



# BENTLEY PRIDE

SEPTEMBER 2024



## Office Staff

Jennifer Kennedy-Nurse  
Julie Lynn-Secretary  
Nicole Barry-Secretary

## Mary Zastro - Principal

Lindsay Johnson - Asst. Principal

## Office Information

Hours 6:40am-3:15pm  
Phone 815-485-4451  
Fax 815-485-7599

## NOTE FROM MS. ZASTRO

Welcome back, Bentley families!

We have had a wonderful start to the 2024/2025 school year. The children did an excellent job of navigating through these first few weeks. We are so proud of them! Our theme this year is *Cheers To 50 Years* at Bentley School. Our amazing school has been open for 50 years and we will be celebrating this milestone all year long.

We are excited to be offering a variety of after school clubs again this year. A chart with all of our available clubs is included in this newsletter. Club sponsors take attendance at every meeting. **If your child is NOT going to attend their club after school, please be sure to either let the club sponsor know of the absence or call the office to inform us.** If your child does not come to their club and we have no prior notice of their absence, our school secretary will need to contact you to verify their absence. Thank you for your help with this.

If you are interested in ordering Bentley spiritwear, our online store is open. Be sure to visit our [online school spirit wear store](#) to place an order. The order deadline is October 1st. All orders will be sent home with the students when they arrive.

Bentley picture day is Friday, September 27. If your child is not in school on this day, our picture retake day is Friday, November 8. More information will be sent to our families regarding picture day.

Thank you for sharing your learners with us. On behalf of the staff at Bentley School, we welcome you back and are looking forward to a great year!





- 2 NO SCHOOL- HOLIDAY
- 4 EXPECTATION NIGHT (Schedule is attached)
- 6 FOOTBALL FRIDAY -WEAR YOUR FAVORITE NFL, COLLEGE OR HIGH SCHOOL GEAR
- 11 SPIRIT DAY - WEAR RED, WHITE, BLUE, OR CAMO
- 12 FIRE DRILL WITH NL FIRE DEPARTMENT
- 17 NLSD 122 BOARD MEETING AT DISTRICT OFFICE 6:00PM
- 20 10:35 DISMISSAL – SIP DAY–PAJAMA DAY
- 27 PICTURE DAY (RETAKE DAY WILL BE NOVEMBER 8)  
MIDTERMS TRIMESTER 1
- 30 PRACTICE INTRUDER DRILL (Drill with NLPD on 10/2)

### **Pillar for September Respect**

- ~Treat others with respect: follow the Golden Rule
- ~Be tolerant of differences
- ~Use good manners, not bad language
- ~Be considerate of the feelings of others
- ~Don't threaten, hit or hurt anyone
- ~Deal peacefully with anger, insults and disagreements



### **BENTLEY 6th GRADE GIRLS BASKETBALL**

Bentley 6th Grade Girls' basketball Tryouts 2024-2025 will be on  
Wednesday, September 4th and  
Thursday, September 5th  
2:00pm - 3:30pm



All games are listed on our Bentley School website calendar.

## NOTES FROM OUR NURSE

Welcome back, Bentley! I am so excited for the new school year!



**6th grade families:** A physical exam on the State of Illinois Certificate of Child Health Examination form with immunizations and dental exam are due this year. Please note that one of the required immunizations, meningococcal conjugate, must be given after the child's 11th birthday.

If your child received their physical before their 11th birthday, another appointment will need to be made to obtain the vaccine.

If you turned in a sports physical for your 6th grader, a physical on the State of Illinois form is also needed. A copy of that form can be found here:

<https://dph.illinois.gov/content/dam/soi/en/web/idph/files/forms/child-health-exam-form-revised-01-31-2024.pdf>

Do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns!

Jennifer Kennedy RN, BSN, PEL-CSN

[jkennedy@nlsd122.org](mailto:jkennedy@nlsd122.org)

Office: (815) 462-7803

Fax: (815) 485-7599



## PRESCHOOL SCREENING 2024-2025

District 122 will be screening children from ages three to five in the areas of motor, cognitive, and speech/language development. All preschoolers who reside in District 122 are eligible to be screened free of charge. Preschool Screening is designed to identify preschoolers who show delays or problems in speech and language skills, large muscle coordination skills, cognitive skills or social and emotional growth. Screenings will be held at Cherry Hill Elementary and Early Childhood Center. Call Cherry Hill to schedule an appointment 815-462-7831.



