

## Important dates

**No School Tomorrow- Friday April 15**

Friday April 22- Yearbook orders due

Friday April 29- International Day

Looking ahead:

Friday May 13- Bennett Stampede- More details will be in your child's Thursday Folder [Bronco Stampede 2022 \(2\).pdf](#)

Monday May 16- No School

Wednesday May 25- Last day of school ½ day

## Principal Note

Hello families,

I hope you are continuing to do well. I wanted to let you know about what our teaching staff looks like so far for next year. I am happy to announce that we will be getting back a certified art teacher. Our specials teachers have done an incredible job of stepping up and providing art instruction to our students this year, so I want to thank them for filling in for our kids. On a sad note, Mrs. Hallenbeck will be exploring a new opportunity next year so we will be hiring a new music teacher. I want to thank Mrs. Hallenbeck for her many years of amazing service to our students at Bennett. She will be very missed. In addition, we will be going down to only two 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes next year due to low enrollment. Mrs. Nagle will be exploring other opportunities as well. We are so sad to lose her and wish her the best of luck. Other than those changes, if there are no unforeseen circumstances, the licensed teaching staff will remain in their currently assigned positions. Thank you, as always, for your support as we've worked through a crazy past couple of years. Please let me know if you have any questions. Take care!

## Reminders

- With cooler morning temperatures and warmer afternoon temps, we see a lot more jacket/sweatshirts on the playground. Please remind your students to check the lost and found if they are missing anything.

- It is that time of year when we begin planning for next school year. If you know you will be moving or no longer attending Bennett in the fall, please let the office know.

## Volunteer appreciation

Bennett is thankful for all the volunteers we have at our school! We are so happy we were able to allow them back into our building this year. Volunteers do so much for our staff and students: Reading with students, filling Thursday folders, running the book fair, helping in the library, are just a few of the amazing things volunteers do for us. We appreciate all the time spent behind the scenes the BCO puts in to help organize so many events at Bennett. Bennett is a much better place for all your kindness!

**Next time you are in the building volunteering, please pick up a small token of our appreciation!**

## Odyssey of the Mind

**All 5 of our Odyssey of the Mind teams did a fantastic job this past Saturday at the State OM Tournament.** Two of our teams **won 2<sup>nd</sup> place**, and all teams did an amazing job performing their solutions, including our 2 primary teams, which are not scored. Congratulations to all students and teams for trying your personal best!

I would like to give a special shout out to all of our volunteers. OM is run completely by volunteers and none of this could have happened without their hard work. Thank you to the coaches who worked months teaching the kids to be creative problem solvers, to work as a team and to think outside the box! Thank you to the volunteers and judges who helped out the day(s) of the tournaments. It truly is a community effort.

In early May Odyssey of the Mind will publish the 2022-2023 Problem Synopsis and I hope to see you and your team next season. If your team is graduating to Division II (middle school), I hope they will join the growing popularity of middle school teams! It's a great experience for them to now be at an age where they can learn to safely operate tools to construct all those wonderful creative ideas they had in Div I.

If you made it this far, please know that Bennett will be looking for an OM coordinator next year. I have held this role for a few years now and will be hanging up my hat now that the OM season is done. The OM coordinator organizes the beginning of year informational night, helps to create teams, find coaches, volunteers, and judges and serves as a resource throughout the season. I am willing to mentor anyone who is interested in taking this on. It truly is a rewarding volunteer opportunity. Please reach out to me with your interest [anoden@psdschools.org](mailto:anoden@psdschools.org).

Thank you!

Angie Noden

## Free and reduced lunch program

It's not too late to apply for the Free & Reduced Meal Program for this school year. By doing so your student's approval to the program carries over for the first 30 days of next school year. Even though lunch is free for everyone this year, there are some advantages to filling out the form:

1. There are discounts given throughout our community for student summer programs. Check out [fcgov.com/reducedfee](http://fcgov.com/reducedfee) website for more information. The before and after school program,
2. AlphaBest, also gives a 15% discount.

Apply on-line at [www.myschoolapps.com](http://www.myschoolapps.com). Please note that August 1, 2022 is the first day you can apply on line for the 2022-2023 school year. Families do have to apply each school year unless they receive a letter stating otherwise.

## BCO

Greetings, all!

