

Spring Ridge Review

Spring Ridge Elementary

Elkhorn Public Schools
Elkhorn, Nebraska



A Message from Mrs. Petersen

August 2019

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www.elkhornweb.org

www.springridgepto.com

2019-20
School Theme:
"REACHING OUT
CREATES A
COMMUNITY OF
KINDNESS"
#SRocks

Dear Spring Ridge Parents and Students,

Welcome to a new school year! Our first day of school is August 15, 2019. A new school year is always exciting. Our focus will be on providing each child with new challenges that will result in a rewarding school experience. Academic emphasis on the core content areas of reading, writing, math, science, and social studies will remain a priority as well as providing a learning program that builds on each year to reach state standards. Instruction in the fine arts, foreign language, technology, guidance, and physical education complete our program providing each student with the opportunity to develop areas of interest and skill.

Our goal is to challenge our students intellectually, grow them socially, and guide them toward independent thinking and problem solving. As we strive to promote healthy development in all aspects of each student's life we also strive to develop a student body of good character; students who make good choices and decisions resulting in successful and healthy outcomes. We encourage students to demonstrate the best of themselves every moment of every day and to make positive contributions to the groups and organizations to which they belong. We strive to instill within our student body a sense of pride as well as collective pride and love of and for our school.

As we begin this year, please remember that this is your school and we welcome your involvement. Family commitment is vital to our success. When the partnership between Spring Ridge Elementary and the families we serve is strong, achievement is also strengthened. Our children truly benefit! I look forward to working with you this academic school year!

Enjoy the last few days of summer vacation! If you have any questions, please call 402-637-0204 or email me at lpetersen@epsne.org Can't wait to see you Tuesday, August 13th!

Laurinda Petersen
Spring Ridge Principal



Back to School 101

Since we moved to an online registration system last school year, we have found that there really is no need for our traditional Back to School 101 event. We ask that you go into Power School to update demographic information and contact preferences, sign forms, and pay for various items. The online registration system opened on July 24th and you should have received an email from Power School that day. If you did not, please call our Central Office at 402-289-2579.

Letters were mailed to incoming kindergarten families, so you will be able to set up a parent access account. Here is a link to directions to set up a parent access account: <https://bit.ly/2KqcSLh>. If you already have a parent account for an older child(ren), you do not need to create an additional account. Simply add your younger student(s) to your current account by following these directions: <https://bit.ly/2wDNJuT>.

If you have any questions or concerns or need assistance setting up your account, please contact Mrs. Manske at 402-637-0204.

If you would like to come up to school to receive assistance with this, staff will be available during new student registration days on July 31st and August 1st. You do not need to be a new family to Spring Ridge to come up and receive help on these days with the online registration.

Families who have completed the online registration process will be able to go into Power School closer to the start of school (date yet to be determined) to find out who their child(ren)'s teacher will be for the 2019-20 school year.

School Pictures will be on the second day of school, which is Friday, August 16.

Open House & Curriculum Night Held Together

2019-20 Open House and 1st-5th Curriculum Night Held on Tuesday, August 13.

Kindergarten Curriculum Night will be held on Thursday, August 8 at 6 PM.

On Tuesday, August 13th, K-5 Open House and 1st-5th Curriculum Night will be combined into one event. The K-5 Open House will be held from 5:30-6:00 PM. There will then be two repeating sessions for 1st-5th Curriculum Night. The first session will be from 6:00-6:30, and the second one will be held from 6:30-7:00 PM. Please see the last page of this newsletter to learn which classrooms will host the curriculum night sessions.

School Basics.....

The first day of school is Thursday, August 15. The school day begins at 8:10 AM and the tardy bell rings at 8:15 AM. Dismissal is 3:06 PM. Please make every effort to arrive on time. Students who arrive on time are more likely to make the most of his/her day. Your help is appreciated.

If your child is not attending school or will be coming late due to illness, doctor appointments, or another type of appointment, please call the school office at 402-637-0204. Please minimize doctor appointments and vacations during school hours.

