



COUGAR NEWSLETTER

Publication of the New Prairie School Administration

September 2024



As we move into September, I'm excited to see the progress and energy that has already filled our halls. Now is the time to settle into routines, set goals, and continue building on the momentum we've established. Our commitment to fostering a safe and collaborative environment remains strong, and I look forward to seeing all that we will accomplish together.

September also brings one of our most anticipated events—Homecoming! This is a special time to celebrate our school spirit, reconnect with alumni, and enjoy the traditions that make New Prairie High School unique. I encourage everyone to get involved, whether it's by participating in the Homecoming parade, cheering on our sports teams, or attending the Homecoming Dance. Let's make this Homecoming one to remember!

As always, Go Cougars!



- Mr. Heinold
NPHS Principal

Each month, we will be putting together a newsletter to highlight some important information that we would like to share with our NPHS families. You may always contact the school for more information.

SMARTSOCIAL

We are excited to announce that the New Prairie United School Corporation has partnered with SmartSocial.com for its on-demand resources for parents and students.

SmartSocial covers a wide range of digital and social media topics that we feel are relevant to our students. We have purchased parent memberships for every parent in our district to give you access to these resources and help you learn how to navigate the negative (and positive) parts of social media with your students.

[CLICK HERE](#) to sign up.

Smart
Social

English Department Spotlight

The English Department at New Prairie High School is dedicated to offering students engaging learning experiences that build essential skills in reading, writing, and speaking for success in college and beyond. Through our courses, students deepen their understanding of the world beyond the classroom, engaging in authentic reading experiences that foster empathy and broaden their perspectives.

Students at New Prairie High School can take a variety of elective classes, including mythology, creative writing, yearbook, speech, theatre, and advanced theatre, in addition to the core English courses for grades 9 through 12. Students may also elect to take AP (Advanced Placement) Language and Literature for potential college credit.

Recently, 9th graders attended a book tasting at "The Book Bistro," where they sampled books from various genres by examining covers, reading summaries, and skimming pages. They rotated between tables, exploring genres and selecting books that interested them. Afterward, they learned about the high school library's offerings, where to find what they need, and checked out their chosen books.

PSAT Testing Information

Students in Grades 9–11 will be participating in PSAT Testing on Thursday, October 10th. The standardized PSAT test is used by educators as a predictor for success on the SAT exam that students take in the Spring of their Junior year. At NPHS, we use these exams to help track student growth from the beginning of their Freshman year to the end of their Junior year. The results also inform the collaborative work of our teams to create a guaranteed and viable curriculum for all.

During the testing time on October 10th, Seniors will be present and engaged in a few different Senior-only activities. Following the test and Senior activities, the day will operate as normal.

See the additional PSAT testing flyer at the end of this newsletter for more information.

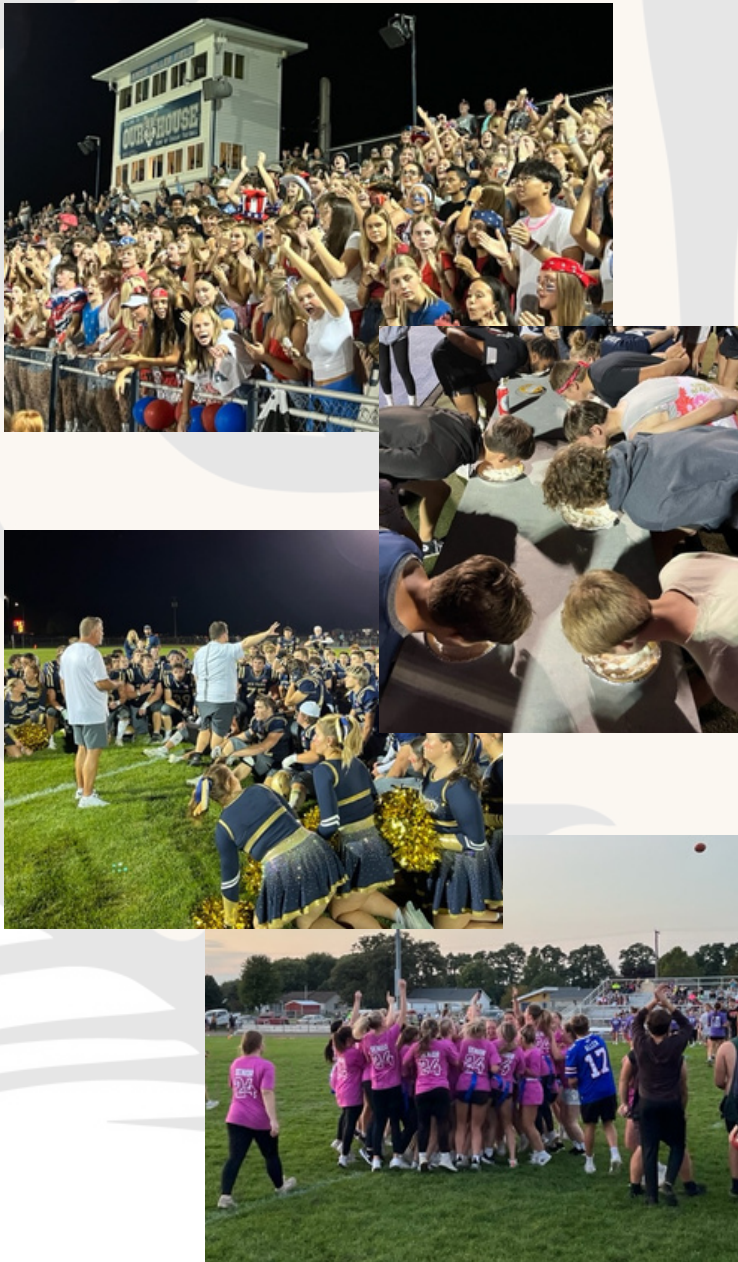


Homecoming Events

The New Prairie High School Homecoming Football game is scheduled for Friday, September 28th against South Bend Riley. That week, there will be a number of activities and events for students to engage in. Powderpuff Football, Class Olympics, Rolling Prairie Parade, and the Homecoming Dance are just a few exciting things coming up this month!

