

BENT SCHOOL

904 N. Roosevelt
Bloomington, Il 61701

309-828-4315

Jeff Geringer, Principal

BENT SUPERSTAR GAZETTE

September, 2011

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

On the first half day of school, I picked up a microphone and asked all of the parents to raise their hand if they were glad to see that school had started up again. You should have seen the hands go up!! Well, we are happy too! We are welcoming some new staff members to our Bent family this year. Mrs. Dobson will be teaching 4th grade and Mrs. Wegner will be teaching Kindergarten Bilingual. In addition, we have three new Paraprofessionals this year. Ms. Parker, Ms. Hurtado and Ms. Zeman are joining us to help provide some intervention services for our kids. Mr. Wolfe is coming to us in the afternoon from Oakland to teach some PE classes. I know all of you have heard the stories about NCLB, AYP, and school choice. Please know that throughout District 87, we take student achievement very seriously. I invite you to attend the first PTO meeting where I will be available to explain the implications of NCLB and what it means for our future. The first PTO meeting is at 7:00 pm on Sept. 6. As always, should you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to call or send an email!

Enrollment Numbers at Bent

Currently we have 420 students enrolled at Bent School 275 students in English speaking classes and 145 students in the bilingual classes.

SAT-10 & Apprenda Testing begin September 6-13. Teachers use this data to guide instruction. Please make sure your students get a good night's sleep especially this week.



COME VISIT our first ever **Farmer's Market** on Bent's playground
September 8 - 4:30 – 6:30 P.M.

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 8:45am.

- **Pick-up / Drop-off**—Students should only be picked up / dropped off on the Lee St. side at the front of the school. I had the maintenance people extend the concrete to make more space for pick up and drop off. Please don't leave your vehicle unattended.
- **Walkers**—Please remind walkers to cross at crosswalks with our crossing guard. The crossing guards are employed by the Bloomington Police Department for the safety of our kids.
- **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)
 - Late bus? Missed your stop? Contact Illinois Central Bus @ 828-4373
 - 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.
 - Illinois law requires all children to be properly restrained in a child safety seat or booster until age 8.



Social Work – Janet Reckard

I would like to introduce Bent's social work intern for the 2011-12 school year, Mrs. Jessica Nesby. Mrs. Nesby comes to us with a wealth of experience in the social work field in child welfare, medical and medical health social work. She is the parent of 4 District 87 students. She will be helping me this fall in continuing to train and work with peer mediators and also in presenting a new program.

S.W.A.T. is a new program that will be presented to all students, grades K thru 5. It stands for STOP, WALK AWAY, and TELL. We are training students to try to solve minor problems such as teasing and gossip, that violate the Bent Superstar Code of BE SAFE, BE RESPONSIBLE, BE RESPECTFUL. They will learn to take attention away from students who are not acting respectfully by asking them to stop, walk away, and finally, telling an adult if these first 2 strategies have not solved the problem. If all students and teachers follow these strategies, we will send a strong message that Bent Superstars do not tolerate teasing, gossip, and other disrespectful behaviors. Without an audience, it is more likely that these behaviors will be reduced, and students will be more responsible for themselves and each other before an adult steps in.

Student Council – Mrs. Cooper

Student Council Assembly /Elections will take place on Thursday, Sept. 22 at 9:15 a.m. Any 4th or 5th grade student can run for an office.

School Pictures

Our school picture date is October 17. Information will be sent home closer to that date.

PBIS(Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports) NOTE - A Bent Student's Guide to Being Cool!

The first Friday back at Bent Elementary was different than most. Students participated in a day-long retreat to learn about appropriate behavior at Bent School. We call these the "cool tools." It was explained to students how to be safe, be respectful, and be responsible in all common areas. The students also learned the new Bent School pledge which we say every morning in English and in Spanish following the pledge of allegiance.

**I pledge to myself,
My school, and my community,
To be safe
Be respectful
And be responsible.
I am a Bent Superstar!**

Bent PTO Officers:

PTO website: www.BentPTO.org



President: Amanda Hogenson, Terry & Linda Cox
Vice President: Libnda & Terry Cox
Recorder: Tory Dahmm
Treasurer: not filled at this time

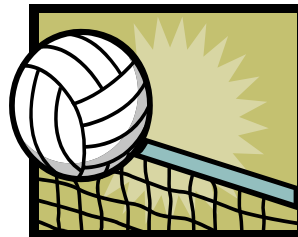
Bent Elementary PTO would like to take this opportunity to welcome you and your family to Bent School! The first step in making our school a success is having parents just like YOU help out with the many different events throughout the school year. We have a wide range of opportunities.