### Screening dates:

September 20

November 22

March 14

May 5

## **NOTES FROM OUR SOCIAL WORKER**

Welcome to the 2024-2025 school year! I look forward to an amazing school year with all of you!

As the school social worker, I see students in small groups and individually as needed. If you have any concerns socially, emotionally or your family is going through a change or hardship, please do not hesitate to reach out. If you are interested in your child joining a Lunch Bunch group, please email me at [dadams@nlsd122.org](mailto:dadams@nlsd122.org) for a permission slip. Lunch Bunch takes place during your child's lunch time once a week. Students get to practice their social skills and have the opportunity to make new friends!

Mrs. Adams  
[dadams@nlsd122.org](mailto:dadams@nlsd122.org)





## STUDENT COUNCIL

Welcome to the 2024-2025 school year! Student Council permission slips can be found outside of the main office. Any student who is interested in running will need to turn in a form to Mrs. Kraatz by Friday, September 13th. We will keep a total of 30 students. If we receive more than that we will have a lottery.

We will continue to collect pop tabs this year for the Ronald McDonald House. Please bring your pop tabs into your homeroom and student council will collect them during our meetings!



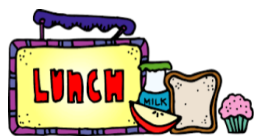
### September Spirit Days:

**Friday, September 6th** - Football Friday - Wear your favorite NFL, college, or high school football gear!



**Wednesday, September 11th** - Red, White & Blue or Camo in honor of 9/11

**Friday, September 20th** - Pajama Day - Roll out of bed, grab your slippers, and head to school!



### LUNCH TIMES

4th Grade- Lunch 10:35-11:05am

5th Grade- Lunch 11:10-11:40am

6th Grade- Lunch 11:45-12:15pm

**Lunches are \$4.00 each-they are not free unless a student qualifies for free lunch.** Lunch orders will be sent to parents by email messenger or can be ordered on the NLSD122 website under Parents & Students, Lunch program or on Bentley's website under lunch. Orders will be for a 2-week period. Milk can be purchased for .35 each day during lunchtime. Payments can be made through your NLSD122 PowerSchool account.



Ice cream will be sold on **Wednesdays** at lunchtime for \$1.00. Students will not be able to call home for money.



### PILLAR OF THE MONTH

Bentley will again be using the "Pillar of the Month". Each month we will be highlighting a different Pillar of Character

throughout the school: **Respect, Responsibility, Caring, Fairness, Trustworthiness, and Citizenship.** Each classroom teacher will choose one student from their classroom that consistently demonstrates that character trait. Each student that is chosen receives a special gift from Ms. Zastro and Mrs. Johnson. In addition to this gift their name is posted on the Pillar of the Month board along with their picture. This is a very special honor at Bentley School!



### BENTLEY SPIRIT WEAR

We will be selling Spirit Wear until October 1. All orders can be placed online using the QR code.



### PHOTO ID FOR VISITORS

District policy requires us to ask for ID's whenever we have visitors. Please be prepared to show a photo ID or Driver's

License when coming into the building for volunteering or picking up a student. Your cooperation in this matter is beneficial to the safety of all staff and students.



### BENTLEY PICTURE DAY

Your child's picture will be taken on Friday, September 27. All pictures will be viewed and ordered online. Pictures will be mailed to your home by Visual Image Photography. Picture retake will be Friday, November 8.



**CLUBS:** Students will not be allowed to sign up for more than one club each day. **If your child will not be able to attend please contact our office or send a note with your child.** Attendance is taken in all of our clubs and our office staff will call a parent if a student does not attend.

**CHANGES IN ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBERS:** Please notify the office as soon as possible of any changes of address, phone numbers, employment or emergency contacts so our records can be kept current. You can also log on to PowerSchool and make changes to your information.

**BUS STOP ARM ALERT:** Parents, please be aware that buses on the Bentley Campus do use stop arms when loading or unloading students. It is illegal to pass a bus when the stop arm is extended even on our access roads.

