

Parents,

Welcome back to another great year at Bennett CSD! I hope that everyone had a great summer! I am looking forward to having students return and to hearing all about your summer. A school is meant to have the sounds of children in the halls. As the school year fast approaches, here are a few reminders and a couple of new things as we move into another year as a Bomber school community:

Reminder, students can be dropped off starting at 7:30am. Please ensure your students are not arriving at school prior to this time as we do not have supervision available before 7:30 am.

Breakfast starts at 7:30am and ends at 8am. Hot breakfast will no longer be served after 8am. Students who arrive tardy and need breakfast after 8am will be offered a cold to-go breakfast to take to their classrooms with them. This option ends at 9:30am daily so that our nutrition staff can begin transitioning to lunch time.

This brings me to my next topic which is a change in state attendance legislation. Beginning in the 2024/2025 school year we will have a new truancy policy which can be found in our parent-student handbook and is attached to this letter. This policy is designed to encourage attendance in class and requires the school to contact the county attorney once students reach designated thresholds of absences from school.

You will notice that Ms. Kylee and myself are now in a "new" office. We are now located immediately inside the front door in what was the district office last year. We also have several new staff members this year! Mrs. Dolan - preschool teacher, Mr. Curtis - paraprofessional, Ms. Betty Jo - head cook, Mr. Knoche - superintendent, Officer Dierks - SRO and Kendall Durant - Nutrition help. I know you will all make them feel welcome!

We will also be introducing a new curriculum this year! Amplify is a unique core curriculum combining rich, diverse content knowledge in history, science, literature, and the arts with systematic, research-based foundational skills instruction. We are very excited to watch our students soar with this new curriculum!

Amplify is a language arts program for Grades PreK–6 that builds on the foundation built by our staff learning over the past two years on the science of reading. Amplify combines a multi-sensory approach to phonics with rich texts carefully sequenced to build content knowledge—so that students learn to read and read to learn at the same time.

Every day in Grades PreK–2, students complete one full lesson that builds foundational reading skills, as well as one full lesson that builds background knowledge. In Grades 3–5, students start to master the skills of reading, further opening up their worlds. Students using Amplify ELA read text passages closely, interpret what they find, discuss their thinking with peers, and develop their ideas in writing.

There will be three additional bus stops added this school year. These stops will be located around Bennett to support the transportation needs of those residing within the city limits. A bus will be stopping at the corners of Willow and 5th (7:29 am and 3:10 pm), Willow and 3rd (7:27 am and 3:06 pm) and at Maple and 3rd (7:25 am and 3:08 pm). Bus times will vary for early outs and delays. If you would like your child(ren) to ride the bus from one of these locations please call and let the office know so that they can be added to the list of bus riders.

We will be continuing again this year to have a 20 minute W.I.N. time in our schedule Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 12:10-12:30 p.m. W.I.N. stands for "What I Need- When I Need it". It is

designed to provide flexible options to support students' individual interests and needs. From extra help to enrichment and more - WIN block is intended to give students "what they need", whether that is academic support, social emotional support, enrichment, or skill building.

There are lots of exciting and fresh opportunities awaiting your child(ren) for the 2024-2025 school year. Everything that we do is meant to support our students, families and staff in achieving our district goals of being the best school in our area. If you have any friends or family who are looking for an excellent community to raise and educate their children, encourage them to look at Bennett or New Liberty and to consider Bennett CSD!

If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to me.



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