



Mark Your Calendar

- No school April 15th
- International Day Friday April 22nd.
- Teacher Appreciation Week—May 2nd.
- Spring Book Fair: May 6-11th
- Student led conferences May 10th and 11th **AFTER SCHOOL starting at 3:45.** (School in session both days)
- **Bennett Day of Action—May 21st.**



Note from the Editor

The Bennett Newsletter is **YOUR** newsletter! If you have an item you would like to see included, put it in the newsletter box in the office before Wednesday morning of the week you would like the item to appear or e-mail Jodie Stewart: jstewart@psdschools.org

2011/2012 Parental Requests for Specific Learning Environment

The Bennett staff welcomes your input on the learning environment that you believe will best promote success for your student. Requests for a specific classroom will be considered based upon the needs of your child and the grade level as a whole. Requests must be submitted on a form located on the Bennett webpage, <http://eweb.psdschools.org/schools/bennett/information/events.aspx>. If you don't have access to the web you may pick up a form from the Bennett office. **All requests must be received on this form by Friday, May 6th.**

A Big Thank You!

Simply amazing! Before we thank the 2nd & 3rd grade parents for providing such outstanding food, gifts and help in our effort to put on a spectacular staff appreciation luncheon, we would like to thank **ALL** of you one more time. Our committee had a vision. Our overall goal was to spoil our teachers and to make them feel appreciated and special. However, we knew we could only do it with the generosity and support of the Bennett parents. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts. All of you who have helped to make each and every luncheon delicious, unique and beautiful, have sent an overwhelming message to our staff that we appreciate and love them. Your efforts have brought laughter, unity and energy to our staff and Bennett community. We look forward to partnering up with you again next year! We will remind you again, but don't forget that **teacher appreciation week begins May 2nd**. Now a special thank you to our participating 2nd & 3rd grade parents:

Gretchen Gerding, Louann DeCoursey, Amy Adolph, Kris Baugh, Diana Vigh, Joan Woodbury, Leah Goecke, Tia Molander, Mark Wright, Nichole Martinez, Jen Krafchick, Kristina Cash, Michele Scheetz, Evelyn Pierro, Michelle Harper, Angel Herrick, Terri Farrow, Ann Randall, Tami Maxfield, Caelyn McNicol, Lorrie Pentico, Yao Hong, Sarah Baietti, Caroline Holcombe, Christie Duran, Kathy Mackay, Ronda Simmons, Sonam Sherpa, Shawna Linstedt, Julie Nesbitt, Lynette Seelmeyer, Marla Roll, Kristi Mahrt, Michelle Burleson, Monica Lambert, Donna Boudreau, Heather Prochaska, Christy Chappell, Jen Ogle, Mona Maser, Sara Sipple, Kathy Zabel, Murielle Watzky, Sherry Niesent, Kimberly Noel, Michelle Chaney,

Sincerely,

Jill Lowry, Deana Davalos & Wendy Kahanek

Bennett Elementary School, an
IB World School

1125 Bennett School Road
Fort Collins, CO 80521

Phone: 970 488-4750
Absence Line: 488-4751

**BIG FOOT MILEAGE CLUB
STARTS APRIL 7TH**

THIS PAGE WILL APPEAR EACH WEEK

IT WILL HAVE SPECIFIC NEWS OR INFORMATION ABOUT THE EDUCATIONAL DAY AT OUR SCHOOL. PLEASE LOOK FOR IT!

REMINDERS

School Hours

8:50 am - 3:28 pm

Absence Line

Remember to call in on our absence line whenever your student will not be in school. The number is 488-4751.

Office Number

The Bennett Office telephone number is 970 488-4750.

Second Newsletters

If you need to have two newsletters come to your family, please make sure we have both email addresses. If you request paper copies, one will be sent home with your oldest child. The second newsletter will be mailed on Wednesday afternoon in the self-addressed, stamped envelope you provide, or ask us to email the newsletter.

Visitors and Volunteers

- Please park in the lot on the east side of the school. Do not park in front of the school.
- You must wear the PSD lanyard identifying you as a volunteer whenever you are in the building.

Traffic

Mornings and afternoons are very heavy traffic times in front of our school. Please help keep our students safe by remembering :

- ◆ Pick up and drop off students on the east side of the school in the parking lot.
- ◆ Make no U-turns on Bennett Road.
- ◆ Avoid parking in the pick-up lane. Park in the parking spaces in the east lot if you need to come into the school.
- ◆ Drive slowly!
- ◆ If you walk across the parking lot to get your child please meet them at the north end of the pick-up area.



Thank you to all the families who contributed to the Staff Lunch on Monday. It was a huge success with many wonderful food items, as well as lots of gifts for staff!!

International Day/Earth Day Celebration will take place on Friday, April 22nd. Volunteers are needed to help with set-up (8:30-9:30) as well as clean-up (around 12:00)-please contact Sharyl Haas at Sharyl29@yahoo.com if you can help!

On April 29th, BCO, in cooperation with Bennett staff, will be holding a Spell-A-Thon for any child/family who is interested in participating. Details will be forthcoming next week in Thursday folders. Our goal is to raise money to replace all of the musical instruments in our music program.

Box Tops and Soup Labels

Don't forget to save your BoxTops for Education on General Mills products and Campbell's Labels for Education! We are also collecting caps from glass bottles from Morning Fresh Dairy. There are collection bins outside the office. This is a great way to support fundraising for Bennett at no cost to you!

Renaissance Home Connect

Renaissance Home Connect improves the school-to-home connection by allowing parents and students to log in to a Web site and view the student's reading and math practice and progress towards goals. Access to online results promotes discussion between parents and students, which motivates stu-

dents and can make reading and math practice even more effective. In addition, parents can specify up to six email addresses to receive automatic updates in English or Spanish on their student's math and reading progress.

