

FRIDAY



FLASH

EDMUNDS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

299 Main St, Burlington, VT 05401 • 864-1791

Date and Volume Number

April 8, 2016

Up Coming Events:

April 8 - Skate Night - Leddy Park - 6 - 8 pm

Apr. 18-22 - Spring Break - No School

May 4th - Kindergarten Get Acquainted Day

May 13 - Mayfair Carnival

May 30th (Memorial Day) - No School**From the Principal's Desk**

The Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, Mount Rushmore, Monticello, the Grand Canyon, Yellowstone National Park are all considered to be National Treasures, and yet last night, many of us saw what I consider our greatest National Treasure - the next generation. There they all stood, as proud as punch, in their finest attire. The children could not have been prouder as they displayed their art and sang their hearts out to an appreciative audience, proud of their accomplishments.

As each of us treasures our own children because of their importance in our lives, it is equally important that we treasure all of the children because there will come a day when they may be important in our lives. I see every child as a diamond in the rough. They will require some polishing and some shaping, and ultimately, their full potential will shine through. That potential may manifest itself as the doctor diagnosing our aches and pains, or an accountant helping with our taxes. They could be engineers designing the next generation of batteries to eliminate the need for fossil fuels, botanists figuring out how to grow more food, or teachers, exciting the next generations.

We have no idea what any of our treasures will become, and frankly neither do most of them. For thousands of years, adults would find a way to earn their living and that would be what they would do for the rest of their lives. That is no longer the case. Technology is changing our society so quickly that many of us are finding multiple paths. My own career is actually more like that which our children will experience than most of my generation. I have worked in the industrial scale industry in production control, operations management, and product line management. I did marketing, economic development in the ski industry and appraised major resorts all over the country. I've set up accounting systems in the Arctic, and worked as a controller and CFO in the garment industry. I entered education only 15 years ago, first as a teacher, and then a principal.

The thing that made my eclectic career path possible was the ability to think critically, see the parallels between the needs of the organizations and to apply the knowledge gained over time appropriately. This is precisely what our students will be expected to do. This takes a different kind of approach to education, where the memorization of discrete facts is no where near as important as cultivating the ability to find, examine, analyze information, ask probing questions, construct meaning and relevance. The main character in the movie, *Martian* is an excellent example of how we should be cultivating children to be able to think. If you haven't seen it, I recommend you do. The astronaut was able to draw from a store of knowledge that was outside his field but critical to his

Whole School Assembly
April 13, 2016
Miss McMorris's Class Presenting

(Con't)

ability to succeed (survive). We are teaching more and more across content areas because that is how people actually work. The relevance of the content makes more sense to students, and is therefore more memorable. Students are encouraged to question what they are seeing, to experiment and to discuss their observations starting at an early age. Their education must develop the skills to think critically, transfer knowledge and adapt to their rapidly changing world. Their success in gaining that knowledge will be the determining factor in the long-term success of this nation. So, they are, in fact, our National Treasure.

STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS: COMMUNITY FORUMS

The Burlington School District invites all to attend one of two upcoming Community Forums, to collaborate and gather input on District mission and values, as well as priorities for Multi-Year Strategic Planning. Please consider participating in this process of **improvement**, which will guide us to the type of educational system we can all be proud of.

JOIN US FOR ONE OF THE NIGHTS BELOW:

Thursday, April 28th, 6:30-8:30PM

Integrated Arts Academy, 6 Archibald Street

Monday, May 2nd, 6:30-8:30PM

C.P. Smith Elementary School, 332 Ethan Allen Parkway
Childcare provided.

Please RSVP if you require childcare to Maryann Kalman:

mkalman@bsdvt.org or (802) 864-8474

For details on translation services at the event, contact Miriam

Ehtesham-Cating:

mcating@bsdvt.org or (802) 343-3775

BURLINGTON KIDS- 2016/2017 REGISTRATION OPEN!

We are now accepting registration packets for next school year for rising 1st through 5th graders! Reserve your child's spot at Burlington Kids for the 2016/2017 school year by completing and returning the YELLOW 2016-2017 Registration Packet (can be found in the information rack near the main EES office).

Early bird registration due by **Friday May 6, 2016!** Please contact us at [\(802\) 316-0195](tel:8023160195) or praba@bsdvt.org for more information!

