Bennie Elementary 2024-2025 Parent/Guardian Information







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OVERALL IMPORTANT FALL INFORMATION

- School Supply Lists- These are suggested lists that help out our classroom teachers:) Supply Lists-click me
- Important Dates for the "School Year" <u>click here to see impo+rtant dates for the school year</u>
- District Calendar -click here to see the district calendar
- Meet the Teacher Night— see slide 6 for background information on the school event! We look forward to seeing all of our bobcats on Wednesday August 28th from 6:30-7:30pm
- PLACEMENTS Parents/Guardians will be able to view their student(s) teacher on Wednesday, August 28th, 2024. These will be viewable via the parent portal at <u>click here for the parent connect portal</u> ***Classroom teachers will be viewable after 4:00pm.
- **Dropoff and pickup** School hours this year will be as follows; 8:05am(start of breakfast), School Arrival bell is at 8:30am, student dismissal bell is at 3:30pm. Please see additional information about arrival, dismissal, and traffic on slides 17-20.
- Breakfast and Lunch— breakfast and lunch are now free this year, steps on how to load money onto your students account for snacks and additional drinks/entrees can be found at <u>click here to find district lunch forms</u> (Scroll down on page)
- Water- please continue to send your students with a water bottle with a straw or sports style water bottle to fill up using our refilling station. Students also take their water bottles with them to lunch.

General Information for Bennie Parent/Guardians

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Please report all absences to the school office by 9:00am.
- If you still have a district-owned Chromebook from last school year, it should come back to school with your child on the first day. Please make sure the charger is included. <u>Kindergarten and 1st grade chromebooks now stay at Bennie.</u>
- All students will be issued a district-owned Chromebook during the first week of school.
- Every day, 2nd-5th Chromebooks and chargers will go back and forth from home to school. (please talk with your classroom teacher with any concerns or questions). K/1 chromebooks stay at the building.
- Students will need headphones or earbuds that will remain at school. Label with your child's name.
- Supply lists are on the school websites or blog, and sent to families. Supplies are able to be dropped off during Meet the Teacher Night or brought on the first day of school.
- Individual water bottles are recommended. Please consider a pop-top or straw-type if possible to avoid spills onto school materials or technology. Label with your child's name.
- Please practice independence with shoe tying, zippering, buttoning, and other clothing features with your child.
- All grades will administer the NWEA to students in person by October 6th.. Your child's teacher will provide these details to you.
- Our PTAs provide support to our schools in many ways. Please look for upcoming information on ways to join our PTA.

BENNIE SCHOOL SUPPLY LISTS

• School Supply Lists—
These are suggested lists
that help out our
classroom teachers:)
Supply Lists—click me







- Classroom Placements will be on August 28th at 4:00pm on Parent Portal
- This year's Meet the Teacher Night will be an Open House on August 28th from 6:30-7:30pm.
- Students are encouraged to attend Meet the Teacher Night with their family.
- Meet the Teacher attendance will be staggered. Please arrive and depart promptly according to the schedule below.
- Families of 2 or more can come anytime between 6:30 and 7:20pm
- Food Trucks- We will have 2 food trucks at our event, a Sandwich Truck and a
 Dessert Donut Truck!!! (located on lower el Black Top Area)
- Families will be divided into two groups by alphabet with 20 minute sessions (6:30-6:50 and 7:00-7:20)
 - Last Names A-M -- 6:30-6:50pm
 - Last Names N-Z -- 7:00-7:20pm
 - If your family has multiple last names, please follow the schedule for your oldest child's last name
- What to expect during Meet the Teacher Night:
 - Meet your child's teacher
 - Stop by and visit with our Support Team Staff- Speech, Social Work,
 Resource Teacher, Occupational Therapist, School Psychologist, etc.
 - o Bring suggested supplies to drop off suggested supplies click me
 - Receive a packet of information about classroom procedures/curriculum