Students arriving to school late or leaving early must sign in/out of the front office. When students leave early, a parent must come to the office to sign his/her name out. Parents of students in the cottages must enter the building through the front doors and check in at the office.

Be a Partner in Your Child's Education

Your child will have dozens of terrific instructors over the years, but you'll always be your child's most important teacher. To become a partner in your child's education:

- Volunteer in class or within the school.
- Attend open house, curriculum night, and parent-teacher conferences.
- Read every handout and paper your child brings home.
- Make school a priority. Schedule appointments and vacations outside of school hours.
- Expect your child to succeed in school. Children try harder to meet parents' expectations.
- Respect homework. Sit with your child as he/she works. Show him/her that you take it seriously.
- Speak up. If there's a problem at school, talk to your child's teacher immediately. Work together on finding a solution.
- Show and tell your child often that you love him/her.
- Celebrate! Your child is learning more every day!

The **Spring Ridge Review** is a monthly newsletter published by the staff and volunteers of Spring Ridge Elementary School,- Elkhorn Public Schools in Omaha, Nebraska. Article submissions are due on the 20th of each month.

17830 Shadow Ridge Drive
Elkhorn, NE 68130

Spring Ridge Principal
Laurinda Petersen:
lpetersen@epsne.org

Secretary
Muriel Manske:
mmanske@epsne.org

Contact: 402-637-0204 for more information.
www.elkhornweb.org

School Breakfast and Lunch

Money may be deposited into your Sodexo lunch account on-line or at school. When students are nearly out of money in their lunch account, an email will be sent to the parent and a note will be sent home with the student. Parents are highly encouraged to always have a positive balance in their child(ren)'s lunch account. An email will be sent at the end of each month regardless of the balance. Breakfast runs from 7:35-7:55 AM. For lunch, there will be a four-entrée menu selection each day unless notified by the kitchen staff. You are welcome to have lunch with your child any day. The cost of an adult lunch is \$3.95. Please make your lunch reservation with the school office before 9:00 AM on the day you are planning to join your child for lunch. You are welcome to bring a sack lunch but please do not bring lunches from outside vendors (McDonalds, Subway, etc.). Carbonated beverages are permitted only on special days designated by your child's teacher. Cost of school meals is:

Student Breakfast	\$1.50
Student Lunch	\$2.60 (This is a \$.10 increase from 2018-19.)
Adult Lunch	\$3.95 (This is a \$.10 increase from 2018-19.)
Milk	\$0.45



New Faces

We are welcoming a few new staff members this year. Kailey Heuertz will be joining our Spring Ridge Family as a special education teacher. Danielle Robb will be our Instructional Facilitator, and Shelley Kelly will be a teacher assistant. Laura Novotny is coming over from EVV to be our school counselor, and Leanna Klimisch is returning home from Chicago to be a 5th Grade teacher at SR. In addition, Riley Jenkins will be a 1st Grade teacher and Lexi Krumwiede is moving from Arbor View to be our new speech pathologist.

Please join me in giving them a very warm Spring Ridge welcome!!!

2019-20 PTO Meeting Schedule:

August 26, 7:00 PM
October 7, 7:00 PM
November 4, 7:00 PM
December 2, 7:00 PM
February 3, 7:00 PM
March 2, 7:00 PM
April 6, 7:00 PM
May 4, 7:00 PM



Walking Club: A Great Way To Start The Day!

Walking Club is a daily activity that begins at 7:55 a.m. Children arriving to school between 7:55 a.m. and 8:10 a.m. will participate in this supervised exercise. Supervision is not provided before 7:55 a.m. Please do not drop children off before 7:55 a.m. Teachers will bring students into the building at 8:10 a.m. Students arriving between 8:10-8:15 a.m. may go directly to their classrooms. Any student arriving after 8:15 a.m. will be marked tardy. **Walking Club begins Monday, August 19.** Parents are welcome to walk with children. Please leave pets at home! Thank you!

