

**Bennett C. Russell Elementary School  
A Title I School**

# Cardinal Chronicles!

Volume 6 Issue 1

September 2020

## Welcome Back Cardinals!

Welcome to the 2020-2021 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**. Inside your child's packet, you will find our school's 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](http://brelementary.weebly.com).

## Dates to Remember

### September

- 4th- -SAC Ballots due
- 7th- -Labor Day - NO SCHOOL
- 15th- -International DOT Day
- 17th &  
18th -Fall Pictures
- 24th- -SAC Meeting, 7:30 am
- 25th- -Mid terms go home
- 29th- -Title 1 Parent Meeting (virtual)

### **COMPLETE A NEW APPLICATION NOW to receive free/reduced meals for 2020-2021!**

All students that received free/reduced meals during the 2019-2020 school year will need to complete a new meal application.

**Your 2019-2020 Free / Reduced application will expire at the end of 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](http://www.santarosa.k12.fl.us) click on Free/Reduced application. Follow the steps and within 48 hours your application will be processed.

### **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 hire UWF tutors to provide reading intervention to struggling readers, 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 (virtual)**

We would like to invite you to a virtual BRE Title 1 Parent Meeting on September 29th. You will be given an opportunity to receive Title 1 information and learn more about your child's education. More information to come.

### **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.

Please be assured that Bennett C. Russell Elementary is dedicated to providing the students of our county with a quality education.

### **Parent Resource Center**

The Parent Resource Center provides materials for parents to check out to expand on school learning at home. Parents may also obtain information on services provided to families in Santa Rosa County. Online computer access is available for Bennett C. Russell parents. Anyone accessing the school computer is bound by the Santa Rosa County School Board Acceptable Use Policy Agreement for No-Employees. Check in with the receptionist at the front desk for a Policy Agreement requiring a signature and a logon password to access the computer. The computer is available for purposes such as:

- Parent involvement Links
- Searches for educational information
- Complete the Free/Reduced Lunch Application
- Online job search information

### **Unpaid Meal Balances**

Please check your child's backpack daily for unpaid meal notices from the cafeteria. Families may complete applications at any time during the school year. We make every effort to communicate with parents to address unpaid meals in the cafeteria. It is school board policy that **no students may charge meals**. When families are unresponsive in addressing unpaid meals, and the child has five unpaid meals in the cafeteria, the child will receive an alternate meal instead of the daily meal offered. We urge parents to contact the school if you are having a difficult time paying for meals. You may come to the school and we will assist you in completing the 2017-2018 Meal Application.

Breakfast full pay for students: \$1.05	Breakfast reduced for students: .40
Lunch full pay for students: \$2.60	Lunch reduced for students: .60

*The Simple Way to Pay For School Meals*  
**<https://myschoolbuck.com/>**

### **Getting to know our SRO, Deputy Tolliver**

Our School Resource Officer is Deputy Jordan Tolliver. Deputy Tolliver is here to ensure our students and staff's safety. He is here to influence our students in a positive manner by building trusting relationships. Looking forward to a safe school year!

**Thank you, Deputy Tolliver for keeping us safe!**