

Important dates

Spring Book Fair March 1-14

BCO meeting March 8- 7:00 PM

Teacher workday March 12 **NOTE: This date has been recently added.**

Spring Break- March 15-19

*****For your planning: PSD added two Teacher Work Days to this school year. The first is Friday March 12. The second will be Monday April 19.**

Reminders

- Students should not be bringing toys or electronics from home to school. If they do, they need to be turned off and secured in their backpack.
- Please cross Bennett road at the crosswalk in front of the school.
- The Spring Book Fair will be online March 1-14. Here is the link:<https://www.scholastic.com/bf/bennetelementaryib>
- With the warmer weather in the afternoons we begin to see more and more jackets/sweatshirts left on the playground! Please remind your students to check the lost and found for anything they may be missing.

The 5210+ Challenge deadline for submission has been extended to Friday March 5th! So, if you have not entered your log, there is still time!!

<https://hkc20.wufoo.com/forms/2021-5210-challenge-submission-form/>

BCO News

, Happy National Pound Cake Day from the Bennett Community Organization! Your PTO, the BCO! I am Eric, your BCO Co-President. Van Halen came out with a song called Poundcake when I was in High School (guess how old I am), but oh boy, that is NOT what this day is about. To make pound cake, you're going to need a pound each of flour, butter, eggs, and sugar. But good luck finding all that now. The college kids have probably bought it all up in anticipation of this day.

The Spring Scholastic Book Fair is here through March 14th! Check out the fair here:

<https://www.scholastic.com/bf/bennetelementaryib>

Be sure to sign in to the Scholastic site so that Bennett earns 25% in rewards! Rewards are invested back into the Bennett library and classrooms! Book-only orders over \$25 receive free shipping and are shipped directly to your home! What has Fly Guy gotten into since the last book fair? Will the couch potato get a sunburn when he finally goes outside? Why are the last kids on earth on the skeleton road? Check out the book fair to find out!

Please join us for the BCO Meeting on Monday, March 8th at 7pm! We will talk about how to use the StamREAD money, and discuss the upcoming International Day (April 30th). We will also hear an update from the Bennett office. Will it be at the beginning of the meeting, at the end, somewhere in between? Only Eric knows!

7:00-7:45 - meet.google.com/hgw-byft-vkg

Do you need a refresher on what happened at the February BCO meeting? Check here!
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1bMbwVzBtcA0ICVLFSEyWyrEPuN3XVg-N?usp=sharing>

Thank you! We hope to see you on Monday evening!

Eric Bowman

bennettcommorg+pres@gmail.com (BCO related email, Bennett questions)

enamwob@gmail.com (love letters, hate mail, what is the best Van Halen song?)

303-885-9734

Lisa Verbsky, Co-President

bennettcommorg+pres@gmail.com

CMAS testing

Hi Bennett Families!

Spring is coming, and along with anticipating nicer weather and week off from school, we are also starting to gear up for CMAS/PARCC testing in grades 3 - 5.

For 2021, Bennett's main testing sessions will be **April 6th – April 8th** (Math) and **April 13th – 15th** (English Language Arts). 5th grade (only) will also test in Science from **April 20th –**

22nd. Makeups sessions for absent students will be scheduled as needed and may continue through **April 30th**.

But please don't feel that testing will be the only thing happening in your child's classroom those days! The majority of your child's day will be spent as normal, including specials, recess, lunch, most academic subjects, and 5th grade Exhibition.

We appreciate you planning appointments and absences around testing times whenever possible. It is better for students to be able to test with their classes, but we obviously understand if there is an unavoidable scheduling conflict or illness. When we begin testing on a given day, students cannot stop their test and then go back to finish it another time. Also, if they are late, they won't be able to begin the test with their class. They will have to take that particular session on a makeup day.

We have begun introducing the processes and tools the students will be using on the computer-based tests this year, so they are comfortable physically, mentally, and emotionally before starting. We at Bennett feel that this time should be as low stress as possible, so we try not to overemphasize these tests. We know our students are extraordinary, and we treat this as just another opportunity to prove it!

If there are any changes to the CMAS schedule due to Covid, we will let you know as soon as possible. Otherwise, if you have any questions, please contact us. Thanks for helping your child demonstrate the remarkable learning that happens every day at Bennett Elementary, an IB World School!

Kurt Woolner

Site Assessment Coordinator

kwoolner@psdschools.org

VOLUNTEER MENTORS NEEDED

Fifth Grade Exhibition

Exhibition is the significant, culminating experience in the International Baccalaureate PYP (Primary Years Program). It is the final assessment of each student's development of the attributes of the learner profile. It represents Bennett's evaluation and celebration of its students' international mindedness, their continued school career, and each student's preparation for the 21st century. During exhibition, students consider real life issues or problems, select one to explore, research it, and do something about it. Exhibition concludes with student presentations about their inquiries and actions and a celebration of the learner and human being they are.

