



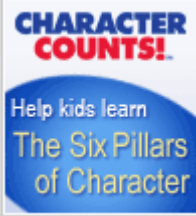
The Panther Preview!



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Character Counts Corner

Are You the Father Your Child Deserves?

Listening to 9/11 survivors re-live the horrendous event that shattered their lives should remind us all to treat every day as a gift, and to treasure every opportunity to give or receive love.

This is especially true for parents. A favorite story is about a 10-year-old boy who was told by his father not to expect him to go to his soccer games. The dad explained to his son that he was a very busy lawyer and that if he wanted to become a partner, he had to work most nights and weekends.

One evening the boy asked his dad, "How much do you make an hour?"

The dad answered, "My clients pay me \$300 an hour."

The boy gulped. "Wow, that's a lot. Could you lend me \$100?"

"Don't be ridiculous."

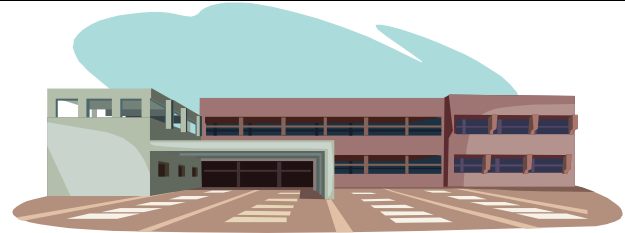
The boy ran to his room sobbing and his father followed. "Son, I'm sorry. I'll lend you the money, but can you tell me what it's for?"

The son replied, "Well, I've saved \$200, and with your hundred, I'll have enough. I won the most valuable player award and I'd like to buy an hour of your time so you can come to our banquet."

The father felt like he'd been stabbed in the heart as he realized the cost he'd paid for his priorities. None of his clients needed him as much as his son, and nothing he could do as a lawyer was more important than what he could do as a father. How had he missed that insight?

It's always difficult to balance job demands and family needs, but the test of whether you work too much is simple: Are you able to be the kind of parent your child deserves?

This is Michael Josephson reminding you that character counts



School and Community Events

Early Dismissals on Sept. 20th

School will dismiss at 1:10 p.m. on Tuesday, September 20th, for Parent-Teacher Conferences. Buses will run accordingly. The High School will dismiss at 1:30 p.m. Don't forget to make day care arrangements for your children on that day. The After School Rec. Program will be in operation on Tuesday

High School and Elementary P-T Conferences Tuesday, September 20th

P-T Conferences, for both the high school and elementary buildings, will take place on Tuesday.

You should have received a note from your child's classroom teacher with the time for your conference today. If you did not receive one, or the time selected will not work, please contact the school immediately and we will try to work out a time for you.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact the school at 782-3535. We are looking forward to meeting you on Tuesday.

Picture Day Next Thursday, September 22nd.

Individual Pictures for both the preschool and elementary, are scheduled for Thursday, September 22nd.

Picture order packets were sent home today. We will start at 8:00 a.m. in the elementary for those parents who want pictures of preschool children **that are not enrolled in Little Panthers Preschool.** At 8:30 we will start with pictures in the elementary

school beginning with the morning preschool session. Afternoon session preschool students will finish up the picture taking at 12:00 pm.

Don't forget to look for those picture packets on Friday. If you don't receive one, please call the school and we will gladly send another one home with your student.



Picture Day is Thursday

Don't forget, Elementary Picture Day is Thursday, September 22nd

Steps for a Successful Parent – Teacher Conference

The first parent-teacher conference of the year may initially be uncomfortable for both the parent and the teacher.



However, a well-conducted conference will move beyond grades or problems that the student may be experiencing. It might be a time for the parents to share their knowledge of their child, including their hopes for the child's future. It could also be an opportunity for the teacher to increase the parents' awareness of their child's classroom experience and

how the child relates within the school environment. There are several things that both parents and teachers can do that may help make conferences more successful.

Plan ahead for a Successful Conference

- Review your child's schoolwork and progress reports. Look for special talents, as well as areas of difficulty.
- Talk to your child ahead of time. Find out if there is anything your child would like you to discuss with the teacher.
- Note anything that may be affecting your child's behavior. A change in routine, a divorce, the death of a close relative or pet, etc.
- Make a list of questions and concerns. Don't rely on your memory.
- Arrange for both parents to attend if possible. Try and find a baby sitter if necessary. You'll want to give the teacher your full attention. Set up another time if you can't meet with the teacher on the day scheduled.

During the conference

- Arrive on Time. There are many other conferences during the day. Coming late could upset the schedule and leave you less time with the teacher.
- Stay Calm. Good Communication is the key to a successful conference.
- Relax. You and the teacher are on the same side. Each of you wants success for your child.
- Raise your most important concerns first. There will be a lot to talk about and time is limited. You may not get to every question on your list.
- Listen carefully. Don't plan your response while the teacher is still talking or interrupt to make a point.
- Ask Questions. Make sure you always understand what the teacher is saying. When something is unclear, ask the teacher to explain.
- Develop an action plan. Discuss ways to help your child learn and grow through activities at home and at school.

After the conference:

- Follow-up—following up with either a written or oral communication or "thank-you" is important for an ongoing supportive relationship.
- Involve your child. Tell your child what you and the teacher talked about. Describe the action plan, and answer any questions your child has.

- Stay in touch with the teacher. Compare notes to see if the action plan is working. Ask for another conference if you think it's needed.

As parents and teachers grow in their ability to work together, respecting their mutual roles as equal partners on the child's educational team, then conferencing and communication will become easier.

Bennet Elementary Skating Party Approaching

Skate Zone, in Lincoln, will be hosting Bennet Elementary for a skate night on Thursday, September 22nd, from 6:00 – 8:00 pm. The skate night is being sponsored by the Bennet Elementary Boosters. Cost for students will be \$4.00. Parents and sponsors skate free! There will be lots of prizes and gifts raffled off by the Elementary Boosters! Make plans to come to Skate Zone next Thursday!



Fifth Grade Boys B.B. Flyers Sent Home

Basketball flyers were sent home with all fifth grade boys this week. Please return flyer back to your teachers on Monday, September 19th. If you have any questions, call Coach Pettigrew @ 402-450-8508.

FREE FOR ALL!!

On November 12th, at 9:00 a.m., the Bennet Elementary Gym will open up to the public for clothing free for all!

Anyone is welcome to come and pick up clothing and shoes....for FREE!!!!



There will be infant to adult sizes. There will also be a place to donate to Cedars if you would like to – but not necessary!

We are still in need of any sizes of clothing – especially teen boys' sizes and infant hangers.

Please call Lillie at 402-440-2871 with any questions or if you would like to donate. Hope to see you all there!!!!

****Please bring your own bags to stuff full of goodies.*****

Band Instruments for Sale:

- *Alto Saxophone w/case
\$450.00 OBO
- *Trombone w/case
\$250.00 OBO
- *Clarinets w/ case (2)
\$300 OBO

Contact Kelly Jones if interested:
402-782-2007.