

School Calendar

April 28 Grade 6 Parent Mtg. 5 pm
Board Meeting 7 pm
Grade 5 Play 6 pm
New Parent/Child Group Begins

April 30 All School Clean-up 9:30-3:00

May 5 Information Eve 5-7pm
Facilities 7:30pm
Grade 8 Play, 7 pm

May 6 May Day Celebration
Kindergarten Morning
Grade 8 Play, 7 pm

May 7 Grade 1 Readiness Morning, 10am
Grade 8 Play, 7 pm

May 9 Grade 3 Parent Meeting 3:15-4:45

All School Work Day The work day is going to be great. And you are going to be there. We're going to get so much done. Some work and a meal we will share. This Saturday from 9:30 to 3. If weather should cause technicalities, the rain date will be the next Saturday. Yours truly, Jon Dehlin for Facilities

Help Wanted: The Board and Faculty are seeking a new administrator. This is a full time job with benefits. If you are interested in learning more about this position, or know of someone who might be interested, a brief job description is posted on our website and can also be picked up in the school office.

URGENT REMINDER: This Friday, April 29, is the deadline to ask for a second tuition adjustment. If you received an adjustment on your tuition for next year, please take time right now to confirm that you can meet this amount. Detailed, written explanations why further adjustment is needed must be received by Diane Mamroe by this Friday, April 29.

Walking and Biking to School Survey: Attached to this Lunchbox Express you will find a survey in which we have been asked to participate. The focus of the survey is to support children in Westby and Viroqua walking and/or riding their bikes to school. The teachers will be filling out a daily questionnaire during the week of May 2-6, and we ask parents to please support this endeavor, as well, by completing the survey and returning it to the office by Friday, May 6th. Thank you for your cooperation. – Kelly J.

Spring Concert – Thank you!!

I am so deeply grateful to the many parents who helped with behind the scene details of the spring concert. Thank you Meg and Rob Hoversten, Eric Meyer, Bjorn Leonards, Dan Krumenauer, Tom Gullion, Drew Shonka, Kate Bergan, Sarah Kamin, Diane and Gregory Splinter, Paul Grenier, Connie Poelstra, Jane Kouba, and organizer extraordinaire – Geri Shonka for helping make the evening a success!

- Monika Sutherland

Stove needed for Rosemary Kindergarten. Do you have a used gas stove in good working condition? It needs to be convertible to LP. Please contact Anne-Marie or Heidi

Hot Lunch Menu April 28-May 3

Thurs- Baked Potatoes
Mon- Pizza
Tues- Tostadas
Wed- Soup and Bread

PRWS Board elections are next week!! This year's ballot will be attached to the May 4 Lunchbox, and can be submitted in the Office until May 11. There are two positions open for election this year. The Board has nominated two members for re-election, and their statements of interest are included here. The ballot also allows for write-in candidates.

Jenelle Boyer

My relationship to PRWS began as a parent of a kindergartener in 2003, and quickly escalated into joining the parent council. Since then I have served as the president of parent council, as a member of the budget committee, and have been a member of the board and re-enrollment committee since 2006. I have served as the president of the board over the past 4 years.

My husband David, our children, and I have greatly benefited by joining this community when we moved here in 2002. Both of our children started with three years of kindergarten at Pleasant Ridge and now Ian is in 5th grade and Gideon is in 4th grade. I also work at Vernon Memorial Healthcare as an occupational therapist in Home Health and Hospice.

Early on at Pleasant Ridge, I received a piece of advice that I now think of often. There is so much to gain on a personal level as an active adult in this community by getting involved. If your children are the only ones who get to be involved, then you're missing out. I feel blessed, challenged and enlivened by the many opportunities to contribute to the inner workings of running the school, as well as for my own personal, intellectual, and spiritual growth through these experiences. What I have to bring to board work in return are my interests and skills for active listening, servant leadership, and bringing out the best in others around me. I am deeply grateful for Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School and the wonderful people in the faculty, staff, parents, and children with whom I get to share my life. I would be happy and honored to continue to serve on the board of directors.

Bill Townsley

My wife, Susan, and I have been parents at PRWS for just about 11 years. In that time I have been a board member for almost 4 years, and also served on the facilities and re-enrollment committees. I am very grateful for all that this school has provided not only to my two boys, but to our family as well. Being on the board has given me an opportunity to participate in and hopefully contribute to the continued growth of a healthy and sustainable school. Thank you for your consideration.