BCO had a wonderful meeting Monday night. THANK YOU so much to all who made it out! It was great to be back in person, to see the student's artwork on the walls, and to connect with fellow parents and teachers face-to-face after a year of screens. We enjoyed it so much that we decided to meet in person again for our final meeting of the year in May. We will be meeting at **Rolland Moore Park** in the pavilion next to the playground on **Monday, May 9, at 6:30**. Feel free to bring your kids and let them play while we wrap up the year. To check out our notes from Monday, view the following link: [BCO Meeting Notes - April 11, 2022](#)

A huge congrats to our **5 Bennett OM teams** who competed last weekend, and to all the volunteers who helped make it possible. Odyssey of the Mind takes a lot of creative problem solving and teamwork; great life skills. Way to go, Broncos!

April and May are shaping up to be fun-filled, busy months for our students! Mark your calendars for and look for ways to be involved:

- Thursday, April 14 (TODAY!), Family Night at the Museum of Art, 6:00 - 7:30 PM
- Saturday, April 23, Spring Service Day, meet in Bennett's Outdoor Classroom, 10 AM - 12 PM

- Friday, April 29, Bennett's International Day, with musical performances and international presenters, 9 - 11 AM
- May 2-6, Teacher Appreciation Week
- Wednesday, May 4, National Bike and Walk to School Day
- Friday, May 13, Bronco Stampede, 12:00 - 2:00 PM
- Tuesday, May 24, Field Day

If you are planning to attend the Museum of Art family night today, please take a moment to RSVP to Elizabeth Morisette at [emorisette@moafc.org](mailto:emorisette@moafc.org). MoA is opening their doors after hours just for us, and the event is FREE. It will include a chance to view the Mask Exhibit, participate in a craft, and add some culture and art appreciation into your evening. Thank you to Elizabeth and MoA for partnering with us this year on creating some special art experiences for our students!

Finally, *"In case no one has told you yet today, you are doing a good job."* We all could use this reminder from time to time! Hope to see you tonight at the Museum of Art, Bennett Broncos!

Gratefully yours,

Lisa Verbsky

[bennettcommorg+pres@gmail.com](mailto:bennettcommorg+pres@gmail.com) (BCO related email, Bennett questions)

[lisa.verbsky@gmail.com](mailto:lisa.verbsky@gmail.com) (favorite inspirational quotes)

## Bennett Night at the Museum

Join the Bennett Community Organization (BCO) for a special evening at the Museum of Art/ Fort Collins. On **Thursday Night, April 14<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-7:30**, the BCO will sponsor an opportunity for Bennett families to mingle and see the 2022 Masks Exhibition and Sale. Admission is free, but please RSVP to [emorisette@moafc.org](mailto:emorisette@moafc.org) and let us know you are coming. Siblings and extended family are welcome. For more information about the exhibit visit [www.moafc.org](http://www.moafc.org)

## Bennett Spring Service Day

Are you getting spring fever? As families of Bennett Elementary, it is our job to steward the land our kids play on every day. Please join us for our **Spring Service Project on Saturday April 23 from 10 am to noon**. We'll meet in the outdoor classroom out back to do some gardening. Please bring garden gloves and tools. Plastic grocery bags are good for collecting weeds and trash. If time allows, we'll do a litter clean up on the playground.

## International Day

Have you heard about **International Day** - a day where Bennett celebrates our diversity by learning about the different cultures and places our Bennett families are from? On the morning of **Friday April 29** we will have International Day, and we need your help!

Are you from another country or have you spent significant time abroad? Are you willing to create and present about where you are from to our students on April 29? If so, we would LOVE to hear from you! Please email our International Day Coordinator Lisa Verbsky - [lisa.verbsky@gmail.com](mailto:lisa.verbsky@gmail.com). Lisa will then send you more information and a list of ideas for your presentation.

Thank you for helping us keep this tradition alive!

## ICYMI

### BRONCO YEARBOOK ORDER

It is Yearbook Time! The 2021-2022 Bennett Bronco Yearbook is a color book filled with pictures of your classmates, teachers, the Bennett Staff and lots of memories. The price is only \$20!

**Orders are due back Friday, April 22, 2022.**

In May your yearbook will be delivered to your classroom.

So order now! Your support for this year's yearbook will allow us to continue the project in the future.

WANT TO ORDER ON ONLINE?

Simply go to [www.yearbookmarket.com](http://www.yearbookmarket.com) and enter Bennett Elementary in the search box which takes you to your school's book for purchase or scroll down to Bennett Elementary. Online ordering deadline: April 27<sup>th</sup>

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Please follow Bennett Elementary and the BCO on Social Media!

Facebook- Bennett Elementary: [@bennetelementary](https://www.facebook.com/bennettelementary)

Facebook- Bennett Community Organization: [@PSD.BCO](https://www.facebook.com/PSD.BCO)

Instagram: [@bennetelementary](https://www.instagram.com/bennetelementary)

Twitter: [@bennettbroncos](https://twitter.com/bennettbroncos)

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