Pick-up

School dismisses each day at 3:06 PM. No supervision is provided after 3:15 PM. Please make sure your child(ren) are picked up on time.

Thank you!

Calendar of Events

July 31 & August 1	New Student Registration
August 8	Kindergarten Curriculum Night, 6-7 PM
August 13	Open House (5:30-6), 1 st -5 th Curriculum Night (6-7 PM)
August 15	First Day of School
August 16	School Pictures
August 26	PTO, 7 PM
August 28	Outdoor Ed Parent Meeting, 6 PM
September 2	NO SCHOOL - Labor Day
September 11 & 12	5 th Grade Outdoor Ed.
September 13	Fall Fundraiser – Celebrate Spring Ridge, 5-8 PM
September 18	1 st Grade Field Trip to Arbor Day Farm
September 20	Battle of the Books Field Trip to Plum Creek
September 23-25	School Book Fair in Library
September 24 & 25	Parent-Teacher Conferences, 3-7 PM
September 26	NO SCHOOL – Teacher In-Service
September 27	NO SCHOOL for students and staff
October 1	Picture Retakes

The first day of school for the 2019-20 school year will be Thursday, August 15.

On the first and second days of school, teachers will be standing outside at 7:50 AM holding a sign with their last name on it. Students should find their teacher and line up in front of him/her. Kindergarten Teachers will be at the kindergarten door. 1st Grade Teachers will stand in front of the front doors. 2nd and 3rd Grade Teachers who are in the building will also be out front. 4th, 5th, and 2nd/3rd Grade Teachers in the Cottages will be standing on the blacktop by the 2nd-5th playground, which is at the northeast corner of the building.





Student Entrances & Exits

Kindergarten: Students enter and exit the school through the kindergarten classroom door.

First Grade/Second Grade/Third Grade:

Students enter and exit the school through the front doors of the building.

Cottage Second Grade/Third Grade: Enter and exit their specific classroom in cottage.

Fourth Grade/Fifth Grade: Enter and exit the school through the staff entrance doors on the east side of the building.

Students in the cottages and fourth and fifth graders may use the sidewalk between the east staff parking lot and the school building or the sidewalk north of the staff parking lot when arriving or leaving school.

Visitor Guidelines

School safety is a major concern to both parents and school personnel. Several procedures at Spring Ridge need to be followed by all visitors to our building:

- All visitors are required to sign in/out when arriving and leaving the building.
- Visitors will be asked to wear a visitor's badge while at Spring Ridge.
- All visitors must use the front entrance (including kindergarten parents and parents of students in the cottages). Please do not go directly to the classrooms without checking in at the office. If you have brought something that your child has forgotten, please drop it off at the office and we will be happy to take it to your child. Please help us minimize classroom interruptions.

5th Grade Outdoor Education

Outdoor Education has been a part of the 5th grade curriculum in Elkhorn Public Schools for many years. Outdoor Ed is a two-day field trip designed to reinforce concepts learned in the classroom by taking students to explore nature, science and physical activity at a camp located just outside the Metro area.

Prior to the 2012-13 school year, this field trip included an overnight stay at the camp cabins. Beginning the 2012-13 school year, students no longer stay overnight. Outdoor Ed will remain a two-day program and will continue to meet all of the intended learning objectives.

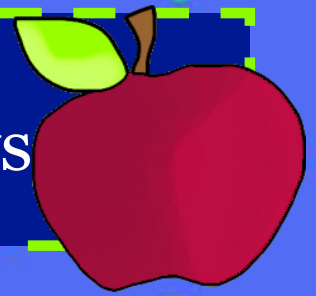
Several factors led to the District's decision to discontinue the overnight stay during Outdoor Ed:

- The increasing volume of medications students require during an overnight stay away from home has become a liability concern.
- Many schools have experienced difficulty recruiting staff members to provide overnight supervisions.
- In order to ensure student safety, all volunteers must complete a background check to accompany students to Outdoor Ed. Background checks take time to process and Outdoor Ed volunteers had to make the commitment several weeks in advance in order to ensure their background check would be completed on time.
- For some students, Outdoor Ed is their first experience away from home and it can be upsetting. The increasing requests for special accommodations at nighttime made the overnight stay difficult for supervising staff members.
- A review of the Outdoor Ed curriculum confirmed that all learning objectives could be accomplished with out an overnight stay.