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. Our first PTO meeting is right around the corner! Please join us on **Tuesday, September 6th at 7:00 p.m.** in our cafeteria. All PTO meetings are the 1st Tuesday of each month, with the exception of January, and free child care is provided. We look forward to seeing you!

If you are interested in being treasurer for our PTO call Amanda Hogensen @ 828-2237. Please remember to save your boxtops for school supplies.

BE AN ALL-STAR READER

- our school theme this year!



Wiener Roast – October 7



Come have lunch with your child during regular lunch times.

Mr. Geringer will be cooking hotdogs on the grill outside.

Adult Lunch: \$3.00

Children not attending Bent School: \$2.00

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

K-Hernandez & Wegner	11:00-11:40
K-Weeks & Wadkins	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	\$1.50
Student Lunch	\$2.05
Student Milk	.50

Adult Breakfast	\$2.00
Adult Lunch	\$3.00



- You can manage your child's cafeteria account at www.mylunchmoney.com
- All Bent students get free fruits/vegetables each day

Greetings from the Library Media Center



Welcome back Bent students and families! My name is Ms. Riccio and I'm the Bent School Library Media Specialist. Students in K-1 visit the library media center one time per week (40 minutes total) for library instruction, story time, book checkout, as well as computer time. Students in Grades 2-5 visit 2 times a week. The first 40 minutes are dedicated to library skills and technology instruction. The other 20 minute block of time is for book checkout and selection as well as time for taking computer quizzes for the Reading Counts program (school wide reading program). You can visit my web page at: www.district87.org/staff/ricciok Also, mark the date for our **book fair** this year which will be held the week of Fall conferences. The book fair is a great fundraiser. Hope to see you there: October 25, 26, and 27th. More details to follow!

Ms. Riccio

Notes from the Nurse - Sue Rutherford RN

Welcome to another year at Bent! There are a couple of reminders for health items that relate to kindergarten and second grades.



Kindergarteners need an Eye Exam by October 15th, 2011, if you haven't already completed that requirement, and a Dental Exam by May 15th, 2012, if you haven't already completed that requirement. When you go to that scheduled exam let the health care provider know that it is for school so they will fill out the needed form. If you would like a form before you go, let me know so I can send one home to you. Return completed forms to the school nurse.

For students getting an Eye exam and you have Medical Card: call John Scott Health Resources at 823-4224 which is the McLean County Eye Care Referral Network for Public Aide. Call and they will direct you to the optometrist who will provide exam.

For students getting a Dental exam Mclean County Health Department has Dental Clinic for children of families who meet financial eligibility requirements. Appointments are required and a small fee is charged. Please call 888-5479.

Second graders need a **dental exam by May 15th, 2012** if you haven't already completed that requirement. The dentist has the needed form; let them know that it is for school and the form will be given to you. The completed form needs to be turned into me at school.

For students getting a Dental exam Mclean County Health Department has Dental Clinic for children of families who meet financial eligibility requirements. Appointments are required and a small fee is charged. Please call 888-5479.

Any medication needs a med form completed by the doctor and updated yearly. We also have a food allergy form that needs to be completed by a physician if needed.

Any questions, please don't hesitate to call to speak to me at Bent from 11:15 and 1:15 at 828-4315.

Bent School Directory - Opt-Out Form

Bent School PTO publishes an annual directory of students. We list children's names by class, along with phone numbers, addresses, parents' or guardians' names, and a family email address. All students will be included unless we receive this form back from you.

If you do **NOT** wish your child to be included in the Bent School directory, please mark one of the following options.

_____ Please list only my child's name, but do NOT include contact information.

_____ Please do NOT list my child in the directory at all.

Child's name: _____ Grade & teacher: _____

Parent/Guardian signature: _____



Return this form to the Main Office by Friday, Sept. 16 to opt out of participation in the directory. *If you want your child included in the directory, no action is required!*

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,

Jeff Geringer
Bent School Principal

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: _____