A letter with your child's login information is being sent home in Thursday folders. Please contact your child's teacher for more information.

No School April 15th!

April 15th will be a comp day for student led conferences that are being held on May 10th and 11th!

Crossing Guard Volunteers Needed!

Thanks to a small pool of committed volunteers, our crosswalk is a safe place for kids and their parents to cross Bennett Road during our hectic pick up and drop off times. We are looking for a few more people who are willing to commit 15-20 minutes before or after school once or twice a week. This is a convenient way to help out while you are already at school picking up or dropping off. If you are interested in volunteering for the rest of the school year or might be interested next year, please contact Kristi Mahrt (kamahrt@gmail.com). Thanks!



“Understanding Academic Growth Measures for the Gifted Population”

Wednesday, April 6, 2011 (see flyer for more details: [April 6 Dwayne Schmitz.pdf](#))

Location: Webber Middle School in Fort Collins, CO

Audience: Parents of Gifted Learners

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Come early to browse the parent resource table and network with other parents in PSD! Presentation by **Dwayne D. Schmitz, Ph.D.**, Research and Analysis Coordinator for Poudre School District.

Dwayne will be presenting to parents of gifted learners about achievement tests administered in Poudre School District with a specific focus on the Colorado Growth Model.

Task Forces to Address Major Improvement Strategies for PSD Unified Improvement Plan

Three task forces of the Unified Improvement Plan have been organized to address major academic improvement strategies of the Unified Improvement Plan approved by the Board of Education in January 2011.

“The heart of the Unified Improvement Plan is the strategic actions the district will perform in order to educate students and reduce achievement gaps,” says Jerry Wilson, Ph.D., PSD Superintendent of Schools.

Each task force is outlined below. To learn more visit the PSD website at www.psdschools.org:

- **Major Improvement Strategy Task force 1:** Design and implement a collaborative process to prioritize, deploy, and monitor district initiatives.
- **Major Improvement Strategy Task Force 2:** Establish a collaborative process for defining and adopting non-negotiable learning outcomes for all students based on new state standards in core content areas.
- **Major Improvement Strategy Task Force 3:** Establish a process for identifying and implementing specific evidence-based strategies and resources to effectively address student achievement gaps and align intervention and support materials with universal expectations.

GIRLS ONLY

Try Hockey for FREE!

Girls ages 5-16

FREE Equipment, FREE Instruction, NO Experience required

LOTS of FUN!!

SATURDAY, April 9, 10:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

NoCo Ice Center— 7900 Fairgrounds Ave. Ft. Collins, CO

(970) 670-0775

Register at www.virtualice.NET or email girlshockey@virtualice.NET

CHILD NUTRITION PARENT SURVEY

The PSD Child Nutrition Department continues to seek input from parents and customers as we implement program improvements and services offered. Please take a few minutes to fill out this Child Nutrition survey.

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FoodServicesInfo>

Northern Colorado Intertribal Pow-Wow Association's 19th Annual Spring Pow-Wow & Indian Art Market: April 16-17, here in Fort Collins

This year's theme is "Honoring our Youth". Come out and show your support as several of our PSD youth will perform at this event! For more information, contact the numbers on the flyer that is attached.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

PLEASE NOTE: POUDBRE SCHOOL DISTRICT DOES NOT ENDORSE OR TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROGRAMS OF ACTIVITIES SPONSORED BY OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

GREAT AMERICAN BACKYARD CAMPOUT

What if in one night you could help American children lead longer, healthier, happier lives?

On Saturday, June 25th, you can! Register today for the Great American Backyard Campout to open the door and sleep under the stars for our nation's kids.

National Wildlife Federation's Great American Backyard Campout is a night of old-fashioned, fun outdoors. Telling scary stories, singing silly songs, and eating just one more s'more. It's family fun with a purpose: **helping American kids benefit from outdoor time.**

The days when kids spent their free time outside are gone; children now spend nearly seven hours a day in front of electronic screens. **Lack of outdoor time is bad for kids' physical and mental health**, putting them at higher risk for obesity, bone problems, and poor vision, as well as attention problems, anxiety and depression-and even a shorter life span.

Register online now for the Great American backyard Campout and join the tens of thousands of Americans who participate in this fun, family event each year.

As soon as you register, you'll gain access to creative camping activities, recipes and crafts to make your campout a night to remember. You'll also get a link to your very own online Participant Center where you will be able to post details about your campout and opt-in to raise funds.

Open the door and sleep under the stars for our nation's kids—one night can make all the difference. **Register today.** www.backyardcampout.org



What's for Breakfast?



What's for Lunch?



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
11 Cheddar Cheese Omelet	12 Danimals Yogurt * and Land O' Lakes Light String Cheese	13 Cinnamon French Toast Sticks	14 Sausage & Cheese on Homestyle Biscuit	15 NO SCHOOL
11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homemade Beef & Bean Burrito • Max Filled Cheese Sticks with Pizza Sauce • Wheat Uncrustable PB & J Green Beans Leafy Greens Baby Carrots & Cucumbers Apples Diced Pears	12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chicken Patty Sandwich • Sloppy Joe on Wheat Bun • Turkey & Cheese Deli Fresh Steamed Broccoli Leafy Greens Baby Carrots & Cucumbers Grapes Diced Peaches	13 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Italian Lasagna • Chicken Nuggets • Wheat Uncrustable PB & J Mashed Potatoes and Gravy Leafy Greens Baby Carrots & Snap Peas Grapes Mandarin Oranges	14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Big Daddy's Cheese Pizza • Cheesy Nachos Green Beans Leafy Greens Baby Carrots & Cucumbers Kiwi Diced Peaches	15 NO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
RED DAY	YELLOW DAY	BLUE DAY	RED DAY	