**BIKE RIDING:** Please be advised that students should arrive at school no more than 5 minutes before the entry bell. Please make sure your student locks their bike. **SKATEBOARDS AND ROLLER SKATES/BLADES ARE NOT TO BE USED ON SCHOOL PROPERTY. PLEASE CARRY.**

**ATTENDANCE:** Please remember to call our office at (815-485-4451) if your child is absent. Calls should be made by 7:45 AM each day. Be prepared to give your child's name, grade and reason for absence. (Note: Students may not call themselves in as absent.) If we do not receive a call we will contact the New Lenox Police Department to make a wellness check at your residence.

**MEDICATION:** A reminder from our School Nurse-If your child has to take medication, prescribed or over-the counter, a Medication Authorization form must be submitted. This form is found on our district website and must be signed by the doctor and the parent. Students are not to bring medication to school themselves. It is to be brought into the office by the parent. The medication form can be faxed to the school at 815-485-7599 by your doctor. Thanks!

**DROPPING OFF ITEMS:** When dropping off items during school hours (lunches, backpacks, homework, library books, glasses, tennis shoes, etc.), please leave them on the table in the building vestibule. There is a slip of paper to fill out and attach to the item. We check the table continually throughout the day.

### **BENTLEY SCHOOL HOURS**

Bentley will be open from 6:40am until 3:15pm. There is not an option of returning at any later time to retrieve materials left behind by students. The custodial staff will not be available to allow anyone into the building beyond this time.

## NOTES FROM OUR LRC

**Mrs. Kathleen Drews, Librarian**

I am so glad to be with my friends at Bentley School again this year! This is my ninth year at Bentley and Nelson Ridge Schools and my 24th year in the New Lenox School District! I'm looking forward to seeing your children in the library this school year!

Another fact about me is that I am a Field Ambassador for the Field Museum in Chicago. As a Field Ambassador, I am able to attend special educator programs and bring the museum back to my students. This includes bringing small exhibit cases of a variety of museum artifacts to school. Students always enjoy working with these museum items.

### **Overview of School Year:**

This year, we will be having only one book fair in February. But it will be a BIG one! Information will come out in January.

There are several ways students can participate in library activities during the school year:

- **Library Lions Club** - Students who enjoy reading, discussing books, and working in the library are encouraged to join. This club meets every other Tuesday after school starting the end of September.
- **Illinois Children's Choice Award Programs** - Students are encouraged to read books from the Illinois Bluestem Award (for grades 3-5) and Rebecca Caudill Award (grades 4-8) programs. These programs go until the end of February and involve a list of 47 fantastic books. Students who read at least 3 will get the chance to vote on their favorite.
- **Star Reader** - Students fill out a monthly reading log (5 hours total) to earn a small prize.
- **Battle of the Books** - Teams of students read 4 selected books and get quizzed on them to see which team knows them the best. This is always a favorite program and brings a lot of excitement at the end of the school year!

In addition, due to requests from students, I will be sponsoring a **Crochet Club** this school year! This club is for anyone who either wants to learn how to crochet or wants to work on their skills. Permission forms are available in the office.

### **Summer Reading at the New Lenox Public Library**

If your child participated in the summer reading program at the New Lenox Library, please have them bring their certificate to school to participate in a little party in the Library! This will take place during the school day in September. Certificates will be handed back at the party.

Have a great September! Mrs. Kathy Drews



### **VOLUNTEERS**

If you would like to volunteer at Bentley School, please visit our Bentley School website to sign up. We are looking for library helpers, office copy parents, book fair helpers, Field Day helpers (May) and special events/projects (Halloween and Holiday parties). After filling out the form online we will contact you when needed.

# Keeping Fit in P.E. with Mr. B



## PE NEWS

Welcome Back! I'm looking forward to another fun year in PE!!!

### Win an Extra PE... "Being Active" Pictures

Students are encouraged to bring in pictures, of themselves or of them and their families, of things they do to stay active outside of school. We will display these pictures on the bulletin board outside of the gym. Students bringing in pictures will be entered into a drawing for an opportunity to win an extra PE class for their classroom.

## CLUBS

Permission slips for Kickball Club and Running & Fitness Club are available outside the main office. Kickball will run on Tues (4th grade) & Thurs (5th/6th grade) from 9/10 - 10/10, and Running & Fitness Club will meet on Mon/Wed 9/9 - 10/9 (No Run Club on 9/23). Both clubs will meet after school until 3:05. Permission slips for Kickball & Running & Fitness Club forms are due Wed., 9/5. See the club forms for additional information. Due to the high turnout, no late slips can be accepted.

