

FRANKFORT

Park District

Prairie Care Parent Handbook

Grand Prairie Elementary School 10480 Nebraska St. Frankfort, IL 60423 815-464-2887 or 815-464-5579 kmorrison@frankfortparks.org Tax ID# 36-2673904

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PURPOSE

Prairie Care is a License Exempt program which meets the requirements held by DCFS of having License Exemption status. The goal of Prairie Care is to provide a safe, recreational based program for children whose parents or guardians find it necessary to work or to further their education. The program is coordinated by qualified staff who strives to develop a warm constructive relationship with the children. Prairie Care provides a creative and stimulating environment in which children can learn, grow and thrive at their own developmental pace. Please note: The Park District is required by state statute (70 ILCS 1205/8-23) to obtain criminal conviction information concerning all applicants, and shall perform a criminal background check for applicants for all positions. Pursuant to statute, any conviction of offenses enumerated in subsection (c) of said statute shall automatically disqualify the applicant from consideration for working for the Park District. Any other conviction(s) shall not automatically disqualify the applicant from consideration, but rather, the conviction(s) will be considered in relationship to the specific job.

PROCEDURES AND PROGRAMMING

All Prairie Care Participants must complete a Prairie Care Packet, which contains important information such as emergency contacts, waivers, etc. Packets must be turned in prior to starting Prairie Care. All files will be stored in a secure file. All forms will be retained and destroyed in accordance the Local Records Act (50 ILCS 205). Information regarding participants is to be used only for purposes related to the program and will be confidential not to be shared with other participants without permission.

The Frankfort Park District reserves the right to change any procedures and programming related to the Prairie Care program.

DATES AND HOURS

LOCATION

Prairie Care will be held at Grand Prairie School. Students from Chelsea School will be bussed from their school to Grand Prairie School. Our main room for drop off and pick-up will be the lunchroom.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE PROCEDURES

Children must be accompanied by an adult when arriving or departing from the program. A "Sign In" book will be placed out in the morning and a "Sign Out" book will be placed out in the

afternoon. An adult is required to sign the children in and out of the program. If someone other than a parent will be picking up your child, please make sure they are listed on your registration form. A form of identification will be required (driver's license or state ID) to verify their identification. Your child will not be released to another adult without your consent. <u>All participants must provide an emergency authorized pick up person in order to register for the Prairie Care program.</u>

FEES, PAYMENTS AND PENALTIES

A separate registration form for each child attending Prairie Care must be filled out at the time of services requested. A monthly calendar has been provided for your convenience. On the calendar, please mark the days your child will be attending Prairie Care. Families must commit to a minimum of 8 sessions (AM or PM) per month per child. Payments will be due on third Wednesday of each month prior to the month of requested service. Your payment will reserve your spot for the whole month. Bi-monthly payments are an option, but you must complete the monthly schedule. Late registration will not be accepted. There is no pro rating of fees due to non-attendance. Discounts are available for District 157C employees. Please see current registration forms for more detailed payment information. Failure to make payments will result in a possible suspension or permanent dismissal from Prairie Care.

Any add-on days to your registration calendar will need the approval of Prairie Care Staff. Add-ons to the monthly calendar will incur a **\$25** surcharge per transaction plus the regular fee, based on availability. Approved add-ons should be made the week prior and *never during the same week*.

You may drop off your payments to the Frankfort Park District at 140 Oak Street or at the Prairie Care site. There is also an after hour's locked drop box located at the 140 Oak Street address. Cash and credit cards will be handled only at the Frankfort Park District business office at 140 Oak Street. Your cancelled check will be your record for tax purposes. **Emailed registrations are not accepted.** Parents are encouraged to keep a set schedule for the sake of the staffing schedules and your child's safety.

For late pick up, a \$25.00 fee will be charged for the first 15 minutes you are late after 6:30 PM. After the 15 minutes, one dollar for every minute thereafter will be charged. We will set our clocks by the school district clocks. The school district asks that after 8:00 am or prior to 3:30 pm, no cars be in the bus loop. You may use the parent parking lot or the main parking lot.

