



Bobcat Bulletin



Breen Elementary School

December 2016-January 2017

Principal's Message

A few years ago, Jim Collins wrote a book called *Good to Great*. Those of us working in schools take his premise to heart and want our schools not only to be good, but to be great. In September I wrote about how all Rocklin schools are embracing MTSS or Multi Tier System of Supports as a framework for improving the academic and social/emotional culture of our schools. Currently a diverse team of school staff and parents at Breen are developing a Positive Behavior System of Supports to maximize the social/emotional experience for our students. PBIS has four major features:

- Outcomes: Behavior targets that are endorsed and emphasized by students, families, and educators.
- Practices: Interventions and strategies that are evidence based.
- Data: Info. that is used to identify status, need for change, & effects of interventions.
- Systems: Supports that are needed to enable the accurate and durable implementation of the practices of PBIS.

In summary, PBIS introduces, models, and reinforces positive social behavior and promotes a climate in which respectful, responsible, safe, and problem solving behaviors are the norm.

Sami Circuit

A fitness professional and youth motivational speaker named Sami Kader presented a high energy and positive message to Breen students and staff on November 17. Sami tells the story of being mocked, bullied, and unaccepted by his peers as a child and adolescent. This all changed for him when a family friend convinced Sami to join a gym, eat well, and live a healthy life. Sami spoke to students about self-respect and the keys to living a happy life. When he comes back to Breen on December 15, Sami will get us all moving with circuit training. On January 17, families are invited to come to the Breen multi-purpose room at 6:00 pm join in circuit training.

Upcoming Events

December	5	Tennis Enrichment 1:30 - 2:30
		Little Thunder Golf 3:00-4:30
	7	BR Volleyball Club 2:30-3:30
	9	Bobcat Lunch 11:30-12:30
	12-13	PTC Gift Wrap Drive
	12	Tennis Enrichment 1:30-2:30
	13	Vision Screening K,2,5
	14	BR Volleyball Club 2:30-3:30
	15	Sami's Circuit Assemblies Discovery Museum gr. 2 9-11:15
	16	Christmas Miracles deadline Loutensock to Roseville Galleria
	20	6th Grade Luncheon
	22	Minimum Day 7:50-12:20 K Winter Holiday performance 9:00
	23-January 6	Winter Break

Spirit Fridays

Every Friday students in kindergarten through 6th grade compete to show they have the most school spirit. The class in each grade level that wears the most school/class shirts or school colors of blue or green receive a Bobcat and are the first to be released from the lunch room on Mondays. The most recent special spirit contest included wearing "crazy" socks. In January, the spirit day will be Pajama Day and in February it will be Hero Day.

Strategic Planning and Enrichment Classes

After school enrichment classes are a goal in Breen's strategic plan. This goal came to fruition with 7 after school enrichment classes that concluded in November. The classes included: Art, Bobcat Spirit Club, Sign Language, Lego Creations, Math Olympiad, Dance, and Spanish. The next session of classes is scheduled to begin during the week of January 30. If you're interested in teaching a class, please contact me at cthibideau@rocklin.k12.ca.us.

Caring About the Less Fortunate

The tradition of giving continues at Breen. Our sixth grade teachers recently introduced their students to a book called "*The Family Under the Bridge.*" As a result of reading this book and better understanding the plight of homeless people, the students and their teachers started a donation drive to collect underwear and socks for students that attend the Mustard Seed School in Sacramento. This is a school that serves homeless children between the ages of 3 and 15. During the two week donation drive, approximately 150 packages of underwear and socks were collected and delivered to the school.

Little Thunder Golf Program

Seventeen Breen students are currently participating in the Little Thunder Golf Program at Whitney Oaks Golf Course. For more than ten years the Morton Foundation has sponsored up to 20 Breen students and provided them with sets of golf clubs. In three 90 minute golf lessons the hope is that students who have previously played little or no golf will gain an appreciation for the sport and may continue to play in the future. Our thanks and appreciation is extended to VAPA teacher Jennifer Nash for organizing this year's program and being at the course for each session.

Kids on the Block

Each year the Placer Assistance League presents ***The Kids on the Block*** to kindergarten through 3rd grade students at Breen. Volunteers for the Assistance League, many of which are retired teachers, become puppeteers and perform skits regarding social issues such as: Bullying and School Safety, Learning Differences, and Vehicle Safety. These free presentations are educational and fun for students and their teachers.

Kindergarten Orientation for 2016-2017

You are invited to attend a Kindergarten Information Meeting at Breen on January 24 at 6:00 pm to learn more about the registration timeline and procedures for enrolling your child in a kindergarten program for the 2017-18 school year. An overview will be presented on how our programs will successfully start your child's educational experience and meet your child's needs. Please join us to find out about the high-quality Kindergarten programs awaiting your child! If you have any questions, please call 632-1155.

Holiday Presentation

The annual 1st grade presentation of the Polar Express will take place on Tuesday, December 20, at 6:30 p.m. There will also be morning presentations for students and staff on December 19 and 20. The annual Holiday Kindergarten Music presentation will take place on Thursday, December 22, at 9:00 a.m. These annual presentations are a source of great pride for our community.

Country Fair

The Country Fair was a huge success. Hundreds of Breen families enjoyed food, music, games, train rides, and the camaraderie of friends. Proceeds were divided by grade levels. Thanks so much to Krista Sender and Christi Jones for organizing this great event for our community.

Bobcat/Bucketfiller Award Program

Bobcat Awards were presented to 63 students on December 2. Hundreds of students receive recognition each month for exhibiting one or more of the 6 Pillars of Character. Students whose Bobcat Awards are drawn from the classroom bucket receive a school folder with certificates and have their pictures taken for a monthly Bobcat Award bulletin board. In addition, I have the pleasure of taking 7 students to the Pizza Place for lunch as an additional reward.

6th Grade Holiday Luncheon

The 6th grade teachers have planned a catered holiday luncheon for their students on Tuesday, December 20. Students dress up in their Sunday best and put their impeccable table manners on display at this annual event.