Picture Day and Retake Day at Bennie

Picture day is Tuesday, September 24th

Retake day is Tuesday, November 26th. PICTURE DAY

2024-2025 PTA School Events



BENNIE ELEMENTARY PTA



2024-2025



SEPTEMBER <</p>

9/5: PTA Meeting 6:30 9/25: Culver's Fundraiser 9/30: Membership Contest Ends



OCTOBER (

10/1: Walk, Bike or Roll to School 10/3: PTA Meeting 6:30 10/14: Fun Run 10/23: Texas Roadhouse Fundraiser (Taylor)



11/2: Holiday Fever 11/6: Jet's Fundraiser 11/14: PTA Meeting 6:30 11/27: Rev'd Up Fun Night



DECEMBER

12/12: PTA Meeting 6:30 12/11: Bennie Gives Back



1/17: Reflections 1/29: Family Fun Night at Zap Zone



2/5: Family Fun Night 2/6: PTA Meeting 6:30 2/25: Texas Roadhouse Fundraiser (Taylor)



*** MARCH ***

3/5: Bingo for Books (APHS) 3/6: PTA Meeting 6:30 3/15: Spring Fever

3/22: Kalahari Fundraiser



4/3: PTA Meeting 6:30 4/25: Spring Family Dance (APMS)





5/1: PTA Meeting 6:30 5/5-5/10: Teacher Appreciation Week 5/22: Buffalo Wild Wings Fundraiser



ST JUNE ST

6/2: Field Day 6/5: PTA Meeting 6:30 6/11: Last Day of School

JOIN THE PTA & STAY CONNECTED

- PTA members will have the first opportunity to sign up to volunteer at PTA events . Follow us on Facebook: BENNIE ELEMENTARY PTA
- · PTA Website: https://sites.google.com/view/allen-parkbennie.pta/home

2024-2025 PTA School Meetings/Save the Dates



Information from Our District Nurses



State of MI requires all Kindergarteners to have immunizations up-to-date. A
copy of these immunizations needs to be provided for enrollment. The
immunizations required are described here: <u>Vaccinations required for school</u>
entry.

Information from Our District Nurses

- If a child requires medication at school, a <u>Medication Authorization Form</u> needs to be signed by the parent and physician.
- Please contact the school nurse with any medical conditions that may impact education or may require emergency medications. (for example: Asthma, Food Allergies, Type One Diabetes, Seizures, etc.)
- When enrolling, please make sure all contact numbers are correct and the health information section is filled out completely.
- IMPORTANT: We hope to smoothly transition into the upcoming school year and are asking that all required forms be completed and returned to us August 26th August 29th, 8:00 am 3:00 pm and no later than the first day of school, September 3rd, 2024.

Latchkey(Before and After School Childcare)

LATCHKEY HOURS

AM: 7:00 a.m. - start of the school day PM: end of the school day - 6:00 p.m.

MONTHLY RATES

	Mornings (7:00-8:30)	Afternoons (3:30-6:00)	Both
5 Days	\$173.12	\$227.15	\$347.81
4 Days	\$150.72	\$196.78	\$299.34
3 Days	\$128.60	\$165.41	\$250.88

Registration

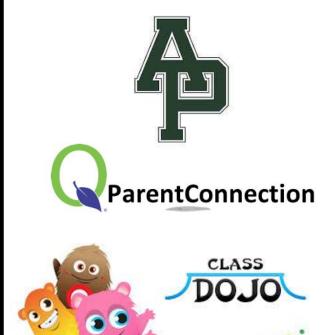
- * Non-refundable registration fee of \$45 per child or \$50 per family due at registration
- * Registrations MUST BE mailed or hand delivered with registration fee. Sorry, no faxed or emailed applications will be accepted.
- * Registration fee MUST BE made by cash or check payable to: Allen Park Schools

• We are pleased to offer Latchkey(before and after school childcare) for our Bobcat Families! Please use the link below if interested in signing up for Latchkey:)

<u>click here to see district information about Latchkey</u>

Bennie Communication (links are underlined)

- <u>District Page</u> departments, parent portal, registration, employment, etc..
- Parent Square- our new platform is here. Please see the next slide with directions to sign up. This is the primary tool we use to post important items. (newsletters, events, district information, school letters and updates..)
- Bennie Facebook Pagehttps://www.facebook.com/bennieelementary-school events, photos, announcements, class photos, awards, etc..
- Class Dojo-used for parent communication by some of our classroom teachers with pics, student work, and student behavior.
- Parent Portal access to your parent connect, student grades, district resources, and classroom placement information.