Wanted: The bookkeeping office needs a 2-drawer filing cabinet. If you have one to donate, please call Diane Mamroe at school. Thank you.

FRIDAY ASSEMBLY 4/29
There will be no assembly this week.

Community News

The work of local artist Kathy Fairchild is currently on display at the Viroqua Healing Arts Center, 224 E. Court St. The artist will host a reception at the Center on Thursday April 28 at 7:30 PM. The exhibit will be on display until June 25. For information call the Center at 637-7600.

Need Rummage Sale Space? The Viroqua Arena is hosting their space for rummage sales on June 10 and 11 from 9 to 5. A fee of \$20 includes one table. Bring more of your own, or rent the arena's for \$5 each. Everything must be removed after the sale on Saturday. Notice will go in the papers, on the radio, on mwt.net, craigslist, rummagewisconsin.com, and the muffler works signboard. If interested, contact Pam at 637-8661.

The Gays Mills Folk Festival is May 6-8. Square Dance Friday 7pm. Workshops, open stage, puppet show, maypole, and other activities Sat 12-5pm. Concert Saturday 7:30pm featuring folk and blues legend Spider John Koerner, Cajun Strangers, and Ethel Lerum and Don Anderson. Ethel is from [Ferryville](#) and has been delighting listeners with her accordion and piano since the early 1930s. Additional info: www.gaysmillsfolkfest.org or 608-629-6250.

The Viroqua Healing Arts Center is pleased to announce that Kathy Fairchild's paintings are on display at the Center from now until June 25th. Kathy will be having a reception on Thursday, April 28th at 7:30 pm. The reception will be at the Viroqua Healing Arts Center at 224 E. Court Street. Please join the artist and friends for this viewing.

Several Family Yard Sale Friday, May 6th, 9am to noon.

Beautiful children's clothing, outerwear--some European, car seats, "Bob" all-terrain stroller, double jogger, and other miscellaneous children's equipment at 320 S. Rusk.

BLOCKBUSTER MOVING SALE!!!! Kae Vogel and girls are heading west soon. This Friday 29th and Saturday 30th. Starting at 9am both days. Drum set, chest freezer, child's desk, desktop computer.... so much more!!!! 515 S. Rusk 606-2882

One last sale at the Markos' house. As I am nearing the end of my seemingly limitless supply of European toys acquired over the years, I am finally parting with some last treasures. Of course there will be great clothes (lots of Oilily & Boden) for girls and women, and other lovely items as well! 207 E Jefferson St, Viroqua. Thursday only, April 28, 8:30am – 4:30pm.

The Western Technical College Foundation is hosting an exciting camp. This is a youth enrichment program for students in grades 4-6, and will be held on Saturday, April 30, 2011. This program gives youth the opportunity to improve or discover new basic skills and explore special interests in a unique educational setting – a college campus. If interested, brochures are located in the blue cabinet by the parent mailboxes.

Puppet Show presented by Three Rivers Waldorf School on Saturday, April 30 at The Muse Theatre, 1353 Avon St., LaCrosse. Shadow puppets and marionettes will tell the stories of "Akimba and the Magic Cow," "Abiyoyo" and "Tikki Tikki Tembo." Show times 3:30pm and 7:00pm. \$5 per person/\$10 per family. All ages welcome.

LUNCHBOX EXPRESS COMMUNITY NEWS POLICY

The Lunchbox Express Community News section is provided as a service to the school community. Printing of an ad does not imply endorsement by Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School.

How to Place an Ad:

1. Limit your ad to **70 words**. We do not edit. We will not print ads over 70 words. If you must have a long ad, make a note & give it to the office staff to place on the bulletin board.
2. Ads will be **printed only once**.
3. Put your ad in the folder in the LBE's mailbox in the Office marked "Lunchbox Community News" OR e-mail ad to Vicki Ramsay at vickmamama@hotmail.com with "**Community News**" in the subject line.
4. **Deadline is Tuesdays at 8:30am**. There may be occasions, due to unforeseen circumstances or space constrictions; that the Community section will not be printed. Thank you!

SURVEY ABOUT WALKING AND BIKING TO SCHOOL - FOR PARENTS -

Dear Parent or Caregiver,

The Pleasant Ridge School is participating with the Cities of Westby and Viroqua in preparing a "Safe Routes To School Plan". To assist in the planning process, the school wants to learn your thoughts about children walking and biking to school. This survey will take about 10 - 15 minutes to complete. We ask that each family complete only one survey. If more than one child brings a survey home, please fill out the survey for the child with the next birthday from today's date.

