



Berenda Elementary

August 2021

## From the Principal

Hi Broncos,

Last year was a very different year for us. As I look back and think about all that we overcame, I am so impressed with how our Bronco family worked together to make sure that our students still received a great education. We learned about new technologies, we implemented new strategies to keep us all safe, and we supported each other in countless ways. And now, we are ready to start the 2021-2022 school year!

This year we will take all of the good things we learned from last year, integrate them with our proven methods from the past, and add in some new ideas and activities that will really excite our Broncos. **This year, we expect our Broncos to THRIVE!**

\*From last year we learned a lot about **safety**. We will continue to implement many procedures and will follow guidelines from our district and the CDC to keep our students safe.

\*We also learned that if students use **technology** as we want them to, it can be a powerful support and help them progress further and faster in their learning. (Khan, Lexia, STMath, and Imago.)

\*We have a great staff with years of experience in getting students to learn. We will continue to work in our grade level groups, our **Professional Learning Teams**, to share ideas and make sure our students are learning.

\*In addition to **PE and Music**, we will be expanding the time students get to spend in the **Library**.

\*New this year, they will have weekly **Art and STEM** classes. I can tell you from our time in summer school that this is going to be fabulous for our students. They are going to be so excited about school and all they are learning.

## Important News

**Early out days** will be different this year. We will only have 1:10 dismissal on the first three Thursdays of the year and on conference days. Aug 12, 19, and 26. Oct 18-22, Jan 18-21, Jan 24, March 28-April 1, and June 1-3.

All other days will be 8:00-2:45.

We will continue to complete the **ParentSquare Health Screener daily**. The survey can be completed the evening before. If you don't know how to do this, just call the office and we can get you set up. If the survey is not completed, your child will not be allowed to go to class.

All students and staff will be expected to wear a **mask** in the classroom.

Please check your ParentSquare regularly. The district will be sending detailed information about the most current COVID-19 exposure protocols we will follow in school.

### **Student drop off and pick up**

Cars will drive into the parking lot and drop off students at the curb. Parent will remain in the car. At the end of the day, parents will drive into the parking lot and pick up students from the curb. Students will be waiting by grade level. Older siblings will be waiting with their younger siblings. Bus riders will wait at the bus loading zone until their bus is ready to take them home. With parent permission, students are also able to walk home.

To promote student safety, parents will be allowed to walk students to class **only on the first day of school.**

After the first day, we will be trying to limit the number of parents on the school grounds. Only kinder parents will be allowed to walk on campus to pick up their children at the end of the day.

Please call or email the office if you have any questions or needs.

There is no parking in the driveway of the school. That area needs to be open for buses and cars.

## **Upcoming Event**

Mark your calendar.

**Kinder** has their **Parent Night on August 19<sup>th</sup> starting at 5:30pm**. They will share information about themselves and how you can help your child at home this year.

Our first **BPC - Berenda Parent Club meeting** will be on **August 24<sup>th</sup> at 3pm in the library**. We are a group of parents that plan and coordinate the various activities that help to make Berenda a great school for our students. Join us and find out how you can participate. It is often these activities that our students remember most. But, we need lots of parent support.

We will have **Back to School Night on August 26<sup>th</sup> starting at 5pm**. This is your opportunity to come and meet your child's teacher. We will start in the cafeteria where I will introduce the staff and talk with parents for a few minutes.

Our first **Conference Week** is scheduled for October 18-22.

**School Site Council** is a group of parents and teachers that help to monitor and provide input on how we spend our categorical money to support the students of Berenda. I will need five parents to be elected to this committee. Give me a call and I'll answer any questions that you have. Our first SSC meeting is scheduled for **September 15<sup>th</sup> at 2:55 in room 42**. All parents are welcome to attend.

ELAC stands for **English Learner Advisory Committee**. This is a group of parents who meet to review the needs of our English learners at Berenda. This year we will be electing all new officers. Please consider serving in this capacity. Look for a nomination ballot to come home in your child's backpack. Our first ELAC meeting is on Sept 1, 2021 at 3:00pm. All parents are welcome to attend these meetings.

Mark your calendar: **Jog-a-thon** September 24<sup>th</sup>.

You can see your child's teacher on your Parent Portal.