

Prairie Heights Elementary School

801 Center Street
Alta Vista, KS 66834
785.499.6313

Twister Highlights – April 29
Prairie Heights Elementary School Parents and Patrons
FROM: Cynthia Schrader, Principal

Issue: No. 33 TO:

•The **USD 417 Board of Education** met in a special session early Thursday morning. The board accepted the resignation of Nancy Furney, who has served as the school secretary in Alta Vista for the past 29 years. They approved Jeremy Harmison as the new **PHES Physical Education/Health instructor** for next year. Some will remember Mr. Harmison taught math at **PHMS in 2014-2015**. He will also be the **CGHS head softball coach** and the **CGJH head volleyball coach**. They took action on the purchase of the **Dwight school building**. Watch for newspaper coverage of these three developments that especially affect the **Prairie Heights communities**.

•Did you know that our school conducts **10 fire drills** (one per month when school is in session) and **3 tornado drills** during the school year? We have nine different fire pulls located throughout the building that are tested each year. Along with evacuating students and staff from the building, our staff checks emergency lights and the alarm itself to make certain all equipment is functioning properly. Children have routes to follow when evacuating, depending on their location at the time the drill starts. We are to be **300 feet** away from the building, so our staff and students gather at the basketball court east of the building.

•Tuesday afternoon our communities experienced severe weather conditions. All activities were canceled in **USD 417** including our **After School Program** in order to get students delivered quickly to their homes. This particular situation is the very reason we complete drills, so we are prepared in the case of emergencies.

•Thanks to the **Prairie Heights PTO** that sponsored a school carnival at **Prairie Heights Elementary School** last Saturday.

•It has been a very busy week with the **Kansas Teachers of the Year** visiting **PHES** on Monday. **Grade 6** students and their teacher toured the **Ag Heritage Museum** on Tuesday. Children were excited to have art lessons with **Angela Moore** on Thursday.

- **Important things to remember...**

The PHES May newsletter should be posted on Monday, May 2.