

**Bent School
904 N. Roosevelt
Bloomington, IL 61701
309-828-4315
Vickie Slagell, Principal**

BENT SUPERSTAR GAZETTE

***Mission Statement: Education is a right;
to educate each student to the greatest capacity is our mission.***

November, 2009

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL:

You are the single most important influence in your children's lives. When a student comes late to school, they miss instruction, cause a disruption for other students and learn that punctuality is not important. When a student misses school for extended weekends, because they missed the bus, etc. it sends the message that school is not important.

Learning is a top priority at Bent School. I am asking all parents to help us by making sure your students are at school and on time every day they are well enough to attend. Have your students to school on time.

Greetings from Jeff Geringer

I will begin as the substitute principal at Bent School second semester. I will work with Mrs. Slagell from Jan. 6 through Feb. 4 and finish the year. I am looking forward to working with the students, parents, and staff of Bent School. Many of you may know me from Bloomington Junior High School, but for those of you who don't I thought I'd give you a little of my background. I grew up in central Illinois and joined the US Marine Corps right after high school. Following a four year stint, I attended Illinois State University majoring in geography education. I began my teaching career 15 years ago, with District 87, teaching Geography on the 7B team. I again attended ISU and received a MS in Educational Administration. For the past several years I have been the Assistant Principal at BJHS. My wife, Dawn, has put up with me for over 20 years and I have three children. I also have two dogs, a turtle and several fish.

Music Notes from Mrs. O'Shea:

In music we are working on singing songs in Spanish and learning a folk dance from Mexico!



Update from the Library Media Center! – Ms. Riccio, Library Media Specialist

Grades K-3 have been involved in the Monarch Award Nominee Program. The Monarch Award is a special Illinois Award given to one of 20 nominee books. Students in Illinois will vote in February for their favorite book and the winning author will get a special award and recognition. We have been enjoying our Monarch read-aloud selections each week. For a full list of books visit: <http://www.islma.org> and go to Monarch Award.

Grades 4-5 are involved in Reading Unites program. The program is a combined effort between Metcalf, Unit 5 and District 87 schools. There are 20 nominee books. To participate, students must read at least 6 of these nominee books and pass the Reading Counts quiz that accompanies each book. (To pass students need at least 7 of 10 correct.) For those who complete his goal we will have a voting and pizza party in March. For a full

listing visit: http://www.district87.org/bentmedia_center/readingunites.htm *Happy Reading!*



Art Class at Bent from Mrs. O'Neill

Kindergarteners continue to work with shapes, lines, and colors. They used lines to design paper t-shirts. They looked at pictures of trees and drew trees using different types of lines and also painted a pumpkins. What can you do at home with your kindergartener? Look for patterns in clothing that use shapes, lines, and colors. Observe or draw trees in your own neighborhood noticing the trunk, limbs, branches and roots. Draw your pumpkins and other fruits and vegetables, discussing the shapes, lines, and colors you use to draw them.

The third graders have continually worked with creating texture in artwork and with the warm and cool colors. Fourth graders used stencils to make a fall decoration and to illustrate their own story. They are beginning to explore architecture as an art form. Soon, we will work with watercolor paint in fourth grade. If you have not gotten a set of watercolors yet from the class list, now is a good time to send those in. And last, the fifth graders studied Surrealism and the art of Salvador Dali. They completed a unit on tints and shades using tempera paint. As the students get older, many art pieces take two or three weeks to complete. They are kept at school for display, sharing, and for evaluation until the end of the semester.



Do We Have Your Number?

We need be able to contact parents or guardians for many reasons, including a student's sudden illness at school. Make sure we have your most current phone numbers at school.

Family Reading Night

Family Reading Night is Thursday, Nov. 19 from 6:00 – 7:00 P.M. Save this date! The school wide theme is Everybody has a Story and special activities are being planned! Families will also read together on this special night.

DID YOU KNOW?

- ✓ An anonymous donor has provided finances to support our updated website.
- ✓ If you have not received a handbook, let us know.
- ✓ Students do not go out to recess when the wind-chill falls below 20 degrees Fahrenheit.
- ✓ If your child is sick, please call the office before 9:30 A.M. – 828-4315 – state law requires school and parents to attempt to contact each other when a child is absent. Please help us out by calling us first.
- ✓ Late bus? Missed your stop? Bloomington District 87 contracts bus service from Illinois Central School Bus. If you have questions or concerns, please call them at 828-4373.
- ✓ Superstar Gazette, our school newsletter, will be published every month and distributed the 1st school day of the month.
- ✓ PTO meets the first Tuesday of every month. Everyone is invited to attend meetings and help make an impact at Bent School. We hope to see you on November 3 at 7:00 P.M. in the Learning Center!
- ✓ Children must have a note to NOT ride the bus. If you have a change in after school plans please write a note or call us. If we cannot reach you we will have the student go where they usually do after school.
- ✓ Our elementary schools have a school resource officer provided by the Bloomington Police Department. His name is Brian Evans and you may see him around school making sure we are all safe.
- ✓ Check your child's back pack every day!

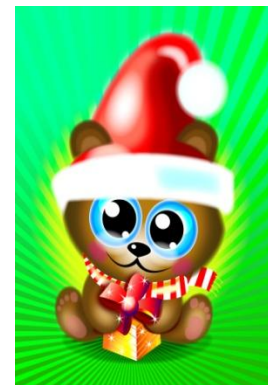
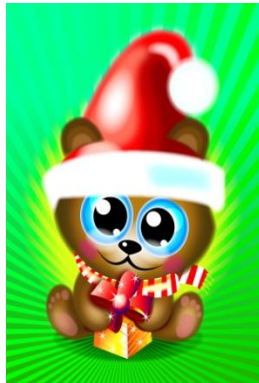


Save this Date!

Deck the Halls/Holiday Shop - Tuesday, December 2 - 6:00 – 7:30 P.M. in the gym
- Holiday Shop (cafeteria)



Bent Superstar Council invites your family to help us DECK THE HALLS of Bent School on Tuesday, Dec. 2 from 6:00-7:30 P.M. Craft tables will be set up throughout the gym to help us get in the holiday mood. Tables will include holiday crafts for Christmas, Las Posadas, Kwanzaa, Hanukkah, a take home decoration and a cookie decorating table. Come join us on this special night



MARK YOUR CALENDAR with important dates:

December 1 and 2 – PTO Holiday Shop – Dec. 1 and 2 – 5:30 -7:00 P.M.

on both nights.