

From the Principal

Hi Bennett Families. January is an important month if you are looking into school of choice for next year. The deadline for school of choice is the 17th. Make sure you get your application in prior to that. Check the PSD website for more information. There is no school on Monday January 20th in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. If you have any questions please let me know!

Reminders

- Current 5th graders will need a Tdap immunization prior to entering 6th grade in the fall.
- Cough drops are considered medication, per PSD policy. Please do not send them to school with your students without a doctor's note.
- You should be receiving Perceptions surveys from the district sometime this week. We encourage you to fill them out. The information we get back can be very helpful.

Important dates

- Friday January 17th- School of Choice Deadline 12:00- NOON
- Monday January 20th- **No School**- MLK day
- Friday January 24- Sock Hop

Sock Hop

Here's all the important information on this fun, family event:

- January 24th from 6:30-8:30pm
- CASH ONLY event - Entry fee is \$2 per person, additional tickets must be purchased for Cake Walk, Photo Booth, and concessions
- NO DROP OFFS - parents must be in the building with their kids
- Volunteers are needed! <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0a44abac2eaafc1-bennett2>
- We will need donated cakes (homemade and store bought) for Cake Walk! A Sign up Genius will be sent out next week.

International Day

Dear Bennett Families,

Have you heard about **International Day** - a day where Bennett celebrates diversity by learning about different cultures and places? On the morning of **Friday, February 21**, Bennett classrooms will be converted into countries. After an assembly, the children travel to various parts of the world and experience presentations from International Day Volunteers.

Are you from another country or have you spent significant time abroad? Are you willing to give a presentation? Our volunteers set up in their assigned classrooms and present on their country for 20 minutes with an extra 5 minutes for questions. Therefore, you would be giving your presentation 4 times to 4 different classes (they could range from kindergartners to 5th graders - but we will let you know ahead of time the ages of kids who will be attending your sessions).

You would need to **check-in to Bennett by 8:15 on Feb. 21. The last session is over at 11:30am**, but we hope that you are able to join us after for a **"thank you" international luncheon** where you can meet the other presenters.

If you are indeed able to be a presenter on International Day - please email our International Day Coordinator Lisa Verbsky - lisa.verbsky@gmail.com. Lisa will then send you a list of ideas for your presentation.

Thank you,

International Day Committee

Lisa Verbsky, Shelby Sack, Teri McNamee, Michele Yebra

Special Awards

Every year the State of Colorado Department of Education awards schools for academic excellence. One award, the John Irwin Schools of Excellence Award is for schools with high achievement. Another award, The Governor's Distinguished Improvement Award is presented to schools with high growth. At Tuesday night's board meeting, Bennett was the proud recipient of both of these awards for the 2018-2019 school year! We are so proud of the hard work of all our staff and students! There were only a select few schools in the district that received both awards. Congratulations to everyone!

Spectacular Specials!

Welcome to 2020!

Our Spanish classes are wrapping up their second units. The website www.miclase.info has vocabulary information for each grade level, and a basic overview of what we are studying each trimester. It was updated before the end of the year.

Here's a quick summary!

5th grade is learning how to describe nouns using adjectives correctly. This is harder than it appears! To practice this concept, we are describing clothing with their colors. We are reading stories, and will be writing and performing skits. Assessment will be toward the end of January.

4th grade is learning about places in the city, and where we go. We are also discussing free time activities, and will be comparing those with what students in other countries enjoy doing. We will also tackle verb conjugation this month. :)

3rd grade is wrapping up a unit of learning and using a ton of food vocabulary. We will also be studying common meals in other countries to compare those to our own favorites.

2nd grade is creating and describing their own monsters. We have studied vocabulary for family and descriptions, but are now learning to describe things we see or create. Assessment on the unit will be by the end of month.

1st grade is creating a picture that describes what they like to eat/drink for breakfast. We looked at what people eat for breakfast in other countries, and have compared that to our own culture. Look for a video soon on SeeSaw of your child listing their favorites in Spanish.

Kindergarten read Ch. 2 of our class book, 'Edi el elefante'. We do a LOT of listening comprehension in the early grades. We will also be discussing some fruit vocabulary to share out our favorites before moving onto a unit on the family. Students are doing a great job demonstrating their knowledge of the color words, and our high-frequency class vocabulary.

