



**Mission Statement:** *We, the Bethany Community, are dedicated to providing an excellent education and to instill a life-long love of learning that will maximize each student's success in a competitive 21<sup>st</sup> century world.*

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July 25, 2023

Dear Bethany Bunch Families,

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year. The Bethany Staff and PTA have been working diligently to make sure that everything is ready to start the school year off on a great note! We are so excited to welcome everyone back onto campus this school year!

In preparation for starting the school year, please take a few moments at your earliest convenience to log onto <http://parentviewer.pisd.edu/> and complete the emergency forms for your child(ren). The emergency forms give us vital information to support both your students and families.

Families who may qualify should complete a federal meal application for free or reduced-price meals, available through Parent Portal or via the website at [www.pisd.edu/mealprogram](http://www.pisd.edu/mealprogram). Click the green SchoolCafé button to begin. Families who already have a SchoolCafé account can sign in to complete the meal application. Families who do not have an account can create a new one by selecting that option on the SchoolCafé page. View this [SchoolCafe information video](#) for instruction on how to complete the application.

Volunteers provide incredible support for teachers and enhance the educational experience for all our students. Be it for a couple of hours throughout the school year or as part of the PTA executive board, your involvement in the school is strongly encouraged and welcomed! While you are already filling out the emergency forms for your kiddos, please take a few moments and register to volunteer with us at Bethany by going to [plano.voly.org](http://plano.voly.org) and completing the online registration. On a side note, if you have ever thought about working in schools, now is the time. We would love to have you join the ranks of Plano ISD. If you are interested in working at a school as a teacher assistant, substitute, or any other role, please feel free to contact our human resources department at 469-752-8135 with any questions about substituting or working full time for Plano ISD.

The Bethany PTA has updated its website and is ready for you to register for the on-line student directory and complete other necessary PTA forms. While we encourage you to join PTA, please make sure you go to their website to complete important forms that affect your child even if you do not join PTA. This can be completed by logging on to [www.bethanypta.org](http://www.bethanypta.org). Once on the Bethany PTA website, please click the "Login button" to access and complete the necessary forms. A brief tutorial on using the PTA website can be found at this link -- <https://bit.ly/2DrLyig>. While on the Bethany PTA website you may also provide a tax deductible donation through the write-a-check program where every penny you donate benefits students and staff at our campus. There is also a new Bethany shirt this year that is AWESOME!! Look for additional details regarding when these go on sale. By joining the PTA you become part of an organization that advocates for students and lend your voice to others both locally and at the state level who are working to ensure a quality educational experience for all students.

The district offers *Voluntary Student Accident Insurance*. The information and sign up for Voluntary Student Accident Insurance can be found at <https://www.pisd.edu/studentinsurance>.

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Finally, there are a couple of important events we encourage you to place on your calendars and attend in order to facilitate a great start to the school year for you and your child(ren).

**Teacher Assignments Available on Parentviewer:** Student homeroom teacher assignments will be available on Parentviewer beginning on July 31st at 8:00 a.m. ***Kindergarten families: The teacher assignment you will receive is the classroom to report to for the first 3 days of school. The kindergarten teachers will spend the first three days of school getting to know each child's strengths and areas for growth and then will contact you on Friday, August 11th with official teacher assignments for the remainder of the year.***

**Kindergarten Welcome to Bethany Meeting** -- August 3rd at 5:00 p.m.

**Meet the Teacher** -- This is an opportunity to visit your child's new classroom, drop off school supplies, and meet the teacher. Students are much more comfortable coming to the first day of school when they know who their teacher will be and the location of their classroom.

*Tuesday, August 8<sup>th</sup> -- 8:00 – 9:00*

**Classes Begin**

*Wednesday, August 9<sup>th</sup> -- 7:40 a.m. (doors open at 7:00 a.m.).* This year school day has extended by 10 minutes and we will dismiss students at 2:55 p.m.

**Back-to-Bethany Grade Level Meetings** – these are grade specific meetings where teachers will share important information about your child's daily schedule and a variety of other topics. In order to accommodate parents, these meetings will be available both in person and via Zoom (links to follow from each grade level) at the times listed below.

|   |                     |                  |                |
|---|---------------------|------------------|----------------|
| <i>Thursday, August 10<sup>th</sup></i> | <i>Fourth Grade</i> | <i>6:00 p.m.</i> | <i>Library</i> |
| <i>Monday, August 14<sup>th</sup></i>   | <i>Fifth Grade</i>  | <i>6:00 p.m.</i> | <i>Gym</i>     |
|   | <i>Third Grade</i>  | <i>6:30 p.m.</i> | <i>Library</i> |
| <i>Tuesday, August 15<sup>th</sup></i>  | <i>Second Grade</i> | <i>6:00 p.m.</i> | <i>Library</i> |
|   | <i>First Grade</i>  | <i>6:30 p.m.</i> | <i>Gym</i>     |

Finally, Stay connected with Bethany! You can find more information about our school and stay up-to-date by following us on Facebook @WeAreBethanyElementary and/or Twitter @TheBethanyBunch, and by bookmarking our school website, [pisd.edu/Bethany](http://pisd.edu/Bethany). We look forward to getting to know each of you better and partnering with you to provide an incredible learning experience for all students this year.

Sincerely,

Bryan Bird  
Principal

Katherine Forisha  
Assistant Principal

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