

Pepper Ridge Elementary School Pledge

I pledge today to do my best
in Reading, Math and all the
rest. I promise to obey the
rules, in my class and in
the school. I'll respect
myself and others too, I'll
expect the best in all I do.
I am here to learn all I
can to try my best and
be all I am.



- **Be Safe**
- **Be Respectful**
- **Be Responsible**

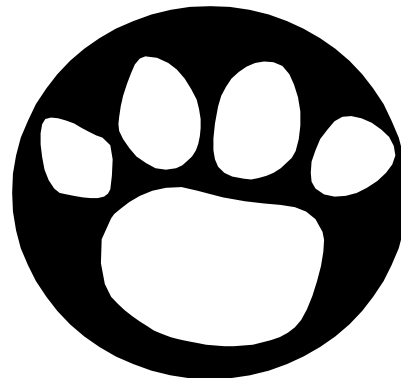
Websites for more information:

<http://www.pbis.org/main.htm>

<http://charactercounts.org/sixpillars.html>

www.unit5.org/PepperRidge

Puma Paws Rock!



Pepper Ridge Elementary

Pepper Ridge Elementary School
2602 Danbury Drive
Bloomington, Illinois 61705

Phone: 309-452-1042
Principal: Mrs. Sarah Edwards
edwardsl@unit5.org

Learn about
Pepper Ridge
Elementary's
School-wide Behavior
Plan

Positive
Behavioral
Interventions &
Support



**It's a great day to be a Puma!
We are Roaring with Pride!**

What is PBIS?

PBIS is a school-wide behavior program that was designed by eight universities and four educational facilities. Its purpose is to reduce inappropriate behaviors and encourage positive behavior. Pepper Ridge is beginning its 6th year using this program. Students receive Puma Paws for positive behaviors and for making good choices. PBIS has specific programs in place for students who need extra support. Pepper Ridge is presently using several of these. Visit the website at

www.pbis.org/main.htm

Did you know...that each week students can spend their Puma Paws on great stuff?



Students have the opportunity each week to “cash” in Puma Paws they have received for exemplifying good character choices. Students “shop” for an item in the school store or save their Paws for a special reward. They might be saving for a certain character option goal....like being principal for a day, eating lunch with a friend, or extra time at recess. These are just a few of the privileges students can earn with their Puma Paws. Ask your student about some things that teachers are looking for in order to receive a Puma Paw. There are 6 different character traits that help students identify great behavior choices. Look to the section about Character Counts for more information.

In the beginning

We go over school expectations, model what we expect to see, and reiterate daily the 3 main PBIS rules: Be Safe, Be Respectful, and Be Responsible. As we progress through the year, we will do a reminder of restroom, playground, cafeteria, water fountain, office, and hallway rules. Other behaviors will be explained on an as needed basis. We really do have great students at Pepper Ridge. We are very fortunate to have good students making good choices most of the time. We just want to encourage parents and students to go over the expectations so we are all on the same page at school and at home.

Out of the Blue Celebrations

Throughout the year we'll celebrate out-of-the-blue days. This means something extra special will be rewarded to those students who have shown above-and-beyond Good Character. This may be turning in all classroom homework and assignments for one week. It may be for students who have arrived to school on-time and prepared. The reward may be a special treat such a popsicle, extra recess, dance party, meet with ISU players, and so on. Out-of-the-blue days are not announced ahead of time because we want students choosing to make good choices all of the time, not just when a special event is announced.



Character Counts at Pepper Ridge

The 6 Pillars of Character are:

Trustworthy: This Pillar encompasses a variety of qualities: honesty, integrity, reliability, and loyalty. Being trustworthy means keeping promises and doing one's best not to deceive, even with white lies or statements that one might defend as "technically true."

Respect: The Golden Rule is the most useful guide here: Treat others as you wish to be treated. That means being courteous, listening to others, and accepting individual differences.

Responsibility: This Pillar includes accountability, self-control, and the pursuit of excellence. Being responsible also requires that we carefully consider the consequences of our choices before we make them.

Fairness: Being fair means playing by the rules and not taking advantage of others. A fair person makes informed judgments without favoritism or prejudice and does not blame others carelessly.

Caring: Kindness, compassion, altruism — these are the heart of ethics. Of course, some ethical decisions inevitably cause pain, but the caring person acts to minimize hardship and to help others whenever possible.

Citizenship: Good citizens work to make their community better. They are committed to protecting our environment and to making our democratic institutions work. They know the law — and they often do more than it requires and less than it allows.