

August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017

Dear 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent/Guardian,

We are excited to continue our relationship with Youth Frontiers and to have them back for our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade retreat again this year. We believe students do better in school when they feel comfortable with who they are and feel physically and emotionally safe. In other words, being known and valued within our community. To aid in creating this culture, Prairie is again partnering with Youth Frontiers who will facilitate our Courage Retreat in September. Activities and conversations with students will continue throughout the school year during advisory period.

What is Youth Frontiers? Here are a few facts:

- Began in 1987 and is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization based in Minneapolis.
- Their mission is build positive school communities that focus on students respecting themselves and others equally.
- They provide activities that teach students skills in empathy and respect.
- YF is well-known – they have worked with over 200,000 students since 2015.

This high energy, interactive retreat is scheduled (grade specific) as follows:

- September 13<sup>th</sup> – Grade 8 students will meet in the theatre promptly at 8:30AM.
- September 14<sup>th</sup> – Grade 7 students will meet in the theatre promptly at 8:30AM.

For more information about Youth Frontiers, I encourage you to visit their website at: [youthfrontiers.org/courage-retreat](http://youthfrontiers.org/courage-retreat).

I am very excited to continue this adventure and am thankful for your support as we move forward!

Sincerely,



Bonnie Benes  
Head of Middle School