The Homecoming Dance will be on Saturday night, September 28th at the High School. For all those interested in attending, be sure you are aware of the criteria for purchasing tickets. Students must be eligible based on attendance, grades, and behavior as noted in the NPHS Student Handbook.

Clubs and organizations will be putting together their floats for the Homecoming Parade. This year, the parade will be in Rolling Prairie. Be on the lookout for more information about dates and locations for this and all Homecoming activities! Students will see this information in Schoology and all-school announcements. Additional information may be available on the school's social media platforms.



SUCCESS TIME

New Prairie United School Corporation is heavily invested in the Professional Learning Communities at Work process. A critical part of this process includes staff being able to accurately assess a student's understanding of a learning target and determine next steps for continuous learning for each student.

Therefore, every Monday through Thursday, NPHS students have a 30-minute Success Time built into their day (9:50-10:20). This time allows for NPHS staff to meet the specific needs of our learners. By consistently monitoring student data, our staff are able to provide targeted remediation for struggling students as well as provide extension/enrichment activities for those who have already mastered the learning standard.

Attendance

Attendance is a crucial component for student success. If your student is going to be out for any reason, please contact the office to let our staff know.

At this time in the year, students should now be familiar with their classroom locations. Our administrative staff has been diligent about identifying habitual tardiness and truancy. Please reinforce the importance of punctuality with your students.

Important NPHS Links

[Daily Bell Schedule](#)

[Fall Athletics Information](#)

[Military Opt Out Form](#)

[Grade 12 Vaccination Reminder](#)

[Building Map](#)

[Dismissal Procedures / Parking](#)

[Volunteer Background Check](#)

Attention Winter and Spring Athletes and Families!!

New for the 2024-2025 school year, New Prairie High School Athletic Department has partnered with FinalForms, an online forms and data management service. FinalForms allows you to complete and sign athletic participation forms and upload the required IHSAA Physical Information form for your student-athlete(s) this is required for athletic participation starting in '24-'25.

In order to keep up with all things New Prairie Athletics, be sure to frequently check their website at npcougars.com

FINALFORMS

IMPORTANT DATES

9/2 - Labor Day - No School

9/25 - FLEX Day

9/28 - Homecoming Dance

9/30 - Picture Retake Day

10/10 - PSAT Testing Day

10/10 - Last Day of Quarter 1

10/15 and 10/16 - Parent-Teacher Conferences

10/18-10/21 - Fall Break - No School

10/24 - NPHS Fall Blood Drive

11/5 - Teacher Work Day - No School

Also, check out npcougars.com for athletic dates/times, ticket information, and post-event summaries.

Contact Information

Phone: (574) 654-7271
(219) 778-2215

<https://www.npusc.k12.in.us/new-prairie-high-school/>

facebook.com/newprairiecougars

Mr. Justin Heinold, Principal
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SAT: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

TO DO HOW TO PRACTICE

- > Download the Daily Practice for the SAT app
- > Khan Academy



THESE ARE THE FACTS:



Hard questions don't count any more than easy ones.

If you see a really advanced equation, you can always skip it and come back to it later. Every question is worth the same amount of points, so just answer the easiest ones first.



You get 200 points for free!

Both the Math section and the English section are scored from 200 to 800. So, you start the SAT with 200 points in each section. In other words, you cannot score lower than 400.



Take a guess!

On the SAT, you do not lose points for an incorrect answer. This means that you should always guess instead of leaving an answer blank. If you guess on 8 multiple choice questions, the odds are that you will answer at least 2 of them correctly.



MATH

Have teachers told you not to "guess and check?" Well, on the SAT, you can guess and check all you want!

Need a 530 +



READING + WRITING & LANGUAGE

NEED A 480 +

Reading: 52 question in 65 minutes

Writing and Language: 44 questions in 35 minutes

Reading-Types of Questions:

- How the Author Uses Evidence
- Understand Words in Context
- Analysis in History/ Social Studies and Science

Eliminate Wrong Answers:

If you can cross off one answer you know is wrong, then you have a 33% chance of guessing correctly. If you know that two answers are definitely wrong, then you have a 50% chance of guessing correctly!

> **Calculators allowed:** With the digital SAT, you may use a calculator on every question.

> **You don't need to show your work:**

As long as you answer correctly, it doesn't matter what strategy you use.

> **What math is even on the SAT?**

Most of the math tested on the SAT is learned in Algebra I.

Writing/Language -

Types of Questions:

- Expression of Ideas - development, organization, effective use of language
- Standard English Conventions

LINK COLLEGE BOARD AND KHAN ACADEMY ACCOUNTS FOR A PERSONALIZED SAT STUDY PLAN.

satpractice.org