

# Prairie Heights Elementary School

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**Twister Highlights – January 22**

**Issue: No. 20**

**TO: Prairie Heights Elementary School Parents and Patrons**  
**FROM: Cynthia Schrader, Principal**

•There is a term used at Prairie Heights Elementary School throughout every school day. This term is accommodation. The PHES staff works diligently to help students learn and be successful. In order for our students to achieve, this staff needs to make accommodations for students. We determine what conditions and environment should be in place, in order for students to be the best, they can be. For example, if a child works best with a separate, quiet location with frequent breaks, then that is exactly what we strive to do. When we can read passages for students, or if students do better reading aloud to themselves, then we follow this accommodation. These various accommodations make it important for students to have earbuds/headphones at school. Some children might need magnified print or a different colored background. In order for children to receive these accommodations, while taking state assessments, they must receive these accommodations on a daily basis, too.

•PHES parents, if for whatever reason, you did not get notification about school being delayed yesterday for one hour, please notify our secretary, Nancy Furney. Remember USD 417 cancellations are posted on WIBW television and on their web site.

•Last week in the January 15 Twister Highlights issue, you were asked, if you have a suggestion of a maintenance need at PHES. Here is another topic in which we welcome your input. Do you have any suggestions concerning the school calendar for 2016 – 2017?

•January 25, next Monday, the Prairie Heights PTO will meet at 6:30 PM. A member asked that we include discussion about sponsoring the summer swimming lessons for our PHES students, along with other business. Following the PTO meeting the Prairie Heights Site Council will meet at 7:30 PM. At the Site Council meeting we will discuss maintenance needs and the 16 – 17 calendar. At one or both of the meetings we will talk about auctioning the extra equipment being stored in the gym at Dwight. This would also be a great time to view the climbing wall in the gym and the new décor in the lunchroom.