Outdoor Education for our fifth graders is scheduled for September 11 & 12! There will be an Outdoor Ed. Parent Meeting on Wednesday, August 28th at 6 PM to learn more about this exciting program. The students will have an extended day on September 11th at the camp and on September 12th the day will be normal school hours (8:00 AM – 3:00 PM). Transportation will be provided to and from camp.



Spring Ridge PTO News



WWW.SPRINGRIDGEPTO.COM

This site will be the hub for all information pertaining to PTO: volunteer opportunities/schedules, downloadable forms, calendar of events, fundraising information, and much more.

Calling All Volunteers!

Looking to get involved in PTO? Stop by our table at Kindergarten Curriculum night and Open House night to sign up, or email your interest to springridgeelementarypto@gmail.com

Kindergarten Playdate!

Do you have an incoming kindergartener? If so, consider staying after Kindergarten Curriculum night on August 8th and open house night on August 13th for a kindergarten playdate. Incoming kindergarteners and their families will meet at the west playground at Spring Ridge (closest to their classrooms). Meet other parents and let the kids get to know one another and develop friendships!

Yearbook!

Orders for yearbooks will be accepted at Kindergarten curriculum night and open house



Online Directory!

Access to school and family information will be **FREE** this year! Please stop by the PTO table at Open house to confirm your information is accurate. You can also opt out at this time. (note: your information will only be available to Spring Ridge families through personal ID and password.)

Classroom Parties!

While PTO will still be managing the fall and winter classroom parties, we will **NOT** be collecting money from parents this year. However, volunteers will still be needed to help on the party days, so be sure to sign up to help when the time comes!

Sponsorships!

Do you own a business that you'd like to advertise at events and on our website? If so, complete the form included in this newsletter and return to Back to School 101, or email it to springridgeelementarypto@gmail.com or Ronna Sears-Fritz rsearsfritz@gmail.com



PTO EXEC BOARD

Ronna Sears-Fritz, Co-President
Karamie Vala, Co-President
Tami Candy, Co-VP
Melanie Rose, Co-VP
Kristen Kelley, Treasurer
Jill Peters, Secretary



**You can reach the homes of 500+ students when you become
a 2019-2020 sponsor of *Spring Ridge Elementary School***

Throughout the school year, Spring Ridge Elementary School's Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) coordinates many activities for our students and families, all of which provide an excellent marketing avenue for the business community. We appreciate the support of local businesses, which is why we extend to you the opportunity to become a sponsor of Spring Ridge for the 2018-2019 school year.

Spring Ridge is continuing with our online school directory, which will reach the homes of over 500 students, teachers, and staff. We have many exciting activities scheduled this year where our school banner will be prominently displayed – **Curriculum Night, Fall FUNdraiser, Parent Teacher Conferences, Book Fair, Music Programs, Bingo Night, Family Fun Nights**, and at our **Spring Carnival**. Your logo and website link can be posted on our school website and you may display business cards and marketing materials at our sponsor table during the Carnival. This year, we will also advertise your business logo as part of the signature line in every outgoing EMAIL and on our Facebook page.

Outlined below are different sponsorship and advertising levels to best suit your advertising needs:

- **\$250:** Logo & link on our NEW PTO website (www.springridgepto.com) • Advertisement in the online school directory (includes Ad Title, Ad text, email address, website link, and logo) • name & logo on Spring Ridge banner • yearbook recognition • Email signature line • Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/springridgepto/>)
- **\$125:** Advertisement in the online school directory (includes Ad Title, Ad text, email address, website link, and logo) • name & logo on Spring Ridge banner • yearbook recognition
- **\$75:** Advertisement in the online school directory (includes Ad Title, Ad text, email address, website link and logo)
- **In-kind donation (non-monetary donation):** We would love donations of products and/or services to use at our school events.