After you have completed this survey, send it back to the school with your child or give it to the teacher. Your responses will be kept confidential and neither your name nor your child's name will be associated with any results. **Thank you for participating in this survey!**

These first few questions gather some general and background information.
Remember, all information will be confidential, and no identifying information will be released.

1. What is the grade of the child who brought home this survey? (K - 8) _____ grade
2. Is the child who brought home this survey male or female? MALE FEMALE
3. How many children do you have in Kindergarten through 8th grade? _____ children
4. How far does your child live from school? (choose one)

<input type="checkbox"/> a. less than 1/4 mile	<input type="checkbox"/> d. 1 mile up to 2 miles
<input type="checkbox"/> b. 1/4 mile up to 1/2 mile	<input type="checkbox"/> e. More than 2 miles
<input type="checkbox"/> c. 1/2 mile up to 1 mile	<input type="checkbox"/> f. Don't know

5. On most days, how does your child arrive at school and leave for home after school? (circle one choice per column)

Arrive at school

- a. Walk
- b. Bike
- c. School Bus
- d. Family vehicle (only with children from your family)
- e. Carpool (riding with children from other families)
- f. Shared Ride Cab
- g. Other (skateboard, scooter, inline skates, etc.)

Leave for home

- a. Walk
- b. Bike
- c. School Bus
- d. Family vehicle (only with children from your family)
- e. Carpool (riding with children from other families)
- f. Shared Ride Cab
- g. Other (skateboard, scooter, inline skates, etc.)

6. How long does it normally take your child to get to/from school? (check one choice per column)

Travel time to school

- a. Less than 5 minutes
- b. 5 - 10 minutes
- c. 11 - 20 minutes
- d. More than 20 minutes
- e. Don't know / Not sure

Travel time from school

- a. Less than 5 minutes
- b. 5 - 10 minutes
- c. 11 - 20 minutes
- d. More than 20 minutes
- e. Don't know / Not sure

7. Has your child asked you for permission to walk or bike to/from school in the last year? (check one box) YES NO

8. At what grade would you allow your child to walk or bike without an adult to/from school? (select a grade between K-8)
 Grade (K-8) _____ (or I would not feel comfortable at any grade)

9. Which of the following issues affected your decision to allow, or not allow, your child to walk or bike to/from school? (check all that apply)

- Distance
- Convenience of driving
- Time
- Child's participation in before/after-school activities
- Speed of traffic along route
- Amount of traffic along route
- Adults to walk or bike with
- Sidewalks or pathways
- Safety of intersections and crossings
- Crossing guards
- Violence or crime
- Weather or climate
- Other _____
- Other _____

10. Would you probably let your child walk or bike to/from school if this problem were changed or improved? (circle one per line)

My child already walks or bikes to/from school)

- | | | |
|-----|----|----------|
| YES | NO | Not Sure |
| YES | NO | Not Sure |
| YES | NO | Not Sure |
| YES | NO | Not Sure |
| YES | NO | Not Sure |
| YES | NO | Not Sure |
| YES | NO | Not Sure |
| YES | NO | Not Sure |
| YES | NO | Not Sure |
| YES | NO | Not Sure |
| YES | NO | Not Sure |
| YES | NO | Not Sure |
| YES | NO | Not Sure |
| YES | NO | Not Sure |
| YES | NO | Not Sure |
| YES | NO | Not Sure |

11. In your opinion, how much does your child's school encourage or discourage walking and biking to/from school? (check one box)

- Strongly Encourage Encourage Neither Discourage Strongly Discourage

(Questions 12 and 13) Please answer these two questions based on your feelings (or what your child has told you) about your child walking or biking to/from school *whether or not your child actually walks or bikes to/from school.*

12. How much FUN is walking or biking to/from school for your child? (check one box)

Very Fun Fun Neutral Boring Very Boring

13. How HEALTHY is walking or biking to/from school for your child? (check one box)

Very Healthy Healthy Neutral Unhealthy Very Unhealthy

14. (a) How many full years of regular school have you completed? _____ years
(grade school through graduate school)

(b) Your spouse/partner's education? (if applicable) _____ years

15. Please provide any additional comments below (use the back of this page, if needed):

Thank you for participating in this survey!

Interested in Learning More?

If you are interested in discussing the conditions related to walking or biking to your child's school, please provide your contact information below (Your name will not be associated with the results of this survey!):

Name: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____