Parent Square Directions- New Communication Tool

This school year we will transition to- Parent Square. This communication platform allows the convenience of text, email, or app messages. It also has a better view from your cell phones than our current email system. If interested in the app, please download to your phone through the App Store or this link:

https://www.parentsquare.com/select_school/new

You can also create an account to get text messages to your phone. This is very similar to Remind, which we used in the past! Register with the email we have on file/you use for school purposes. You should've received an email to this email address today with this same message! Overall, I think this will be a nice new feature for Bennie :



BENNIE ACADEMICS

ACE AWARDS

*Given monthly by our classroom teachers to students that are representing hard work, responsibility, and excellent collaboration with their peers and classrooms teacher.

SCHOOL **IMPROVEMENT** GOALS

*Our school improvement

goals are to improve our state and national proficiency in Reading, Writing, and Math as measured by NWEA(National Test) and MSTEP(State Test). K-5 students take NWEA assessments in Reading and Math 3 times a year and our 3rd-5th grade take MSTEP Assessments in the Spring.

AT HOME PRACTICE AND **STUDY HALL**

*We will continue to have at home practice this school year.

For math- you will see practice problems coming home or upper el students may be working on content practice sites.

For Reading you will see Reading Bags coming home with leveled text and foundational skills practice in our lower grades. In upper grades students will have small group assignments, online assignments, or missing work to complete.

Study Hall- we are also going to start a study hall during lunch for work completion, a quiet place to read or draw, or for students that are missing assignments that they want to complete at school.

PRESIDENTIAL AWARDS (NEW THIS YEAR!!!)

*To go along with our ACE

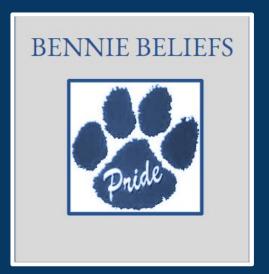
Awards and Bennie Beliefs, we are also going to implement Presidential Awards this year. These will be Patch Tags and Certificates given out to students that have scored at the 80th percentile or Higher on 1(Silver) or 2(Gold) of the NWEA Assessments during Fall, Winter, and Spring. All k-5 students take 3 assessments per year for Reading and Math. Presidential Award students will be listed on the October, February, and June "School Newsletters".

Bennie Culture

"Life Skills, Positive Behavior, Student Celebrations"







***Our PBIS Expectations provide our students with the goals for "Being Safe, Being Respectful, and Being Responsible" at Bennie. These goals focus on the following areas: our classrooms, hallways, lunchroom, playground, restrooms, and arrival/dismissal. These are great items to review with your students at home. We have a monthly focus area and celebrate our students monthly with ACE Awards!



Bennie Elementary School Positive Behavior Expectations Matrix

2023-2024	Be Respectful	Be Responsible	Be Safe
Classrooms	-Be Considerate -Use kind words -Use manners: please, thank you, excuse me -Share and help others -Use quiet voices	-Follow directions the first time given -Clean up after yourself -Give your best effort -Be prepared and on time	-Use materials appropriately -Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself -Walk at all times
Hallway	-Walk quietly in line -Respect hallway displays -Use quiet voices -Straight and silent	-Go directly to your location -Keep hallway clean	-Face forward -Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself -Walk at all times
Lunchroom	-Invite others to sit with you -Use good table manners -Wait patiently in line -Follow directions from staff -Use quiet voices	-Bring everything you need -Follow lunchroom rules -Keep food to yourself	-Get permission to leave the table -Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself -Sit properly at the table -Walk at all times
Playground	-Take turns and share the equipment -Include others -Follow directions from staff -Use kind words	-Line up when the whistle blows -Bring in the equipment -Follow playground rules -Dress appropriately -Keep playground clean	-Stay on the playground -Use games and equipment correctly -Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself -Walk safely to the playground
Restrooms	-Knock on door -Give others privacy -Respect school property -Use quiet voices	-Flush toilet after use -Return to your room promptly -Report problems to an adult -Keep bathroom clean	-Keep water in sink -Wash hands with soap
Arrival/Dismissal & Bus	-Use kind words -Follow directions from staff and safeties -Help others	-Take care of your personal belongings -Be on time -Use correct doors -Keep environment clean	-Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself -Stay in line on sidewalk -Walk at all times -Bus: Stay seated and face forward

