session. Students who want breakfast may go directly to the cafeteria serving line when they are dropped off by the bus or parent, A student breakfast costs \$2.05. A breakfast meal includes whole grains, lean meat, fruits and milk.