



Berenda Elementary

June 2021

## Principal's Message

Hi Broncos,

This has been a year like no other. We sent students home last March, we started the school year in August via Zoom, we saw wild fires everywhere, we dealt with all kinds of technology issues, and then we found a way to safely bring many of our students back to our classroom for in-person learning.

I want to thank everyone for their support as we overcame each of these obstacles. Together, we were able to make sure that our students continued to learn and grow.

Our last day of school is on June 11<sup>th</sup>. We want students to continue to come to school and log on to their Zoom classes until the last day. This is a different year, but it is still vitally important that your child participate all the way to the last day.

The plan is to have Lexia, Khan, and STMath available to students over the summer. **This is a fabulous opportunity for our students!** I would highly recommend that they continue to use these programs for 20 minutes daily. They may not like it, they may complain, but it is not any different than going to baseball or soccer practice. If you don't practice, you don't get better! They may not like it, but they will get better at reading and math if they spend some time on these programs every day.

I hope everyone enjoys summer vacation.

Be safe, give grace, and keep your mind and body active!

Mr. Christiansen

## Don't forget...

- \*Fill out the ParentSquare Health Screener daily
- \*Make sure your child has a water bottle
- \*20 minutes a day!

## What's coming...

### June 2<sup>nd</sup> is going to be a busy day!

We have our **drive through awards** from 8:00-8:30 for Kinder & First grade and from 8:40-9:10 for Second & Third grade. (If you are getting an award, your teacher will contact you.)

Cars will drive into the parking lot and go to where your teacher is standing.

If you are a Distance Learner, you will get your award and your packet of materials for the last two weeks.

We are also going to collect textbooks on June 2 from all students. Your teacher will let you know what textbooks need to be returned.

For all students, you can drop your textbooks off when you get your award, or when you pick up your packet from 11:15-12:30 and 5:00-5:45.

On June 9<sup>th</sup>, 8:00-8:30 Fourth & Fifth grade and from 8:40-9:10 Sixth grade.

As always, you will get information from your child's teacher if they are receiving an award.

On June 14<sup>th</sup> we will be collecting technology from our Distance Learning students from 11:30-5:45. You will need to return the Chrome book, charger, protective sleeve, headphones, and HotSpot if you have one of those.

Mark your calendar.

The first day of school will be on August 9<sup>th</sup>. We can't wait to have all our Broncos back in school!!

## From MUSD department of Student and Family Support Services:

Developing the social and emotional skills of children is a critical way to ensure that they grow up into healthy, well-adjusted adults. Schools are now integrating Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) into their lesson plans. Parents also play a role in promoting SEL! Here are six suggestions for ways that parents can promote social and emotional learning over summer break.

1. Watch age-appropriate movies as a family. Discuss the motivations and actions of the characters and encourage your children to share their thoughts and feelings about the outcome of the story.
2. Set a goal for the summer and help your child keep track of it. Agree on an age-appropriate summer goal with your child and help them track their progress. Help them create a graph to track their progress to reinforce concepts like determination and help children learn to deal with emotions like frustration.
3. Start a summer journal. Buy some inexpensive notebooks for your child and encourage them to keep a journal of their thoughts and feelings over the summer. Whether they choose to draw pictures or free-write, journaling can help children keep a sense of their thoughts and feelings and express them in a healthy manner.

4. Create chore lists for each week of summer break. Age-appropriate chores can teach children responsibility and the importance of follow through. Parents can change which chores their child is responsible for from week to week while keeping the routine constant.
5. Make a "Gratitude Jar." Help your child to identify things they are grateful for and add them to the jar weekly.
6. Check-in with your child's feelings. Simply asking "how are you feeling?" every day shows your children that their emotions matter. This also helps children learn to label their emotions and learn to deal with them in an appropriate way.

Integrating social and emotional learning concepts into your child's summer break is a great way for parents to reinforce the concepts children are already learning at school. The more time that parents dedicate to these concepts, the better equipped children will be for a future full of learning!