## PE SHOES

Please remember to wear or pack your PE shoes on PE day.

**WHILE QUITE FASHIONABLE, CROCS & SLIDES ARE NOT PE SHOES 😊**

**MR. BOERSMA/PE TEACHER** [jboersma@nlsd122.org](mailto:jboersma@nlsd122.org)

Parents/Guardians,

During our school year, we will practice drills for fire, shelter (weather), and lock down. The purpose of these drills is to prepare our students and staff to respond in the unlikely event of an emergency situation.

The following are the talking points our staff use with our intermediate aged students in regard to a lockdown **drill**. An announcement is made clearly indicating that this is a drill only and teachers prepare their class prior to the drill.

The first and most important step in any drill is **STOP... LISTEN to your teacher.**

## LOCKDOWN

**“Locks, Lights, Out of Sight”**

**Students** are trained to:

- Move away from sight
- Maintain silence
- Do not open the door

**Adults and staff** are trained to:

- Recover students from hallway if possible
- Lock the classroom door
- Turn out the lights
- Move away from sight
- Maintain silence
- Do not open the door
- Prepare to evade or defend



In addition to the information above, teachers discuss **Run, Hide, Fight** options with students. Student training includes the hide only option. Staff discuss with students what to do if they are in various locations that include run, hide, and fight options (ex: bathroom, hallway, gym, playground).



RUN

HIDE

FIGHT

Your support in discussing these points with your child at home is greatly appreciated.





# STANDARD RESPONSE PROTOCOL

## INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

Our school has adopted The "I Love U Guys" Foundation's Standard Response Protocol (SRP). Students and staff will be training, practicing, and drilling the protocol.

## COMMON LANGUAGE

The Standard Response Protocol (SRP) is based on an all-hazards approach as opposed to individual scenarios. Like the Incident Command System (ICS), SRP utilizes clear common language while allowing for flexibility in protocol.

The premise is simple - there are five specific actions that can be performed during an incident. When communicating these, the action is labeled with a "Term of Art" and is then followed by a "Directive." Execution of the action is performed by active participants, including students, staff, teachers and first responders. The SRP is based on the following actions: Hold, Secure, Lockdown, Evacuate, and Shelter.

## HOLD

### "In Your Classroom or Area"

**Students** are trained to:

- Clear the hallways and remain in their area or room until the "All Clear" is announced
- Do business as usual

**Adults and staff** are trained to:

- Close and lock the door
- Account for students and adults
- Do business as usual



## SECURE

### "Get Inside. Lock outside doors"

**Students** are trained to:

- Return to inside of building
- Do business as usual

**Adults and staff** are trained to:

- Bring everyone indoors
- Lock the outside doors
- Increase situational awareness
- Account for students and adults
- Do business as usual



## LOCKDOWN

### "Locks, Lights, Out of Sight"

**Students** are trained to:

- Move away from sight
- Maintain silence
- Do not open the door

**Adults and staff** are trained to:

- Recover students from hallway if possible
- Lock the classroom door
- Turn out the lights
- Move away from sight
- Maintain silence
- Do not open the door
- Prepare to evade or defend



## EVACUATE

### "To a Location"

**Students** are trained to:

- Leave stuff behind if required to
- If possible, bring their phone
- Follow instructions

**Adults and staff** are trained to:

- Bring roll sheet and Go Bag (unless instructed not to bring anything with them, dependent on reason for evacuation.)
- Lead students to Evacuation location
- Account for students and adults
- Report injuries or problems using Red Card/Green Card method.



## SHELTER

### "State Hazard and Safety Strategy"

**Hazards** might include:

- Tornado
- Hazmat
- Earthquake
- Tsunami

**Safety Strategies** might include:

- Evacuate to shelter area
- Seal the room
- Drop, cover and hold
- Get to high ground

**Students** are trained in:

- Appropriate Hazards and Safety Strategies

**Adults and staff** are trained in:

- Appropriate Hazards and Safety Strategies
- Accounting for students and adults
- Report injuries or problems using Red Card/Green Card method.





Dear Parents,

During the school year we cover specific lessons about internet safety. We go through this curriculum every year to reinforce to all our students the importance of making safe choices while online. We believe a crucial component to keeping our students safe online is parent involvement. To that end, this year our district is providing you with a video series on this important topic.