To secure your sponsorship or directory advertisement, simply complete the enclosed form and return with your check payable to Spring Ridge PTO, 17830 Shadow Ridge Drive, Omaha 68130, by **Friday, August 23**. Sponsor logos in .jpeg or .eps for the website can be emailed directly to SpringRidgeElementaryPTO@gmail.com.

The support from parents and community businesses like yours has been imperative in helping the PTO fund new classroom technology, additional educational field trips, supplemental curriculum requests, and much more to enrich the education experiences of our students.

We hope you will consider a sponsorship to support the students at Spring Ridge Elementary School, and welcome the opportunity to discuss the options available to increase your visibility within the Spring Ridge Elementary community.

Please feel free to contact us with your questions and ideas.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support!

Best Regards,

Ronna Sears-Fritz and Karamie Vala

Co-Presidents, Spring Ridge PTO

SpringRidgeElementaryPTO@gmail.com

Spring Ridge Elementary School 2019-2020 Sponsorship

Company Name: _____

Ad Title: _____

Ad Text (Max 100 Characters): _____

Website Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

_____ **Yes! I want to partner with Spring Ridge Elementary School as a sponsor!**

_____ Artwork and payment are enclosed.

_____ Payment is enclosed - I will email a new logo or ad for publication to SpringRidgeElementaryPTO@gmail.com

Select Option **Sponsor Levels**

_____ **\$250:** Logo & link on our NEW PTO website (www.springridgepto.com) • Advertisement in the online school directory (includes Ad Title, Ad text, email address, website link, and logo) • name & logo on Spring Ridge banner • yearbook recognition • Email signature • Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/springridgepto>)

_____ **\$125:** Advertisement in the online school directory (includes Ad Title, Ad text, email address, website link, and logo) • name & logo on Spring Ridge banner • yearbook recognition

_____ **\$75:** Advertisement in the online school directory (includes Ad Title, Ad text, email address, website link and logo)

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Sponsor Deadline: Friday, August 23, 2019

Submit completed order form, ad artwork and check payable to: Spring Ridge PTO, 17830 Shadow Ridge Drive, Omaha NE 68130

Questions?

SpringRidgeElementaryPTO@gmail.com
or rsearsfritz@gmail.com

The Spring Ridge Elementary PTO thanks you for your support!



SPRING RIDGE OPEN HOUSE & CURRICULUM NIGHT TUESDAY, AUGUST 13 FROM 5:30-7 PM

OPEN HOUSE IS FROM 5:30-6 PM. IT IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS TO MEET THEIR NEW TEACHER. THE SCHOOL WILL BE OPEN FOR SELF-GUIDED TOURS.

CURRICULUM NIGHT—TWO SESSIONS HELD FOR 1ST THROUGH 5TH GRADES:

- SESSION ONE 6:00-6:30
- SESSION TWO 6:30-7:00

LOCATION FOR CURRICULUM PRESENTATIONS:

- FIRST GRADE – THOMPSON & WHITE
- SECOND GRADE – SCHABEN & SLEDGE
- THIRD GRADE – LEWIS & HERBER
- FOURTH GRADE – HERRINGER & HAYNES
- FIFTH GRADE – ROHWER & NIELSEN

****KINDERGARTEN CURRICULUM NIGHT WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 8 AT 6 PM IN THE SPRING RIDGE CAFETERIA.





Make a difference with the Elkhorn Public Schools!

The Elkhorn Public School District is currently hiring teacher assistant/paraprofessionals for the 2019-2020 school year in our early education, elementary, and secondary settings. EPS is seeking caring and collaborative individuals with a desire to help students achieve.

- **Family friendly hours – follows the school day and calendar**
 - **Competitive pay (\$14.65/\$15.15)**
 - **Rewarding working environment**

Apply at www.elkhornweb.org Employment: Support Staff Non-Certified: Teacher Assistant