*** To go along with our PBIS Program at Bennie, we have also implemented the "Bennie Beliefs". These are important life skills that will help our bobcats with establishing goals both academically and socially. Each month we will recognize 4 students at Bennie from each classroom. 2 students will be recognized for going above and beyond for the monthly "Belief" and 2 students will be recognized for overall amazing PBIS behaviors for our "ACE AWARDS". These students will be awarded their certificates at monthly celebrations and recognized on our Bennie Facebook page.

BENNIE BELIEFS



BENNIE BELIEFS



September - Show Respect

October - Have Empathy

November - Collaborate

December - Take Responsibility

January - Begin With The End In Mind

February - Citizenship

March - Read, Lead, Succeed

April - Persevere

May - Safety Is Key

June - Strengthen Your Roots

BFLIFF #1 Show Respect

"Lead by example."

- I am respectful to adults and my peers.
- I care about the feelings of others.
- I am patient and listen to others.
- I think before I speak.
- I raise my hand to speak so I don't interrupt the learning
- · I use good manners by saying "please" and "thank you", holding the door open for others, and taking turns.
- I use appropriate language that makes others feel safe.



"Seek first to understand, then to be understood,"

 I try to understand how someone else is feeling, even if I am not in the same situation.



 I can sense someone else's emotions through their body language and be respectful.



BELIEF #3 **Collaborate**

"Teamwork makes the dream work."

- I value other students' opinions and understand people have . I am kind to everyone. I encourage others to do their best.
- When a disagreement occurs. I use a strategy for a resolution. For example, rock, paper, scissors,
- When I am upset, I use calming strategies to maintain self control - For example, take deep breaths, count down, calm
- . I'm open to new ideas and share my ideas with my classmates.



BELIEF #4 Take Responsibility

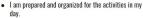




- I am in charge of the choices that I make.
- · I show integrity each day by doing the right thing, even when no one is watching.
- I have confidence in my expectations at school and at home.
- . I try my best each day by giving my all.
- If I "mess up". I "fess up".

BELIEF #5 Begin With The End In Mind

"Make a plan."



- I set personal and academic goals for myself.
- I think about how my choices will impact myself and
- I complete my tasks for the day so I can do the things that I want to do. I prioritize what is most important.
- . I stay focused on my work and don't distract others.
- I try my hardest now in order to prepare for my future.



BELIEF #6 Citizenship

"All are welcome."

- I show pride in myself because I am an important part of my community.
- My work and my participation matter.
- I give my best effort everyday.
- Differences in each other help to shape our culture!
- . My grades, tests, and daily work set me up for
- . I recognize that each individual brings value to our community.
- . I encourage others to do their best.

BELIEF #7

Read, Lead, Succeed

"Today a reader, tomorrow a leader,"



- I choose good fit books.
- I set reading goals.
- I update my reading log.
- I find a cozy spot to enjoy my books!
- I recommend books to others.

BELIEF #8

"Never give up."

- . I know my goals and I try my best to reach
- I continue to work hard even when I am tired from the hard work I have already done.
- I know things will be hard, but I can handle the challenges



. I encourage others to keep going when they feel defeated.

BELIEF #9 Safety Is Key

"Safety doesn't happen by accident."

. I keep hands, feet, and objects to myself.

feel safe at school.

- I wash my hands and keep my germs to myself.
- I walk in the hallways and in my classroom. Luse appropriate language that makes others
- I go down the slide on the playground and never run up.