PTO LEADERS: Marni Slavik, Hollie Foley & Clare Wool
PTO CONTACT: pto@eespto.org

SKATE NIGHT TONIGHT (FRIDAY) FROM 6-8PM AT LEDDY ICE ARENA

Free ice skating, skate rentals, and pizza for all EES families. Please bring a drink or a nut-free snack to share.

PTO LEADERSHIP TRANSITION

The current PTO leaders, Marni Slavik, Hollie Foley, and Clare Wool, will be stepping down at the end of this school year and are looking to help transition new leaders. We have been happy to support our teachers, family community, and administration through classroom enrichment, community events, school advocacy, and fundraising. If you are interested in learning more about the roles of PTO leadership, please contact Marni at pto@eespto.org.

CHECK THIS OUT!!!!

You can earn the school money without spending any additional money yourself. Our newest fundraiser is here! Welcome to Scrip - Buy gift cards at face value and the school benefits! Scrip fundraising is a no-selling program that allows families to raise money for their children's school. Scrip is just another way to pay for everyday purchases using gift cards in place of cash, checks, and credit cards. You purchase gift cards from your organization at face value (either online or on paper), and your coordinator orders those cards from Great Lakes Scrip Center at a reduced price. The difference is an instant rebate for your organization. It's really that simple! For example, if you purchase a \$50 gift card to Lands End, the school earns 16% - that's \$8.00 for the school and a full \$50 gift card for you. You never walk away with something you'll never use and gift cards start as low as \$10.00. When you use scrip gift cards at your favorite retailers, you're fundraising while you shop. Great Lakes Scrip Center offers hundreds of options from your favorite retailers, including grocery, department stores, gas stations, restaurants, hotels, home improvement, and more. Just by using scrip to pay for your normal weekly purchases, you can easily raise \$500 or more per year. For example, Shaw's 5%, Amazon 3%, Shell gas 2.5% - the options go on and on. Pick and choose cards based on your needs or further search for

the highest percentage that we'll earn. There are always deals and bonus' that benefit you as well. It's time to put your shopping dollars to work! You can also join PrestoPay, which allows you to pay online, making the process smoother and quicker for you. If you have questions, please contact Brandi Littlefield at Brandi.littlefield7@gmail.com and watch for your child to bring the flyer home with more details!

Go to <http://www.shopwithscrip.com/> and check it out! Enrollment code: 752AB49647L76

CHECK THE LOST AND FOUND BEFORE APRIL 15

Please check the Lost and Found before April Break because it will be cleaned out and donated to Goodwill.

SILENT AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED FOR MAYFAIR

On May 13th, Edmunds Elementary will again hold our Mayfair Carnival. For parents unfamiliar with Mayfair, it's a long-standing tradition at EES with a BBQ, games, bouncy castle, cake walk and more. The carnival also has a silent auction. All funds raised in the auction goes directly to the kids. It helps pay for special initiatives such as bringing local artists, speakers and performers to our school. It also funds scholarships for low-income students, field trips and educational materials and helps pay for much needed classroom supplies. If you own or work for a company or restaurant that would make a donation, or have any ideas for donations, please contact Stephanie Mueller at smueller@vnrc.org or Stacey Kelleher at staceyhk1568@yahoo.com. In the past, Edmunds parents have been creative and come up with donations ranging from knitted hats to bike tune-ups to bike blended smoothies. All ideas are welcome to help make this fundraiser a success!

GAMES! FUN! MAYFAIR! (Friday, May 13th)

We need two volunteers to help make our annual Mayfair event a success. We are searching for two capable people to lead the most exciting part of Mayfair - the games!! We have tried and true games already prepared, but would love to have you put your personal stamp on this amazing EES event. Limited commitment, but amazing reward for you and the kids! This event is a great way to get involved in our school and really make a difference!! Think you are the person for the job? Recruit a friend along with you and share the fun! Please contact Leigh Fisher at leigh.r.fisher@gmail.com with questions.

TO FOLLOW THE BURLINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Go to:

<http://district.bsd.schoolfusion.us/modules/cms/pages.phtml?pageid=330226>

NEXT FULL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING: TUESDAY APRIL 12 AT 7:00PM AT CONTOIS AUDITORIUM