Thank you,

Diane Gibbs

Spanish Specialist

Fun Things to do:

- **Fort Collins Museum of Art:** See attached flyer for class options [Museum of Art classes.pdf](#)
- **Poudre cheer camp January 18** [Jr Impala 2020 cheer camp .pdf](#)
- **Lego club begins again on January 16.** See attached flyer for more information. [Lego Jan. 2020.pdf](#)
- **Chess club starts again on January 24.** See attached flyer for information. [Bennett Spring 2020.pdf](#)
- **CSU Women's Basketball:** January 25th, tip-off at 2pm. Tickets are only \$5! Purchase tickets at: WWW.CSURAMS.COM/PROMOCODE and type in PSD
- ***CSU has honored Game On! Sports 4 Girls with an invitation to participate in their celebration of the 34th annual National Girls & Women in Sports Day with an event before their Jan 25th women's basketball game and tickets to attend the game! A

bunch of CSU athletes will be engaging in games with young girls from the community and answering questions to empower the girls during a Q&A. This will take place from 12:45-1:40 at the Indoor Practice Facility and then the girls will go over to the 2PM game and sit and watch the game with the student athletes. The cost is only \$5 for the entire experience (pre-game & game ticket). Registration is required at www.gameon.eventbrite.com.

- **Fort Collins High School cheer camp January 31.** [FCHS CHEERLEADING Flyer -20.docx](#)
- **CSU Men's Basketball:** February 1st, tip-off at 2pm. Tickets are only \$10! Purchase tickets at: WWW.CSURAMS.COM/PROMOCODE and type in PSD

Volunteers needed!!!!

We have a volunteer need with specific date and time. Keep reading if you are free **2/8, 3/7, and maybe 4/4!**

Our school has 3 Odyssey of the Mind Teams and we need 2-3 judges for them. Each team must have a judge for the Poudre River Regional Tournament and if that team wins, the judge follows them to the state tournament. A judge must attend judge training (multiple dates, I just listed the closest below) AND attend the regional tournament. The regional tournament is a full day of volunteering. Perhaps you were in OM when you were in school? It is such a great opportunity for kids and you will really enjoy the day! Please email Mrs. Noden if you are interested anoden@psdschools.org

Thanks so much!

Judge Training

Saturday February 8th – Kruse Elementary, Ft. Collins (Map)

Afternoon Session: 1:30 – 4:30; Check In 1:15

Poudre River Regional Tournament

Saturday March 7th All day

Boltz Middle School

Fort Collins, CO

Judge Registration Link will be posted after Dec. 15th

State Tournament

Saturday, April 4th

TBD

Poudre River Region Area

Judge Registration Link will be posted after Dec. 15th

<http://www.coloradoodysey.org/judges-v.../judging-creativity/>

Counselors corner

- Are you a Grandparent raising a Grand child? Please see the attachments for a 6 week class both for children being raised by grandparents as well as an adult class for

Grandparents. There is no cost for either program, but you must register. [Grand Cares program.pdf](#) [GRANDcares Youth Club Larimer Winter 2020 flyer \(3\).pdf](#)

- Anxiety and depression seminar January 22 @ Olander [Anxiety and Depression Evening.pdf](#)
- See the attached for a parenting series happening in February. [Parent Education Series Feb 2020-KGrevised.pdf](#)

Early Childhood

They are now accepting applications for the 2020-2021 school year.

Applications are found on their website, be sure find to find the correct year -19-20 or 2021.

<https://www.psdschools.org/programs-services/early-childhood-education/preschool-enrollment>

Information from the school district:

Parent Perception Surveys

Part of PSD's teacher evaluation process includes getting input from parents/guardians of elementary students about their children's teachers. Results from these surveys can be a powerful tool to improve teacher practice. Parents/guardians should be receiving the survey in their emails this week. You'll receive directions about how to access the survey by email or mail. We hope you participate!

SchoolMessenger Voice Message Retrieval Line:

New for the 2019-20 school year, all automated PSD and school phone calls will come from one main number: 970-490-3050. In the past, the number displayed as 1-866-316-3462. We made this change with our families and staff in mind. Some shared feedback that they didn't always answer the 866 number thinking it was spam. Parents, guardians and staff members who may have previously saved the 866 number in their phone as a contact will need to re-save the new number. If you miss a phone call or voice message from the district, you may call the number above and listen to the last 10 voice messages sent to your phone (most recent will play first).

For any questions, please contact Madeline Noblett, executive director of communications, at mnoblett@psdschools.org.