BELIEF #10 Strengthen Your Roots

"Use what you know to grow!"



- I can balance my life between school and home
- I take care of my body by eating healthy, exercising, and getting rest.
- I am always willing to learn new things.

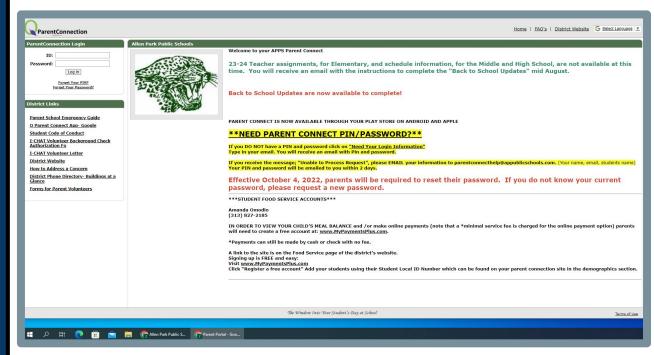


CLASSROOM PLACEMENT- (Parent Connect)

Bennie 24-25 Placements

PLACEMENTS -Parent s/Guardians will be able to view their student(s) teacher on Wednesday, August 28th, 2024 at 4:00pm. These will be viewable via the parent portal at click here for the parent connect portal

***Classroom teachers will be viewable after 4:00pm. ***Please follow the directions on the web page to sign up:)



Arrival and Dismissal

ARRIVAL

Arrival Procedures

- Families can use any of the 3 entry locations to drop off your students in the morning. Door 6, Door 1, or Door 16. This is to allow for smooth traffic with a "1 stop drop" and for siblings to enter together:)
- Doors open at 8:25 am. No supervision for students prior to 8:25 am.
- The school day begins at 8:30am, please make sure students are arriving on time. Student attendance and lunch count are taken during the first 10-15 minutes of school.
- At 8:35am all doors are locked and students have to enter at our main entrance at Door #1.

DISMISSAL

Dismissal Procedures

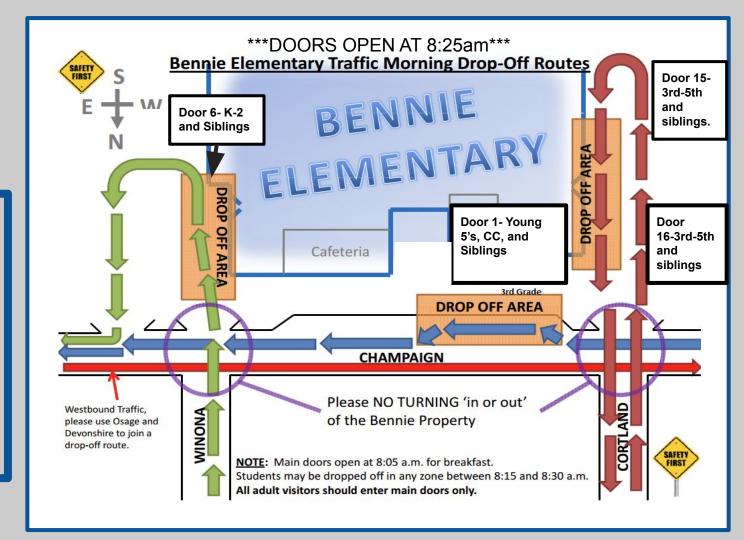
- ★ Students will be dismissed at the doors indicated on the map on slide 23 at 3:30pm.
- ★ Please leave immediately upon connecting with your child. (This is for student safety)
- ★ PLEASE DO NOT BRING DOGS OR ANY OTHER PETS TO STUDENT ARRIVAL OR DISMISSAL:) (We do not want any accidental bites to happen)
- ★ If you have children in multiple grades, please wait for the youngest child at his or her door, then go to a central meeting point (front sidewalk is a good one) for older children to meet you. Your older students can also meet you at your "youngest child's door" for a Sibling Spot.
- The school day ends at 3:30pm
- Students that are not picked up by 3:35pm are brought to the main office to call home. This is for student safety and allows our front office to make the necessary contacts.



