

Cardinal Chronicles!

Volume 8 Issue 1

"Do what you can, with what you have, where you are." - Theodore Roosevelt

September 2022

Welcome Back Cardinals!

Welcome to the 2022-2023 school year! We are so excited to have your child at Bennett Russell Elementary. We are looking forward to a productive partnership with you to ensure our children can achieve their highest potential. We recognize that in order to be successful in school, our children need support from both the home and school. We know a strong partnership with you will make a great difference in your child's education. As partners, we share the responsibility for our children's success and want you to know that we will do our very best to carry out our responsibilities. We ask that you guide and support your child's learning by ensuring that he/she:

- 1) Attends school daily and arrives on time, ready for the day's learning experience
- 2) Completes all homework assignments given by teachers
- 3) Reads daily to develop a love for reading and to improve literacy skills
- 4) Shares school experiences with you so that you are aware of his/her school life
- 5) Informs you if he/she needs additional support in any area or subject
- 6) Knows that you expect him/her to succeed in school

We thank you for your support and look forward to meeting you.

Sincerely,

Suzi Godwin, Principal

Sandy Arrant, Assistant Principal

Parents,

Please remember to complete and return your child's *BRE Student Packet*. Check out our electronic version of our Student Handbook. In this booklet, you will find information regarding our school's Complaint Process, Notification of Title I, Notification and location of Parent Resource Center and other valuable info. Don't forget to check out our school's website at brelementary.weebly.com.

Dates to Remember

September

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| 5th- | Labor Day - NO SCHOOL |
| 7th-15th | Book Fair:
9th: Grandparents Day
13th: Family Night, 3-6pm |
| 9th- | Mid-Terms |
| 15th- | International DOT Day |

Meal Applications = Funding for BRE

All students received free meals during the 2020-2021 & the 2021-2022 school year due to a grant received by Sodexo. **Your 2021-2022 Free / Reduced application will expire in September!** When the application expires, the student will be charged full price for all meals.

Go to the Santa Rosa County Schools website: www.santarosa.k12.fl.us click on Free/Reduced application. Follow the steps and within 48 hours your application will be processed.

Here is where we need your help. Our school receives funding based on the number of free/reduced meal applications completed each year. The funding is used to help purchase supplemental materials, provide after-school tutoring, purchase additional para-professionals and other items to support our students' needs. You can help our school receive this funding by going to the Santa Rosa County Schools website: www.santarosa.k12.fl.us click on Free/Reduced application. Follow the steps and within 48 hours your application will be processed. Each additional app helps! Thank you for your support.



Breakfast in the Cardinal Café

Students who arrive to school by car and want to eat breakfast in the cafeteria, need to arrive by **8:05**, excluding our PreK students. Students who are car riders who arrive later than 8:05 have a difficult time getting to class before the tardy bell, 8:20. Every minute in the classroom makes a difference!

Bennett C. Russell is a Title I School

We believe that all children can learn and want to provide a quality education to all of our students. All of our teachers meet the "Highly Qualified" requirements to teach children and use research based instructional methods and materials in the classrooms. Our school receives additional funding based on our students' socio-economic status. These funds are used to purchase the newest technology for classrooms and upgrade software programs. The funds also allow us to offer professional development for teachers and offer parent involvement activities for families. We encourage all parents to become involved in their child's education. Contact your child's teacher to schedule a parent conference if you have questions concerning your child's needs. You may also contact the school if you would like additional information concerning the Title I Program.

The School Public Accountability Report (SPAR)

The School Public Accountability Report (SPAR) is a report that contains several types of data (indicators) designed to inform parents and the general public about the progress of Florida's public schools. This report meets public reporting requirements and provides certain additional information of interest on the status of Florida's schools. The SPAR can be found on our school website and in the Parents' Right to Know notebook located in the front office.

Title 1 Parent Meeting

We would like to thank you for attending our Title 1 Parent Night and Volunteer Training held on Aug. 30, 2022. What a wonderful turn out. We appreciate your support and feedback given to this great event. Please continue to keep a look out for more Parent and Family Engagement Events.

Highly Qualified Teachers

Bennett C. Russell is committed to providing information to you regarding your child's teacher and paraprofessional qualifications in a timely manner upon request. We are a school that strives for excellence and takes great pride in the following:

- All classroom teachers meet the state licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which they provide instruction.
- Information regarding your child's teacher or paraprofessional qualifications may be found in The School Public Accountability Report (SPAR) located on the BRE website or in the "Parents' Right to Know" notebook in the Parent Resource Center.

What do I have "A Right to Know" about my child's teacher?



ESSA provides funding to help teachers improve their instructional skills through training and other professional development. The law also requires states to develop plans to make sure that all teachers of core academic subjects are highly qualified. It defines a "highly qualified" teacher as one with a bachelor's degree, full state certification, and demonstrated competence for each subject taught.

The SRC School District is committed to providing information to you regarding your child's teacher and paraprofessional qualifications in a timely manner upon request.

You have the right to

request the following information from your School Principal:

- Whether the teacher has met state licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction.
- Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which state qualifications of licensing criteria have been waived.
- The baccalaureate degree major of the teacher and any other graduate certification or degree held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the certification of degree.
- Whether your child is provided services by

paraprofessionals, and, if so, their qualifications.

- The achievement level of your child on the Florida State Assessment (FSA)

Please be assured that the SRC School District is dedicated to providing the students of our County with a quality education.

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