

Important dates

August 19- Back to School Night 6:00 (links for meeting coming from your teachers)

September 6- No School- Labor Day

September 17- No School K/12

September 24 Picture Day

Reminders

- For your reference, you can find the PSD calendar here:
https://www.psdschools.org/sites/default/files/PSD/communications/Calendars%20and%20Schedules/2021-22/2021-22_PSD_%20Calendar.pdf
- The Bennett website is a great place to check for any information you may need.
<https://ben.psdschools.org/>
- If your student will be absent please call the attendance line 488-4751, or log into your PVue account and mark attendance there.

From the principal

Hi families,

I am looking for members for this year's School Accountability Committee. Please see below excerpt from our website:

The School Accountability Committee is a group of parents and staff members who function as a communication link between the school and Bennett families. Bennett's SAC meets at least quarterly to discuss, advise and make recommendations to me regarding school progress, school spending priorities, school leadership, personnel and infrastructure, and our School's Unified Improvement Plan (SUIP), how to increase the level of parent engagement in the District and its schools, especially the engagement of parents of students in underrepresented populations, etc. At least two members of the SAC also serve as the Bennett representative and alternate representative to the District Advisory Board (DAB) which meets monthly on Mondays from 7 – 9 pm at the Johannsen Support Services Center (JSSC) at 2407 LaPorte Avenue. The DAB rep provides input and recommendations from the SAC on an advisory basis to the Superintendent concerning issues and initiatives and acts as a link between the community and the district.

Our SAC must be comprised of, but is not limited to:

At least 3 parents/legal guardians of students. 2 of which who serve as our DAB rep. and alternative rep. and 1 of which who co-chairs the committee with Mrs. Smythe
1 teacher
1 BCO member
1 community member
1 principal, or principal designee

If you are interested in serving our community in this way, we would love to have you join us. Our meetings are scheduled on 9/13 (5pm), 11/8, 1/10 and 4/11 at 6pm.

Please email your interest to me asmythe@psdschools.org by Tuesday, August 31st so I can send you the meeting link. Our meetings will be held virtually before a BCO meeting.

Health Office

Medication for 2021- 2022- If medications are needed for 2021-2022 school year, you may obtain new forms from the PSD website. You can click here: [Authorization and Release For Administering Medicine to Student at School or School- Sponsored Activity](#) You may also visit PSD visit www.psdschools.org, click on Parents, click on Student Health (scroll down on right side). Scroll down to #6 of the Health Services/Guidelines. Please fill out the appropriate Health Care Action Plan form along with the Authorization to Administer Medication Form. All forms must be signed by the students health care provider, legal guardian, and contain clear dosage and administration instructions. Medication forms MUST be filled out every year!

Vaccine exemptions for 2021-2022

There are new guidelines from the state regarding vaccine exemptions. Starting with the 2021-2022 school year, **you must now have a health care provider sign the exemption form**. You can read more about it on the state's health department website: <https://cdphe.colorado.gov/vaccine-exemptions>. Exemption forms must be signed every year.

BCO

Greetings from the Bennett Community Organization (BCO)! Your PTO, the BCO. Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year! And a warm welcome to the class of 2034 and all families new to our Bennett community! We are SO excited to have you join us and look forward to meeting you! Whether you are new to Bennett, or have been around for a while (this is my 7th year with

kids at Bennett), the BCO is here to support you. We are the link between parents, students, and faculty, providing meaningful connections and support.

The BCO always celebrates fun holidays in these weekly newsletters! There are several fun holidays every day to choose from. Highlights for today are National Soft Serve Ice Cream Day, International Orangutan Day, and National Potato Day!

Speaking of potatoes, the BCO has monthly meetings on the second Monday of every month at 7pm. We have a couple of exceptions this year because of Valentine's Day (gross) and Spring Break (fun!). We'll let you know about the adjusted dates as we get closer to those meetings. At the meetings you can expect special musical guests, loads of information about current happenings at Bennett, and technical difficulties. Meeting contact information will be provided by the Bennett office prior to the meeting. Attending a BCO meeting does not necessarily mean you are "signed up" or "part" of the BCO. Come see what the BCO is about, bring up any concerns you have about the school. You are welcome to be an innocent bystander. We are not going to make you sign you up for anything, but if one of the staff positions sounds interesting, or you would like to volunteer your time or expertise to help out, we would love to chat with you about upcoming opportunities!

The BCO pays for and supports items such as:

- * Renaissance Learning which provides Accelerated Reader software for our students
- * Mini Grants for teachers to support classroom learning
- * HABIC - Human-Animal Bond in Colorado which brings therapy dogs to Bennett
- * Eco Week Scholarships
- * Young Ameritowne bus transportation for 5th grade
- * Classroom books from the Scholastic Book Fairs
- * Outdoor Classroom

Typically, the BCO supports these activities through fundraisers such as the Bronco Stampede, Spaghetti Dinner, Sock Hop, Box Tops For Education, and Spring and Fall Scholastic book fairs. Last year we introduced the first ever Bronco StamREAD, a most excellent read-a-thon, which was a tremendous success! We'll bring that back in October.

The BCO currently consists of four Officers, and upcoming newsletters will feature a little bit about each of us:

Eric Bowman, Co-President (has a 3rd grader, author of the BCO newsletters)

Lisa Verbsky, Co-President (has a 3rd grader, probably the kindest person you'll ever meet)

Mike Brake, Secretary (has a 4th grader, keeps track of dumb things Eric says)

Jeff Morissette, Treasurer (has a 4th grader, enjoys math with dollar signs)

Please contact us if you have any questions or concerns. If you are a new family and have questions about Bennett or your teacher, please let us know. We are happy to designate a parent ambassador to guide you through the year. We've been there. You have a lot of questions and we have answers!

We are looking forward to seeing you at our first meeting Monday, September 13th!

Other information:

Here is the principal letter and

FAQ- <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1K8EG7OZ3bxwedE0yXDI0uRMFvQ46aGrOIWnQv2YhBNA/edit?usp=sharing>

Here is the 20-21 list of BCO

events- https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pl03xoMFVm0EuU83_BDMCFO8IPWAT97W/view

Contact Information:

Eric Bowman, Co-President

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

enamwob@gmail.com (love letters, hate mail, ALWAYS wears something orange)

303-885-9734

Lisa Verbsky, Co-President

bennettcommorg+pres@gmail.com

Jeff Morisette, Treasurer

bennettcommorg+treas@gmail.com

-----BCO!, BCO!, BCO!-----

Please follow Bennett Elementary and the BCO on Social Media!

Facebook- Bennett Elementary: @[bennettelementary](#)

Facebook- Bennett Community Organization: @[PSD.BCO](#)

Instagram: @[bennettelementary](#)

Twitter: @[bennettbroncos](#)

BCO Website: <https://sites.google.com/view/bennett-community-organization/home>

Fun Things to do

- Rocky Mountain high school cheer camp. See flyer: [Jr. lobo flyer.docx.pdf](#)
- Lego Club: Tuesdays Aug. 31 to Oct. 19 3:30pm to 5:00pm Grades K-2nd. See flyer: [Bennett LEGO Club - Tuesdays Fall 2021 \(1\).pdf](#)
- Bennett Art Club: [Bennett Art Club.pdf](#)