Morning Arrival

**Feel free to use
any of the 3 drop off
lanes in the morning.
We will have safeties
and staff to guide
your students to
their classrooms



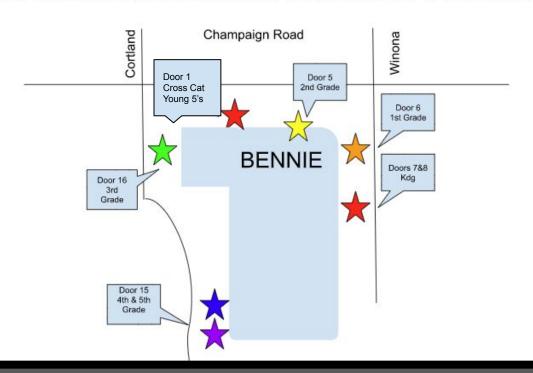


Afternoon Dismissal:

** To help with afternoon dismissal and the safety of our students, we will use the following grade level doors. Families should plan a meeting place at the end of each school day. **

Dismissal Procedures

- ★ Students will be dismissed at the doors indicated on the map below at 3:30pm.
- ★ Please leave immediately upon connecting with your child.
- ★ If you have children in multiple grades, please wait for the youngest child at his or her door, then go to a central meeting point (front sidewalk is a good one) for older children to meet you. Your older students can also meet you at your "youngest child's door" for a Sibling Spot.





Click here and download to see our Breakfast
Menu

Click here and download to see our Lunch Menu

Lunch Schedule 2024-25

2027 20					
Time	Grade	Activity	Location		
10:50-11:10	Y5s, Kindergarten	Recess	Playground		
11:10-11:30		Eat Lunch	Cafeteria		
11:15-11:35	1st Grade & Cross Cat	Recess	Playground		
11:35-11:55		Eat Lunch	Cafeteria		
11:40-12:00	2nd	Recess	Playground		
12:00-12:20		Eat Lunch	Cafeteria		
11:45-12:05	3rd	Recess	Playground		
12:05-12:25		Eat Lunch	Cafeteria		
12:10:12:30	5th Grade	Recess	Playground		
12:30-12:50		Eat Lunch	Cafeteria		
12:30-12:50	4th Grade	Recess	Playground		
12:50-1:10		Eat Lunch	Cafeteria		



***Bringing in Lunch Items? If you need to bring in a lunch or snack for your student. Then please bring this to the main office. Please ring the front buzzer and the office will provide with assistance. It is very important to talk with a member of our office to ensure that we get their snack or lunch to the student

Bennie Lunchroom Challenge "How to Have a Comfortable Cafeteria"

4 Goal Areas:

- 1. Use of Indoor Voices
- 2. Staying in their seats
- 3. Cleaning up after themselves
- 4. Straight and Silent in the Hallways



avalifies

Coding:

- 5. **B's on the chart** represent Bobcat Behavior, meaning the behavior that we want to see in the cafeteria and when heading outside through the hallways.
- 6. \triangle on the chart means "Delta" or that a change needs to take place in that area.

Steps and Procedures:

- Remind students each day of the goal areas above(1-4)
- At the end of the lunch period the lunch para will place a code for the day under the teacher's name(examples: B(means they were good in all the areas), $\triangle 1$ -too loud, $\triangle 3$ -left a messy table, $\triangle 1,3$ -too loud and left a mess, etc..)
- ***Lunchroom board will be viewable in the hallways near the cafe***- please review results with your class and ask them how they can improve with their lunchroom goals*
- After 2 weeks the class with the most B's for K-2 and 3-5 will receive the lunchroom challenge reward of a treat cart, 3 wins
 for a pizza party! The winning classes will be announced during morning announcements *** arrangements will be made with the
 classroom teacher of when to bring the treat cart**

Lunch & Recess

Please see the following information about school lunches for this school year:

