



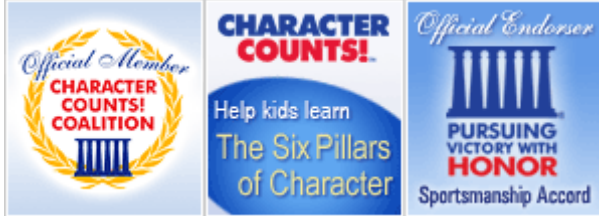
The Panther Preview!



Volume 1 No. 10

www.districtor1.org

October 20th, 2011



Character Counts Corner

A Good Company and a Sharp Ax

Ben was a new lumberjack who swung his ax with such power he could fell a tree in 20 strokes. In his first few days he produced twice as much lumber as anyone else. He was making quite a reputation for himself but by week's end, he was less productive.

One friend told him he had to swing harder. Another said he had to work longer. He tried both but neither worked. Finally, an old fellow asked Ben how often he sharpened his ax. Ben said he had no time to sharpen his ax because there was too much to do.

What this parable teaches us is that we will work harder and accomplish less if we don't make the time to sharpen our tools — our minds and bodies — with rest and recreation.

Some employees pride themselves on their fanatical work ethic, passing up vacations and working long hours without realizing how much their effectiveness is reduced. When we exceed the limits of our intellectual or physical stamina — and everyone has limits — the quantity and quality of our work suffers — and so does the quality of our lives.

Some companies pride themselves on their workaholic culture and prize employees who spend almost every waking hour on the job. They encourage executives to set such a demanding example that subordinates feel guilty, insecure, or inadequate unless they match the boss's limitless dedication.

This may seem to work, but it is not a sensible or humane long-term strategy for the employee or the company.

Fatigue affects judgment and mental acuity resulting in costly mistakes. It also makes employees short-tempered and impatient at work and home, wreaking havoc on office and personal relationships.

Finally, it drives away talented workers who insist on a healthy work-life balance.

A good company needs good people, and good people need a good place to work.

by Michael Josephson

School and Community Events

No School Friday! Fall Break Day Tomorrow Report Cards Going Home Today!

There will be no classes tomorrow, October 21st for Fall Break Day. Enjoy your extended weekend! Report cards will be coming home today with students. Please make sure to ask your child about his or her report card if they don't let you know they have it!

Bennet Elementary Boosters to Host Family Fall Festival

The Bennet Elementary Boosters will be hosting a Family Fall Festival on Friday, October 28th from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. on the south side of the elementary school. **There will be free food, fun and games for the entire family.** Hot dogs, chips, hot chocolate, cider, etc, will be served. Come and enjoy a fun night as a family playing games, going on a hayrack ride, painting faces, and many other fun activities. Bring a pumpkin and paint it or bring a few extras and share them with friends. Costumes are optional.

The Boosters are looking for scare crows, plastic Christmas canes, garage lights for extra lighting and clear Christmas lights for decorations for the Fun Night. You may contact Jennifer Somers at jennifer@compbyroger.com or drop them off at school.

Teammates Mentoring Program and Palmyra Action League Sponsors Second "TRUNK OR TREAT!"

The local District OR1 Chapter of Teammates along with the Palmyra Action League will be sponsoring a Trunk or Treat Halloween event on Saturday, October 29th from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. The event will take place on Main Street in Palmyra (C Street between 5th and 6th street). Students in grades 6 and younger are welcome to come in a costume to trick or treat on Main St. in Palmyra. Free Will Donation with all donations given to the Bennet/Palmyra Backpack Program.



Science Camp at Bennet Elementary

The Science Camp on Oct 22nd with Science Reconnect being held at Bennet Elementary still has openings. The all day camp is from 8-5, for \$45. We are now offering half day camp as well from 8-12 or 1-5 for \$20. Space is limited, so call 402-890-0964. Preregistration required.

Celebrate 'NaturePalooza' at Morrill Hall Nov. 6

The University of Nebraska State Museum and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln School of Natural Resources will host "NaturePalooza Nebraska" from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Nov. 6 at Morrill Hall, south of 14th and Vine streets on the UNL City Campus.

"NaturePalooza Nebraska" provides a day of discovery and hands-on activities throughout the museum with stations staffed by the school's faculty, staff, graduate and undergraduate students. Activities and games will help visitors better understand Nebraska's rich natural resources and ways to help protect them.

Scientists from various groups within the school will provide interactive stations that explain the science behind Nebraska's water, weather and wildlife. Topics covered will include birds, fish, plants, geography, conservation, climate change and more. Make nature journals with wildlife tracks. Take a photo with "Pebbles," a larger-than-life piping plover. Identify different kinds of fish and learn what they eat. See live snakes. Learn about "alien invaders" in Nebraska -- the invasive species that threaten natives -- and how we can prevent their spread. Investigate ground and surface water movements. Play games using a real-time weather station and test your knowledge about drought. Explore how geographers use mapping technology to understand Nebraska's climate. Scavenger hunts, giveaways and more will round out the event.

On this day only, Mueller Planetarium will present the full dome shows "Enchanted Reef" at 2 p.m. and "Light Years from Andromeda" at 3 p.m.

Established in 1871, the University of Nebraska State Museum is celebrating its 140th anniversary with special promotions and educational events throughout the year. Hours are 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Wednesday and Friday-Saturday; 9:30 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursdays; and 1:30-4:30 p.m. Sundays. Regular museum admission is \$5 for adults (19 and over), \$3 for children (5-18 years, 4 and under are free), and \$10 for families (up to two adults and children). UNL staff, faculty and students are admitted free with valid NU ID. Parking is free. There is an additional charge for planetarium shows. Planetarium tickets are sold at the museum's front gate the day of the show.

For further information, telephone the museum at 402-472-2642 or visit www.museum.unl.edu. For more information on Mueller Planetarium, visit www.spacelaser.com.

Picture Retakes and Group Pictures



Picture retake day and group picture day have been set up for Wednesday, **Oct. 26th**. 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 26th**. If you are getting your picture retaken, you must return the first picture packet you received intact.

Group pictures will also be taken **on Oct. 26th**. The order form for group pictures was sent home today. We will have extra forms available in the office.

Red Ribbon Week Activities

High school PARTY members will be here on Monday, Oct. 24th, 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! (silly sock day).
- Wed.: Turn your back on drugs! (wear clothing backwards) (Picture Day also. You will be asked to put your shirts on correctly for pictures!)
- Thurs: Put a lid on drugs! (hat day)
- Friday: Red Out! This is taking place at both schools

Bennet Community Church Makes Donation for School Supplies

The Bennet Community Church made a donation to our school recently, making it possible for us to purchase additional school supplies and items for our closet for students in need. Thanks for your kindness!

Kord Haight Rides in a Fire Truck!

Kord Haight, a sixth grade student, was the winner of the drawing last week at the Bennet Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department Open house and got a ride to school in a fire truck. This year, students received a blue information card with their packet of materials, at the fire safety assembly and were asked to take them home and fill them out with their parents. They then



returned them to the Fire Department on Saturday, October 15th, during the open house and pancake feed. Kord's card was drawn out.

On Thursday, October 20th, Kord and his father, Kip, stopped off at the Bennet Fire Department for the big event. They loaded up in the fire department's big pumper truck and headed off to school. Members of the sixth grade were on hand when the fire

truck, with lights on and sirens wailing, pulled into the circle drive.

A special thanks goes out to the Bennet Fire Department for hosting the open house and sponsoring this special event, as well as all the Fire Safety Week activities.