SHOES

Prairie Care will follow the school district's policy concerning non - marking shoes only in the gym. Children not wearing the proper shoes will not be allowed to play in the gym. Removing their shoes and running in their stocking feet will not be allowed.

ABSENCES

It is the Parent's responsibility to report absences to Prairie Care. It is not the school district's responsibility to take messages for Prairie Care. Call before 8:30 am at 815-464-2887. You may leave a message on the answering machine. There is no pro rating of fees due to non-attendance.

PERSONAL BELONGINGS

We recommend that personal belongings such as toys, hand held games, phones, sports equipment, etc. not be brought to Prairie Care, unless Prairie Care has arranged a special day for particular items, such as *Thursday Electronics Day*. If these special scheduled days become problematic, changes will be made. The staff/Frankfort Park District will not be held responsible for the children's personal belongings.

ALL CHILDREN MUST BE TOILET TRAINED. CHILDREN MAY NOT WEAR PULL - UPS.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL AND HEALTH POLICY

Prairie Care will always try to provide a safe environment for your children, but occasionally children are hurt or injured. In the event of such an occurrence, Prairie Care will follow the procedure below:

- A. A call will be made to inform you of the situation. If you cannot be reached, we will call the emergency numbers that you have provided.
- B. Medical paramedics will be called to handle any serious accidents.
- C. If your child needs medical care, we accompany them to the nearest facility.
- D. You must meet us at the medical facility as soon as possible.

If your child is ill or has a fever (100.4°F or above), please do not bring them to Prairie Care. Please do not send a participant who has any of the following: fever, diarrhea, vomiting, runny nose, pink eye, etc. If we are made aware of a contagious disease that was brought to Prairie Care, such as COVID-19, chicken pox, strep throat, lice or pink eye, we will notify you as soon as possible and we will respect your confidentiality in reporting the illness. Please keep in mind, a signed doctor's note will be required for a participant to return to Prairie Care if they were out due to a contagious disease/illness.

If a child becomes ill during Prairie Care, a parent will be notified and asked to pick up the child immediately. If a parent is unavailable, the emergency contact will be called. Children who are not feeling well during Prairie Care, will be quarantined in a designated area and must be picked up from Prairie Care immediately. Parents should be available to pick up their child in a timely manner.

<u>PLEASE BE ADVISED</u>: In the event that your child may have been exposed to COVID-19 outbreak your child will have to be dismissed from Prairie Care and self-quarantine at home until further notice.

BEHAVIOR REQUIREMENTS

Discipline is carried out in a way to help your children develop self-control and assume responsibility for their own behavior. It is kind and gentle, yet firm. It is based on four overall rules:

- A. A child may not disturb or hurt others, verbally or physically.
- B. A child may not damage equipment.
- C. A child may not place himself/herself in dangerous situations.
- D. A child needs to listen and respect staff.

REMEDY PROCEDURES

Staff will redirect the uncooperative child to another activity or redirect the entire activity into a more wholesome direction. Staff will encourage children to work out their own solutions. Staff will help children to understand one another's actions.

Staff will attempt to correct improper language. Sometimes we say "talk nicely". Excessive swearing, etc. will be addressed to both the parents and the child. Continued problems may result in dismissal for the day of the program.

One of our most reoccurring and disruptive problems has been name-calling and verbal abuse between children. If this occurs children are given a verbal warning, followed by a time out separation, and lastly, if the problem persists the child could be suspended from the program.

Discipline is the responsibility of the staff as well as the parents. If there is an assessment of the child's pattern of unacceptable behavior the entire staff shall be made aware of it and cooperate in carrying out the specific plan developed for the child.

If there is concern, the Recreation Supervisor may consult the school to gain any insight on daily concerns as well as consult with the parents.

Prairie Care has developed a program of written warnings for inappropriate behavior. The child will receive a written warning for inappropriate behavior (hitting, foul language, etc.) This will be signed by the child, parent and the staff member. On the third warning, after discussing it with you and your child, your child will be given an immediate one-day suspension from Prairie Care. Reoccurring problems could result in a permanent dismissal from Prairie Care.

If inappropriate behavior becomes severe, the programs practice of written warnings may not be used and suspension or discharge may occur immediately.

