



Berenda Elementary

January 2021

## Principal's Message

Welcome back to school and to 2021.

I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and enjoyed your three weeks off. This year continues to be different in so many ways - both at school and out of school. Many of our students don't understand all that is happening in the world around them and it seem that there is more and more happening every day. Starting back with school routines is a wonderful way to provide much needed consistency in every child's life.

Hopefully we will be back in school together soon, but as of now, we are still in a distance learning model. **We will be starting back with our Zoom lessons on Tuesday, Jan 12<sup>th</sup>.** I'm sure students will be excited to get to talk with their teacher and see their classmates again.

As I have said many times: **"Wednesday is a school day."** Even though teachers are not Zooming with your children, they have still planned lessons to help reinforce learned skills. We all want our Broncos to learn and grow. But, we also know that it takes practice and hard work to get better. In addition, we use the work students complete on Wed to determine attendance for the day. If we can't tell students have completed their assignments, then we are required to mark them absent for the day.

Your teachers are working hard to provide engaging lessons. Unfortunately, many of our students are not participating like they would if they were at school. It is very helpful to teachers to be able to see students as the lessons progress. Yes, there can be reasons to have a video off. But, I know that many of you want your child to have their video on so that teachers can help to monitor their learning better. So, if you want your child's video on, tell them and let their teacher know through ParentSquare.

We may not like our distance learning model, but, working together, we can help each of our Broncos achieve their potential.

Mr. Christiansen  
Be Safe and Give Grace!

## What's coming...

Mon, Jan 11 - No school for students.

Tuesday, Jan 12 - **First day for students back on Zoom.**

Wed, Jan 13 - **Packet pickup** for Kinder-5<sup>th</sup> grade. 10:00-12:30 via drive up in the parking lot and from 5-5:45 from room 5.

Wed, Jan 13 - **Meal distribution** from 11:00-12:30 at Berenda. There will also be a limited quantity of meals available at Child Nutrition at 769 S. Pine Street, from 5:00-6:00 pm. (There is a ParentSquare message from MUSD where you can let them know your pickup preference. This helps to make sure we don't run out of boxes.)

\*\*\*Upcoming meal serving dates: January 20, 2021 / January 27, 2021 / February 3, 2021

Fri, Jan 15 - **Semester grades** mailed home.

Mon, Jan 18 - **No school** in recognition of Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

## Event Highlights

We are working on a plan to have a COVID friendly way to have an Awards Assembly. This will be a drive through ceremony in our front parking lot. More info to follow!!!

I hope your children enjoyed the various stories and sing-a-long videos that were shared with them last month. I know the staff enjoyed making them and I hope everyone enjoyed seeing them.

## Student Health & Wellness

It was also fun to see the students who sent in pictures to be included in our Jingle Bell Jog video. This was a fun way to keep PE in the minds of our students. Mr. Townsend and Mrs. Martin are constantly encouraging students to be active and to eat healthy foods. Now, more than ever, it is important to make sure students stay active. When the weather is good, it is important for them to get away from the computer, the TV, and video games, go outside into the fresh air, and get their heart pumping. This is great for their physical and emotional health and wellbeing.