Very Important: Please make sure to complete the following free and reduced lunch application. This is crucial to help with federal and state funding that helps a ton for the students of Bennie. Use the link below:)

https://frapps.horizonsolana.com/allpo1 (Only 1 application per family)

Breakfast:

- --

Lunch:

- Money can be added to your students account to purchase snacks, extra entrees, or drinks by visiting our Parent Portal and logging in https://sisweb.resa.net/ParentPortal/
- Free
- \$.50-\$1.00 snacks
- \$.50 Milk
 \$.30 Reduced Milk
- \$1.00 yogurt
- \$1.50 Extra Entree

Students have a 40 minute lunch period that is broken into two chunks:

- 20 minutes to eat
- 20 minutes to play outside

Students will have a morning or afternoon brain break with their classroom teacher, which are 10-15 minutes (inside or outside). They will also have a 20 minute recess with their lunch period.

Please be sure you are dressing your child for the weather. We will be going outside at any temperature above 20 degrees

Snacks and Water Bottles

Students will have a snack mid-morning or in the afternoon each day. Snacks are **not** provided by the school.

Please be sure to send a healthy snack everyday.

We ask that you place it in a separate part of their backpack for quick and easy access (outer pocket).

This also helps where students will not go in their lunch box and eat their lunch at snack time haha

Water bottles— we encourage you to send a thermos style water bottle that has a built in straw. This allows the students to refill during the day and also cuts down on spills in the classroom:)



Cell Phones/Smart Watch

*** We understand that your older student(s) may have a cell phone or smart watch for after school communication with a parent or guardian. We ask that all cell phones/smart watches stay in backpacks during the school day to allow your students to focus on their academics, until students are outside at the end of the day. If a student has their phone out or watch on during the school day, our staff will take the phone/watch until the end of the day or bring it to the front office. This is to prevent any videos or photos being taken during the school day or text messages being sent.

Thank you for your help and support with this important rule at Bennie:)





Student Dress Code

Main Items:

- No ripped or torn jeans/shorts that reveal skin or underwear underneath.
- Shorts/Skirts/Dresses need to be at fingertip length.
- Tank Tops need to be at a minimum of "2 Fingers Wide"
- No Belly Shirts
- No inappropriate objects or language on shirts.
- No Flip flops, open toes, crocs or sandals.
- No hats or hoods indoors, outside only before or after school.
- No purses or body bags to be worn in school.



Outside Recess Items



To ensure that all of our Bobcats are keeping safe, we allow the following items for our outside brain breaks or lunch recess. Due to injuries, we do not allow pick up soccer, basketball, or football games. Thank you for your help and support from home with these items!

Bennie School

Allowed Activities:

- Playworks games- taught by our classroom teachers, our PE staff, and our lunch aides.
- Recess Cart- provided jump ropes, chalk, wiffle balls, hula hoops, 4 square balls, bean bags, etc..
- Approved Games and/or Activities- Kickball games, Wiffle ball games(3rd-5th grade), Freeze Tag, Switch, and use of our playground equipment- slides, swings, blacktop, grass areas, and play structures.

*** No visitors are allowed on school property at any time. All guests must report to the front office to check in.

Student Birthdays at Bennie

We love to celebrate our students birthdays at Bennie! Our classroom teachers will always ensure that we make your student feel special on their big day! With that, we also want to make sure that we are staying safe and being considerate of others. Please see the following items of how birthdays are celebrated at Bennie. We appreciate your support with these items

Bennie Staff



Our classroom teachers will be sure to celebrate your student on their big day:) We ask that the following items are not brought into the building for your students' birthday celebration:

- **No consumable items** or special treats. There are many allergies these days and we want to be safe.
- **No Goody Bags** this puts pressure on other students and families to go out and do the same. Goody bag items have caused behavior issues in the past.
- **No Balloons-** please keep these at home.
- **No Birthday Invites** this should be done outside of the school. We want to respect the feelings of all of our students.

***Please contact your classroom teacher for how they celebrate student birthday in their classroom. Thank you for following the bullet points above:)

We look forward to an Amazing Year Together!!!