DISCHARGE POLICY

A child may be discharged from Prairie Care if any of the conditions outlined above arise. Discharge is the last alternative, but will be implemented if the problem poses immediate danger to the welfare of the participants and/or is a detriment to the quality of the program operation.

- 1. Verification of falsified admission records or incomplete forms.
- 2. Participant's actions cause endangerment to the safety of self and/or the other participants and staff of the program and newly established behavior management techniques fail. This includes inappropriate behavior, action or language.
- 3. Repeat violations of the transportation arrangements for the child, i.e. no phone to the program when the child will not be in attendance.
- 4. Repeat violations of payment policies and due dates.
- 5. Repeat violations by the parents of the (6:30pm) pick up time.
- 6. The childcare needs of the participant are incompatible.
- 7. Any additional violations or concerns deemed unacceptable by the Prairie Care Staff.

COMMUNICATION

Communication efforts will be implemented through a variety of ways. Letters from the Recreation Supervisor will be sent home, as important information needs to be addressed.

Talking to the staff on a daily basis is another means of communication. If you have any concerns please call the Recreation Supervisor, Kristen Morrison at 464-2887 or 464-5579. You may also reach me at kmorrison@frankfortparks.org

WEAPONS POLICY

The Park District strictly prohibits and does not tolerate weapons at any Park District facility, on any Park District property, or at any Park District-sponsored event.

Weapons include visible and concealed weapons, including those for which the owner has necessary permits. Weapons can include firearms, knives with a blade longer than three (3) inches, explosive materials or any other objects that could be used to harass, intimidate, or injure another individual, employee, manager, or supervisor.

A "NO FIREARMS" sign will be posted at all entrances of park district and school district facilities. Employees who violate this policy may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

ADA

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, The Frankfort Park District and The School District 157 C will make all reasonable efforts to accommodate children with disabilities. Parents are encouraged to provide any related information to assist Prairie Care in providing a quality service to the child. It is the responsibility for the parent/guardian to notify the park district

of any medical, physical and/or mental condition that may require special consideration. Confidentiality will be respected.

INCLUSION SUPPORT

Inclusion support is designed to provide the least restrictive environment while providing the maximum opportunity to participate in park district programs with reasonable accommodations. Prairie Care will work with staff from <u>Lincolnway Special Recreation Association</u> to make every effort to provide participants with disabilities reasonable accommodations. Should your child be in need of inclusion services, it is your responsibility to complete the appropriate forms provided by the park district, so a request can be made to review and process the participant's inclusion needs. This process may take up to two weeks. Lincolnway Special Recreation Association will make contact with the parent/guardian after a review is complete and decisions have been made on the best course of action concerning your child's needs.

Lincolnway Special Recreation Association 1900 Heather Glen Drive New Lenox, IL 60451 Melissa Jensen 815-320-3505 mjensen@lwsra.org Fax # 312-660-8831 www.lwsra.org

Office Hours: M-F, 9-5 pm

COVID-19 PROCEDURES

Prairie Care will follow School District 157C's policies regarding the latest COVID -19 guidelines. Prairie Care staff will notify parents of any updates throughout the school year.



Prairie Care Handbook Acknowledgement

I acknowledge that I have re	eceived a copy of	the Parent Ha	andbook outlinii	ng the policie	s of the
Prairie Care Program and it	meets with my a	pproval.			

Signature	Date

Prairie Care Phone System

Prairie Care currently has two phones:

➤ Office Phone # - 815-464-2882
 You may leave a message on the office phone answering machine. The office is closed between 8:30 – 2:30 pm.

<u>FYI!</u> When you receive a call from the Prairie Care Office Phone, it comes up on your caller ID as Grand Prairie School office phone number. This is how the phone system is set up in the building and cannot be changed at this time. <u>Please listen to your messages</u>. If we happen to leave a message for you while using this phone, please return call (dial) to the Prairie Care office number.

> Prairie Care Cell Phone # 815-641-2458

This phone is used not only as phone, but also an alert system. This phone is your way into the building. When the staff members hear this phone ring, they will come to the door and open it for you or buzz you into the vestibule for drop off and pick up only. We will bring your child to you in the vestibule. Parents will not be allowed in the Prairie Care area due to COVID-19 guidelines. The front doors will be locked at all times.

