

Meet Bentley, (CKC, PA, EAD) The ES Educational Assistance Dog!

Bentley is a 4 year old standard GoldenDoodle. Bentley lives with his handler, Jill Fletcher, the principal of Eastside. Bentley is under the care of Little Woods Animal Clinic and is groomed regularly by Rosie's Pet Spa. He comes to school everyday and loves to see the students and staff.

Bentley came to Eastside in June of 2021 when he began his journey with the school. He started training with Kathie Ball of Loving Dog Training when he was a puppy. He quickly passed his puppy test and training. Ms. Fletcher worked with Bentley and Mrs. Kathie to complete CGC (Canine Good Citizen) training. He passed his assessment in the fall of 2021. Training continued weekly in order to prepare for Public Access Assessment as well as Educational Assistance Dog Assessment. He passed those assessments in the spring of 2023.

Bentley helps students at school if they are stressed, sad or just need a friend. He walks through classrooms, hallways and the cafeteria to visit his friends. Ms. Fletcher leads him throughout the day. As he gets older, he will spend time in the classrooms with trained teachers.

Teachers recognize students with outstanding character and behavior with two different awards. One is "Bentley Buddies". Students are given a ticket and one day a week, the students get to take a picture with him and give him a high five and a special treat.

PAWS (Principal's Award for Wonderful Students) awards are presented to students who go above and beyond to make a difference. These students get a certificate and a personal picture with Bentley and the staff member that nominated them. These pictures are displayed in the hallway, shared on social media for all to see and a copy is sent home to parents.

Bentley loves the students and staff. He is working really hard to not bark at visitors in the office. Please be patient with him as he gets more comfortable with visitors in the building!

Thank you for your support. If there is any reason you or your child does not feel comfortable interacting with Bentley, please complete the form below and return to your teacher. If you are comfortable with Bentley, there is nothing you need to do.

Sincerely,

Jill Fletcher; Principal/Handler



BENTLEY OPT OUT NOTIFICATION:

I do NOT want my child, _____ to interact with Bentley. Please share any concerns: _____

Parent Signature and contact information: _____