Mentors are not required to be experts in any area, but "consultants" who advise a small group of students as needed. No supplies or experience is needed. A guide is provided to aide in facilitating group

sessions. Training is provided to prepare mentors with the key elements of the PYP and give examples of past exhibitions.

Mentor commitments are about one hour twice per week for six consecutive weeks, all online.

Mentor Expectations

1. Attend Mentor training from (online, TBD time and date)
2. Meet twice a week with the same group of 5th grade students for six consecutive weeks April 12th - May 20th.
 - Days of the week are flexible (you choose the two that work for you).
 - CMAS may impact the times of some meetings.
 - The last opportunity to “meet” with your group will be Wednesday, May 19th before the presentation day on Friday, May 21st.
3. Ask questions to encourage students’ depth in thinking and questioning (inquiry), support students in securing experts for the student group to interview, guiding students during their planning and organization for taking action and presenting their inquiry to others. “Stretch their path to new heights on the exhibition journey, but let them steer.”
4. Help students learn from situations that didn’t go as planned through reflection and discussion. Help students get unstuck through looking at a problem differently.
5. Support students in setting goals each week.
6. Suggest resources that might be helpful in further research needed for deeper understanding, action, and/or presentation planning.
7. Aide in interpreting difficult information.
8. Facilitate interviews, telephone calls, communications with public (emails, letters, brochures, etc.) Students will need to have a script for verbal contacts or written communications approved by teachers first.
9. Register with PSD’s Partnership and Volunteer Center online at:
<http://www.psdschools.org/partnerships>
10. Mentors are invited to digitally attend the exhibition presentations the morning of May 21st!
11. Have Fun! J

If you, or anyone you know, is interested or have more questions please contact Sarah Shigemura at sshigemu@psdschools.org Call Bennett 488-4750 to RSVP for mentor training.

Thank You!

Health Office

Vaccines required to enter school (K-12)

- Hepatitis B.
- Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (DTap).*
- Inactivated poliovirus (IPV).*
- Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR).*
- Varicella (chicken pox).*
- Tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis (Tdap).**

*Students 4 through 6 years of age are required to have their final doses of DTaP, IPV, MMR and Varicella prior to kindergarten entry.

FIFTH GRADE FAMILIES

**Students are required to have Tdap prior to entry into 6th grade. One dose of Tdap is required for 6th through 12th grade

New exemption forms require a doctor or health care providers signature to be accepted by PSD for the 2021-2022 school year.

Counselor Corner

How Parents Can Create Impactful Moments of Joy for Their Children

For many parents, the daily stress of raising a family during the pandemic is leading to high levels of burnout.

You might have a client, friend or family member who's feeling overwhelmed – or maybe you're feeling the strain yourself.

So in the video below, Lynn Lyons, LICSW, shares some ideas for parents to help cut through the stress and create moments of joy in their families.

Have a listen. Click on the link below.

[Have a look here.](#)

ICYMI:

1. PSD protocols for Minor symptoms:

If symptoms resolve within 24 hours of onset and stay resolved an additional 24 hours, return to school. (48 hours total)

If symptoms resolve within 48 hours of onset and stay resolved an additional 24 hours, return to school. (72 hours total)

If symptoms DO NOT resolve within 48 hours, either:

- a. Follow home isolation for 10 days following symptom onset AND 24 hours fever free without use of fever-reducing meds before returning to school.
- b. Get a polymerase chain reaction, or PCR, COVID-19 test. If test is negative, return to school once symptom-free for 24 hours. If positive, follow home isolation for 10 days following symptom onset AND 24 hours fever free without use of fever-reducing meds before returning to school.

2. **No cost for meals:** Meals are free through the 2020-21 school year, as part of a U.S. Department of Agriculture school district reimbursement program. Parents are encouraged to still apply for free and reduced-priced meals, which helps with school funding ([apply on the Free and Reduced-Priced Meals website](#)).

3. If your child has an appointment after school, please come and pick them up by 3:00. **You will need to come to the front door to check them out.** This will allow you time to park and get them at the front door and miss the afterschool congestion.

4. Call the attendance line 488-4751 or enter an absence in ParentVue when your child will be out. If they are sick, please leave detailed information, so we know if there needs to be Covid related follow up.

5. **All PSD elementary schools will be using enhanced contact tracing.** Classrooms will be kept together as a "cohort" and not mixed with other classes. If a student or staff member has a positive COVID test, the entire class will automatically be quarantined for 10 days.