



September, 2009

# BENT SUPERSTAR GAZETTE

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL:

Welcome to the 2009-10 school year! The Bent staff would like to welcome all returning and new students. We are looking forward to working closely with our families and students to maintain the highest quality of education for our students.

Please welcome the following new staff to our school:

Kindergarten	Mrs. Meadors	
Bilingual Gr. 1	Mrs. Milligan	
Speech	Mrs. Carroll	
Physical Ed	Ms. Evans	
Bilingual Program Assistant	Mrs. Wegner	

We are currently updating our website but do have all staff listed in the site.

As we start the year, safety is our number one priority. Please help us keep all children safe by reviewing the following:

- **Arrival Times** – Students who eat at school may arrive after 8:25. Students who do NOT eat breakfast may arrive after 8:45. There is **NO SUPERVISION** for students who do not eat breakfast prior to 8:45 a.m.
- **Departures** – Students should only be picked up on Lee St. side at the front of school.
- **Walkers** – Please remind walkers to cross at crosswalks with our crossing guard.
- **Bent Visitors**- We welcome visitors to Bent School. Thank you for checking in at the main office and wearing your visitor badge.
- **Emergency Contact Information** – Please make sure our office has all available emergency contact numbers (cell phones, relatives, etc.)

Vickie Slagell, Interim Principal

slagellv@district87.org

A community-wide open house will be held at Bloomington High School on Sunday, September 27, from 2:00-4:00 p.m. to celebrate BHS' 50-year anniversary at its current location of 1202 E. Locust Street, Bloomington. In addition to celebrating its golden anniversary, you will be able to see the renovations that have taken place at Bloomington high School in the past three years.

### **Enrollment numbers at Bent**

**Currently we have 418 students enrolled at Bent School – 289 students in English Speaking Classes and 129 students in the bilingual classes.**

### **Bent PTO Officers:                      PTO website: [www.BentPTO.org](http://www.BentPTO.org)**

Presidents:                      Vikki and Clarence Falls  
Co-Vice Presidents:        Kathleen Montgomery and Zarina Plath  
Recorder:                      KayLynn Perry  
Treasurer:                     Stephanie Johnson

Bent Elementary PTO would like to take this opportunity to welcome you and your family to Bent School! The first step in making our school a success is having parents just like YOU help out with the many different events throughout the school year. We have a wide range of opportunities from wiener roasts, to reading groups, to the end of the year school carnival.

It is important that all families get involved so that we have a diverse group of parents making decisions on behalf of our children. The events and activities we have throughout the school year are a lot of fun, and the bonus is that you really stay current on what is happening at school. PTO meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month. Join us for our kick-off meeting on Tuesday, September 1 @ 7:00p.m. in the school cafeteria. We look forward to seeing you!

### **Lunch Times – You are invited to have lunch at school with your child anytime**

**K-Wadkins & Meadors            11-11:40**

**K-Weeks & Hernandez        11:10-11:50**

**Gr. 1    11:30-12:10**

**Gr. 2    11:50-12:30**

**Gr. 3    12:10-12:50**

**Gr. 4    12:30-1:10**

**Gr. 5    12:50-1:30**

**Student Breakfast    \$1.40**

**Student Lunch        \$1.75**

**Student Milk            .50**

**Adult Breakfast      \$1.75**

**Adult Lunch            \$2.75**



- You can manage your child's cafeteria account at [www.mylunchmoney.com](http://www.mylunchmoney.com)
- All Bent students get free fruits/vegetables each day
- Late bus? Missed your stop? Contact Illinois Central Bus @ 827-4100
- ANY medication administered at school (including Tylenol, Tums, cough drops, lozenges, etc) must have a medication authorization form signed by a physician. Parents may also come by and administer the medication themselves.
- SAT-10 & Apprenda Testing begins September 8. Teachers use this date to guide instruction. Please make sure your students get a good night's sleep especially this week.
- Illinois law requires all children to be properly restrained in a child safety seat or booster until age 8.
- Students at Bent are taught to report to teachers and staff whenever someone bothers, teases or threatens other students. Please don't tell your child to ignore or avoid these situations; instruct your child to report incidents. Every student's physical and emotional safety is a priority of Bent School.

## **SECOND STEP**

Bent School has adopted a violence prevention program. The award-winning program SECOND STEP integrates academics with social and emotional learning.

The SECOND STEP program is research-based and has been shown to reduce discipline referrals, improve school climate by building feelings of inclusiveness and respect, and increase the sense of confidence and responsibility in students.

Group discussion, modeling, coaching, and practice are used to increase students' social competence and decision-making, self regulation, and positive goal setting skills. The program's lesson content varies by grade level and is organized into three skill-building units covering:

Empathy: teaches young people to recognize and identify their own emotions and those of others.

Impulse control and problem solving: helps young people choose positive goals and evaluate consequences of their behavior in terms of safety, fairness, and impact on others.

Anger/emotion management: enables young people to manage their emotional reactions so that they can make good decisions about their social responses.

These essential life skills help students in the classroom, on the playground, and at home. You can learn more about the program at [www.cfchildren.org](http://www.cfchildren.org)

## **NOTES FROM OUR SOCIAL WORKER**

Janet Reckard LCSW and Jacki Orton, ISU intern social worker, will be going into Kdg. and grade 2 classrooms to present some social skills lessons and to help students get to know them. Kindergarten will learn about Mr. Trouble, Mr. Good Guy (conscience) as well as Warm Fuzzies and Cold Pricklies (positive & negative friend behaviors).

Grade 2 will be learning about cooperation and communication and being able to refocus negative emotions.

Grades 4 and 5 will be learning mediator skills so they can use problem solving skills to resolve minor peer disagreements on their own. Playground supervisors will monitor this process.

### **Greetings from the Library Media Center**

Welcome Bent families! My name is Ms. Riccio and I am the Bent School Library Media Specialist. Each student visits the library media center for a scheduled class period of 40 minutes. The library media center also has an open checkout time each morning from 9:00-9:30. Email me at [ricciok@district87.org](mailto:ricciok@district87.org) or visit the Media Center web page at: [www.district87.org/bent/mediacenter](http://www.district87.org/bent/mediacenter) Also, we will be having a book fair the week of October 19-23<sup>rd</sup>. It will be held in the school's library media center.



Dear Bent Families,

I write in an effort to encourage you to participate in the State Farm Good Neighbor Grant Program (or a similar program from your employer). Every time State Farm employees volunteer 40 hours of their time, Bent School could receive \$500. This money will help us purchase educational items and provide enrichment programs for our school and your students. Below, you will find some of the possible projects and items your donated time could help fund.

If you are interested in supporting Bent in this way, please complete the form below and return to the school office. I would like to facilitate your volunteerism by providing you with activities that could go toward the 40 hours.

Thank you in advance,

Vickie Slagell  
Bent School Principal

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Items/programs that could be funded:

- Assemblies
- Games for winter indoor recess
- Honor roll parties
- Superstar folders
- Technology equipment
- Library books
- Classroom materials
- Assignment books
- Various equipment
- Many other needs

\_\_\_ Yes, I am interested in volunteering my time

I would be willing to participate in the following activities:

\_\_\_cutting laminated materials for teachers

\_\_\_making buttons with the button machine

\_\_\_assisting in supervising students during my child's lunch/recess time

\_\_\_attend a PTO meeting

\_\_\_Tutoring a student during school or after school

\_\_\_other \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_