We encourage you to enter both numbers into your contact list on your cell phone. Both numbers will be posted on the front door for your convenience.

Please contact Prairie Care or park district office staff if you have question about the current phone system.

FRANKFORT PARK DISTRICT REGISTRATION FORM (Please Print)			N	Mail, Drop-Off or Fax :				
Family Last Name Date				Frankfort Park District 140 Oak Street				
		Home Phone			F	Frankfort, IL 60423 Phone: 815-469-9400		
City						1	ax: 815-469-	
E-Mail Address							es via email 🗆	Yes □ No
☐ The Frankfort Park I member require special	District wo	elcomes individual e and describe any	ls with disabilities y accommodation	into its progra s needed	ms. Please chec	k the box	x if you or a fa	mily
Participant Name		Program Name		Session	Birthdate Mo/Day/Yr	Grade	Sex: M/F	Fee
Please Indicate your ch	oice of pay	yment □Check	□ Cash □ C	redit Card	Tota	al Enclo	sed \$	•
Account Number - mus	t complet	e when using Visa	, MasterCard , or	American Exp	ress			
					VISA	bs/erCard	DIS	NETWORK
Cardholder Name				Exp. Date	(Charge A	Amount	
Authorized Signature				-			Code	
Authorized Signature_	Must h	ave signature to	be processed			Security	Code	
			READ CAREI	FULLY				
Please be aware that, in signing up a named participants might sustain. T follows:			et programs, you will be wa	iving and releasing all				
As a participant in thes may sustain as a result of participati	ing, in any mar		es connected with or associa	ated with such program				
services for my child when it is deep	y to the Frankfo med necessary.	ort Park District and the tea I also give permission to t	acher/instructor supervising the selected paramedic/phy	gan event to obtain a paysician to treat my child	l as requested by the Fra			
reached. I am aware that any expen I agree to waive and re ernmental units, any and all indeper	linquish any ar	nd all claims I may have as	a result of participating in	these programs against	the Frankfort Park Dist			
ever nature, might be directly or ind parties" in the remainder of this Agr	lirectly liable for reement.)		sustain while participating	in these programs. (Th	e parties described in the	e preceding s	entence are referred t	o as "released
participation in these programs. I further agree to inden	nnify, hold har	mless and defend the Frank	cfort Park District and any	and all other released pa	arties, from any and all	•		•
nature while I am participating in th	d agree that the lese programs a	e terms such as "participation and further include the prov	on", "programs", and "activities of or failure to provide	vities", referred to in the de proper instructions of	nis Agreement, include a of supervision, the use ar	nd adjustment		
ment, and apparatus, and anything r I understand the nature am registering, and have read and fu	of these progr	ams for which I am register	ring, and have read and ful	ly understand this Waiv	ver, Release and Hold H	armless the n		
that I subsequently receive will be in CANCELLATION AND REFUN tor's note is provided for an injury of processed. **There are no refunds made. A 50% refund will be given it customer's account. All refunds mu initiated by the Park District (i.e. lov	D POLICY: For illness. The given for Trips f notified prior st be done in p	Refunds of 100% will be m doctor's note and a comple s, One-Day Programs, or Sp to the second course meeti erson at the park district of	nade, less a \$10.00 service eted refund form must be su pecial Events. All League ing for reasons other than a	abmitted to us within a deposits are non-refund doctor-verified illness	week of the doctor visit dable. There are NO ref or injury. All refunds le	Refund che unds on Leag ess than \$20	cks take up to two we gues once the teams/so will be applied as a co	eeks to be chedules are redit to the
NSF RETURNED PAYMENT PO Park District per transaction.			the Park District for non-	sufficient funds, the iss	suer will be charged \$25	to cover bank	k charges and fee sur	charge to the
X Mandatory signature of partici	pant, parent o	r legal guardian				Date		