Cyberparenting-101: Keeping Our Kids Safe by Det. Richard Wistocki, is an excellent resource for parents. Here is the link to this [Ted Talk](#), Password: NLSP623!.

I will be sending information to you each month in our Bentley newsletter which will include a link to more entries in this series.

Here are some takeaways from this series:

- 1) Do not allow your child to charge their device in their room at night.
- 2) Know all of your child's passwords and usernames.
- 3) Teach your child the P test- If you sent this meme or picture to your parent or your principal, how would they react? Would they laugh and say it is funny or would they be concerned or disappointed?
- 4) Everyone you talk to online should meet these 5 verifications. If you cannot physically verify this information you should not be talking to them online.
  - a) First Name
  - b) Last Name
  - c) Phone Number
  - d) Address
  - e) Where they go to school
- 5) Have a technology talk with your children and let them know they can always come to you if they feel anxious or concerned about an online interaction, and know you will support and help them without judgment or consequences.
- 6) Almost all social media outlets require users to be 13 years old or older. Your child is not being truthful about their age on-line if they are on these platforms.

September is the month for two safety videos; Introduction (1) and Kids Lying About Their Age (2). Attached is the parent login information for Be Sure Consulting for Cyber Safe Schools. If you would like to watch the student videos with your child, please see the following login information. We will not be showing the student videos at school.

Parent login:

URL: [vimeo.com/showcase/nlsp](https://vimeo.com/showcase/nlsp)

Password: NLSP623!

Student login:

URL: [vimeo.com/showcase/nlss](https://vimeo.com/showcase/nlss)

Password: NLSS876!



# CAROLINE BENTLEY EXPECTATION NIGHT 2024-2025 WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH



For additional parking, parents can park in the back of Bentley and walk through the Gym. Ms. Zastro and Mrs. Johnson's presentation is taking place in the Gym but we do not mind parents entering while we are talking.

## 4TH GRADE & MRS. JAMES:

**5:15-5:30** welcome in the gym with Ms. Zastro & Mrs. Johnson

**5:30-5:45** presentation with homeroom Teachers

**5:45-6:00** parents visit  
other classrooms if needed

## 5TH GRADE & MRS. BRENCZEWSKI:

**5:45-6:00** welcome in the gym with Ms. Zastro & Mrs. Johnson

**6:00-6:15** presentation with homeroom Teachers

**6:15-6:30** parents visit  
other classrooms if needed

## 6TH GRADE & MRS. GUNTER:

**6:15-6:30** welcome in the gym with Ms. Zastro & Mrs. Johnson

**6:30-6:45** presentation with homeroom Teachers

**6:45-7:00** parents visit  
other classrooms if needed

## SPECIALISTS & MR. DEGROOT:

**6:15-6:30** Mr. Boersma (PE), Mrs. Wieclaw (art), & Mrs. Grill (Music) will meet in room 10  
Mr. DeGroot will be in room 4

Your child's schedule will be printed out for you when you visit their Homeroom class. Each homeroom teacher will provide the same presentation to each group of families. Ms. Zastro and Mrs. Johnson's presentation will be the same for each grade level as well. As a reminder, this evening is designed to be an informational night for parents/guardians and children should not be in attendance.



**NEW LENOX 122 PTO PRESENTS**

**2024-2025  
DISTRICT  
CALENDAR**

**TWELVE MONTH CALENDAR INCLUDES DATES FOR: PTO  
EVENTS, FUNDRAISERS, DINE & DONATES, NEW LENOX  
122 IMPORTANT DATES, HOLIDAYS AND MUCH MORE**

**\$10 PER CALENDAR**

**ORDERING CLOSSES FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH**



**ORDER HERE**

**\*ALL FUNDS RAISED WILL BE EQUALLY DISTRIBUTED  
AMONGST THE DISTRICT**

**WWW.NEWLENOXPTO.ORG**







# NLSD 122 IS HIRING!

**INTERESTED IN WORKING IN THE  
BUILDING YOUR CHILD  
ATTENDS? DO YOU NEED TO  
WORK THE HOURS YOUR CHILD  
IS IN SCHOOL? IF SO, APPLY  
NOW TO BE A  
PARAPROFESSIONAL!**

With a short-term approval,  
paraprofessionals need only to be 19  
years of age with a high school  
diploma (or equivalent), or higher.  
This approval is available now until  
June 30, 2025.

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Interested applicants can apply on  
our website linked [HERE](#).

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