

# The Bennet Elementary Express

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## Character Counts Corner

### Truth Is More Important Than Truth

A study titled "Parenting by Lying" reveals that most parents lie to their children, even though they tell their kids lying is wrong. The parents surveyed said they didn't feel guilty because their lies were intended to accomplish legitimate parental goals such as getting a child to stop crying or protecting him or her from feeling bad or sad.

Reviewing the wide range of casual or careless lies told by parents to change behavior or manipulate emotions supports the observation that "the road to Hell is often paved with good intentions."

Although honesty is an important virtue, I'm not a truth-telling fanatic. Truth can sometimes be sacrificed for another ethical value, and it's sometimes okay to praise a present you dislike or choose kindness over candor.

My bedrock premise is that trust is more important than truth.

Playing with the truth is like playing with fire. It's sometimes justified, but it's unfailingly precarious. Lies are almost always bad because they almost always destroy trust.

Thus, before you decide that your noble intentions justify a lie, ask yourself: "If the person I lie to finds out the truth, will he or she thank me for caring or feel betrayed?" In other words, is the lie likely to damage trust?

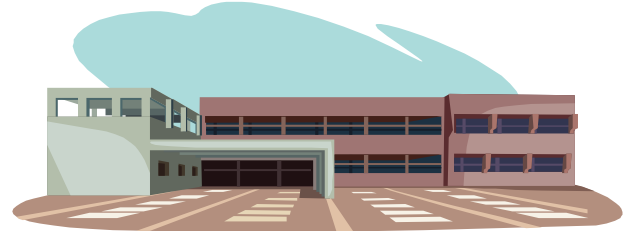
Here are some other guidelines:

- Be sure the benefit you're trying to gain by lying is important enough to risk a loss of trust.
- Don't lie if you can accomplish your noble goal without lying (remember, necessity is not a fact, it's an interpretation).
- Be careful that the lie doesn't cause serious unintended consequence (e.g., telling a child that a monster will take him or her away could generate serious long-term anxiety).

This is Michael Josephson reminding you that character counts.

#### Health Van Here Next Week

The ESU #4 Health Van is here for health checks. They will be here all next week conducting their annual health screening. If you have any questions or health concerns you would like to have checked, please call the school at 782-3535.



## School and Community Events

### Report Cards Going Home Today!

Don't forget to ask your students for their report cards today. They were sent home with each student at the end of the day. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your student's teacher at school. The phone number is 782-3535.



## Red Ribbon Week Activities

High school PARTY members will be here on Monday, Oct. 26th, to speak with the elementary students about Red Ribbon Week at 8:45 A.M. in the lunchroom. Red Ribbon Week is a way of making us all aware of the dangers of drugs, alcohol and tobacco.

Themes for each day:

- Monday--Red Ribbon Week Kick-off
- Tuesday: Sock it to Drugs! Wear silly socks.
- Wednesday: Put a Lid on Drugs! Hat Day (Picture Day also. You will be asked to remove your hats for pictures!)
- Thursday: Red Day. Dress in as much red as possible.
- Friday: No Theme Day. Halloween Party Day.

## Picture Retakes and Group Pictures

Picture retake day and group picture day have been set up for Wednesday, **Oct. 28<sup>th</sup>**. Students who did not have their individual pictures taken, or wish to have another set taken because they are not satisfied with the first set, may come in for pictures on **the 28<sup>th</sup>**. If you are getting your picture retaken, you must return the first picture packet you received intact. **If you missed pictures last time you may pick up individual picture packet forms in the office.**

Group pictures will also be taken **on Oct. 28<sup>th</sup>**. The order form for group pictures was sent home today. We will have extra forms available in the office.



## Halloween Parties Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup>.



Class Parties for Halloween will be held Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. The parties will start with a parade of spooks at 2:00 p.m. Parents are invited to come to the cafeteria at 2:00 p.m. and watch all of the little spooks and goblins. Please wait to enter your children's rooms following the parade until the sixth grade has exited the room on their way around. This will cut down on congestion in the classrooms and hallways during the parade. Make sure to bring your camera and video recorders!

As always, we have a few requests for your little one's costume. Please make sure that all costumes are in good taste and do not offend any racial, ethnic or gender group. We also will absolutely not allow any fake weapons or props that may be used as a weapon to be used as part of a costume. If these types of items are brought to school they will be taken by Mr. Robb and returned to parents at a later date.

Also, we have had some children bring live pets or animals as props in the past. Please do not bring live animals for props. Instead we ask that you use stuffed animals as props and leave the real animals at home.

Also, any make-up that will be part of costumes should be simple enough that the student can apply it. We simply will not have enough adults available in each classroom to be putting on large amounts of make-up. We can always use some parents to help with the costume changes starting at 1:45 p.m. We especially need male help for the young boy's costumes.

We also prefer that treats brought for parties are of a healthy nature in accordance with our school wellness policy. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the school at 782-3535.

## Bennet Skate Night a Success

Over 135 Bennet Elementary Students along with their families attended the Bennet Elementary Skate Night at Skate Zone last Thursday. The night was a great success! Kids and adults all had a fun time skating around the rink, as all sizes, ages and skill levels were on hand for the evening. The Bennet Elementary Boosters sponsored the skating party this year. They made it a very memorable night indeed, by giving away a large number of door prizes that were raffled off during an intermission. Winners of the two grand prizes were Garrett B. and Saleta R. Garrett won a flip video camera. Saleta won a digital camera.

Numerous other students received door prizes as well.

Adam Leuschen won the parent's door prize, a gift certificate to Mamasita's Restaurant in Bennet. It was a great night of family fun! Thanks to the Bennet Elementary Boosters for organizing and sponsoring the family skate night! Check out this story on our school website for more pictures, at [www.districtor1.org](http://www.districtor1.org).

The next meeting of the Elementary Boosters is Monday, November 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria at Bennet Elementary. All are welcome to attend!



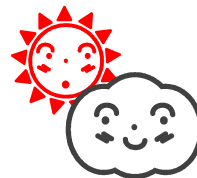
Anthony Hall, above, was one of many students at the Skate Zone on Thursday. For more pictures, check out the story on our website.

## Granny's Comfy Closet Trade Day

The next trade day for Granny's Comfy Closet in Panama will take place on Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, from 10:00 to 1:00 p.m. Another great selection of fall/winter clothing and shoes is on hand. This is free clothing, no cash is allowed.

You may sort and mark gently used clothes, by gender and season, to bring to the trade day. If you have any questions, call Barb at 430-7842 or Jane at 799-2067.

## Cooler Weather Arrives, Jackets Needed! Just Another Reminder!



With the arrival of cooler weather, students need to start bringing a jacket or coat to school in the morning. We still have students coming to school in the morning with no jackets. We will go outside if at all possible and students will need a jacket with them. **Also, please remember to put your child's name in their jacket. If there is a name in the jacket we can get it back to its owner! Jackets and items with no names that are left outside or lost, are taken to the lost and found area in the south hallway of the cafeteria!**