Prairie Care Participant Information Sheet

		GENDER		
ADDRESS	CITY	ZIP		
BIRTHDATE	HOME PHONE ()	GRADE IN FAL	L 2021 _	
IOM'S CELL #	DAD'S Cl	ELL #		
-MAIL ADDRESS:				
ATHER'S NAME	OCCU	PATION		
BUSINESS ADDRESS	BUSINE	SS PHONE		
MOTHER'S NAME	OCCUI	PATION		
BUSINESS ADDRESS	BUSINE	SS PHONE		
	ats have been made by the paren		one not	
will be required. Your child unless special arrangemen				
inless special arrangemen	nts have been made by the paren	nt or guardian. PHON	<u>NE #</u>	
inless special arrangemen <u>NAME</u> 1.	nts have been made by the parent research research research	nt or guardian. <u>PHON</u>	<u>NE #</u>	
Inless special arrangements NAME 1 2	nts have been made by the parent state in the	nt or guardian. PHON	<u>NE #</u>	
NAME NAME 1 2 Persons to contact in case o	nts have been made by the parent research resear	nt or guardian. PHON le who are available to p	NE #	
NAME NAME NAME Persons to contact in case of necessary. Persons author	RELATIONSHIP f emergency or illness. List peoperized to pick up your child in an o	nt or guardian. PHON le who are available to p	NE #	
NAME NAME NAME NAME NAME NAME Persons to contact in case of necessary. Persons author	RELATIONSHIP f emergency or illness. List peoperized to pick up your child in an o	le who are available to pemergency are:	NE #	
NAME	rits have been made by the parent RELATIONSHIP f emergency or illness. List peoperized to pick up your child in an orange RELATIONSHIP A	t or guardian. PHON le who are available to pemergency are: DDRESS	NE #	

DOES YOUR CHILD HAVE ANY HEALTH PROBLEMS?
DOES YOUR CHILD HAVE ANY DISABILITIES THAT STAFF SHOULD BE AWARE OF?
DOES YOUR CHILD HAVE A CLASSROOM AIDE DURING THEIR SCHOOL DAY? IF SO, FOR WHAT PURPOSE?
HAS YOUR CHILD PREVIOSLY BEEN ENROLLED IN A BEFORE/AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM?
YesNoWhere
May your child have his/her picture taken while at Prairie Care? Yes No
Are your child's immunizations current? Yes No
If no, please explain
IS THERE ANY SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS OR NEEDS THAT MAY COME UP AT PRAIRIE CARE, INCLUDING ALLERGIES AND MEDICATIONS TAKEN DURING PRAIRIE CARE?

All paperwork must be turned into our business office prior to starting Prairie Care!

Founders Community Center 140 Oak Street Frankfort, IL 60423 Phone # 815-469-9400 Fax # 815-469-9275



MEDICAL CONSENT/RELEASE FORM

Child's Name:	Grade:
List any medical information that would be proper medical treatment.	necessary for us to know to ensure
Allergies	
Medical Condition	
Other	
I hereby grant authority to the Frankfort Pare event to obtain a paramedic to give emerger ambulance services for my child when it is permission to the selected paramedic/physic Frankfort Park District in the event that I can expenses incurred for any of the above services.	ncy treatment to my child or obtain deemed necessary. I also give cian to treat my child as requested by the nnot be reached. I am aware that any
Signature Parent/Guardian	Date



Consent/ Release Form

Child's Name	Grade
	Photographs
I/we authorize photographs to be ta	aken of my child to be used for publicity purposes.
Signature of Parent/Guardian	Date
Relationship to child	
	Emergency First Aid
The only measure	es taken at the Prairie Care are as follows:
Ž	
Bump or E	Bruise Splinter
Cut or Scra	atch Nose Bleed
If further can	are is needed, we will notify a parent.
Signature of Parent/Guardian	Date
Relationship to child	
	Field Trips
I/ We authorize the staff of the Fra	ankfort Park District to take my/our child on walking Tri
	ities. A five-day notice will always be given for field trip
Signature of Parent/Guardian	Date
Relationship to child	



Prairie Care Discipline Policy

The Frankfort Park District Prairie Care Staff would like your child to have the best experience possible while at Prairie Care this year. Thus, all participants must understand and follow the Prairie Care guidelines and rules. These guidelines and expectations are in place to ensure the safety of your child and staff.

- 1. Listen to staff.
- 2. Respect Prairie Care staff and other camp participants.
- 3. Respect Prairie Care property and facility property.
- 4. Keep hands, feet, and other objects to yourself.
- 5. Participate in Prairie Care activities.
- 6. Use an inside voice when indoors.
- 7. Respect the bus and rules of the bus.
- 8. Follow staff instructions on field trip days.
- 9. Clean up after yourself.
- 10. Be positive and have fun!

Should a participant choose not to follow any of these rules, these are the guidelines that the staff will follow to handle the situation:

- **Step 1**: Verbal Warning.
- **Step 2**: Time out or time away from group.
- Step 3 Behavior Warning report sent home.
- **Step 4**: Conference with Parent.
- **Step 5**: Meeting with the Supervisor, necessary staff, parent(s), and child.

At this time, suspension or expulsion will be discussed.

- In the event that a Prairie Care participant engages in behavior which poses a threat of bodily harm to himself, others, or facility property, an immediate meeting with the parent(s), or guardian may be called. If such behavior warrants it, an immediate suspension or expulsion may result.
- Situations that will result in an automatic Behavior Warning report are: stealing, use of profanity, excessive violence (hitting, kicking, biting, etc.) and property damage.

Please review these rules with your child. The staff will review these rules with your child at the beginning of Prairie Care. Thank you in advance for your cooperation, and we hope to have a great school year!

I have reviewed the discipline policy with my child.	
Parents Signature:	Child's Signature:
Date:	



Self-Assessment COVID Symptom Questionnaire

This questionnaire needs to be completed every morning prior to bringing your child to Prairie Care. If the answer is YES to any of these questions, please do not bring your child to before/after school. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Kristen Morrison at 815-464-5579 or kmorrison@frankfortparks.org. Staff will be conducting a brief screening at drop off. Thank you!

- 1. Does the child or anyone in your household have/had a fever (100.4 or above) in the past 72 hours?
- 2. Does the child have the chills or any body aches in the past 72 hours?
- 3. Does the child have a sore throat or cough?
- 4. When the child breathes, is there any chest tightness or congestion?
- 5. Has the child experienced diarrhea within the past 72 hours?
- 6. Has the child had any upper respiratory symptoms in the past 72 hours?
- 7. Have you or any family members been around anyone suspected of or tested positive for COVID- 19?
- 8. Has the child had loss of taste or smell in the past 72 hours?
- 9. To the best of your knowledge, has your child been in close contact (within 6 ft. for 15 minutes or longer) with anyone who tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 14 days?

I have reviewed the Self-Assessment Questionnaire with my child and commit to implementing this before each Prairie Care session my child attends through the Frankfort Park District.

Parent/Guardian Name	
Parent/Guardian Signature	
Date	



Frankfort Park District Prairie Care Technology Contract

Technology Day is scheduled on **Thursdays** at Prairie Care. The Frankfort Park District Prairie Care staff would like your child to have an enjoyable and safe experience on this special day. Thus, all participants must understand and follow the Prairie Care guidelines and rules for technology use. These guidelines and expectations are in place to ensure the safety of your child and other participants in the program. Please review the following rules regarding technology use at Prairie Care.

- All devices that are brought to Prairie Care should have cellular data turned off.
- Access to the internet is not allowed (The school district Wi-Fi is password protected and will not be accessible to participants).
- Age appropriate **E rated** games only are allowed to be played at Prairie Care. **No videos or music.**
- Texting, taking photos or Snapchat will **NOT** be allowed.
- Children are responsible for keeping track of their own devices. Staff is not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged items.
- Parents are responsible for checking the devices, to ensure their child's devices are set up properly in regard to the above guidelines.

If participants are caught violating the rules for technology use at Prairie Care, their devices will be taken away until parents arrive for pick up. Should a participant choose not to follow any of these guidelines, they will not be able to participate in Technology Day for the rest of the school year.

I have reviewed the Technology contract with my child and understand that if the rules regarding the use of technology devices are not followed as stated above, my child will not be able to participate for the rest of the year.

The parent and child must have the form signed in order to participate on Technology Day.

Date:		
Child's Name	Child's Signature	
Parent's Name	Parent's Signature	