

FRIDAY FLASH



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

Date and Volume Number

From the Principal's Desk

We have heard over the past two years about the one-to-one program for technology in the middle schools and high school here in Burlington. The use of technology has required that we educate the faculty in means to use it as a tool to enhance education and not simply a word processing tool.

I found technology invaluable in teaching. For example, I taught marketing to high school students and the projects we were able to do depended upon access to information readily available on the internet. They read about the theory of target marketing and then I was able to show it in action using Pandora - the music website. I gave each student a "profile" - one as a middle age man who liked jazz, a 18 year old male who liked heavy metal, a 25 year old who liked rap, a 13 year old girl, Gen X's etc. Once the profiles were in, we watched the pop up ads. Smith Barney went after the middle age man who liked jazz. X-Box 360 advertised to the 18 year old heavy metal fan. Netflix advertised to everyone but the 13 year old girl (needed parents to purchase). The students saw more clearly than I could ever have hoped the level of target marketing that Pandora's advertisers were doing. As a grade school teacher, I used technology extensively with kids, creating models for math, doing research for social studies and science and creating documentaries 13 years ago, before iPad's even existed.

This year the district offered training in incorporating iPads in the classroom with an added incentive to teachers that they would get 6 iPads for their classrooms. The faculty must be in teams which results in enhancing and extending collaboration and it has been really exciting to see what they are already able to bring into the classroom as a result. Yesterday I was at the Echo Museum along with teachers and quite a few parent volunteers and watched as 2nd graders used iPad's to photograph animals, do research and take notes based upon the learning requirements they had been taught. They are gathering data for eBooks that they will be writing. They will be able to use their own photographs rather than being constrained by copyright laws. Their books will consist of factual information or informational text as we say in the "ed biz".

Second graders are insatiably curious and being able to satisfy that curiosity is thankfully almost impossible. Being able to look at live creatures that are of interest to them, and then dig deeper for information is so much more engaging than relying on a textbook. Our

January 17, 2013

Upcoming Events

Jan. 22 Whole School Assembly

Feb. 15 Math Night

Whole School Assembly
All are welcome 8:10 - 8:25

teachers don't need to be experts in what is being studied. Instead, they need to be experts in how to engineer a learning experience, and facilitate learning as a coach and even a cheerleader. They can learn right alongside, their students, modeling and reinforcing the excitement of discovery. As I teacher, I can honestly say that being able to watch the excitement in children as they discover new things is where the joy in teaching is found.

Pick up and Drop off

The cold we are experiencing is resulting in heavier drop off and pick up traffic and causing some back up. There are a few things that could help both out front and in the back of the school.

- **Please do not park and leave your car unless you are in a designated parking spot - whether you are in front or in back of the school.**
- **If you block a car in, please leave your cell number and name visible so we can reach you to move your car.**
- **If at pick up, you come through and your child is not visible, go around the block again.**
- **Make sure your child knows where you want them to stand to see you as you drive through so that you can also see them.**
- **You may only turn right leaving the horseshoe!**
- **Have your children ready to get out of the car quickly and ask them to the sidewalk car quickly so that others behind you can unload their children.**

The buses need to be able to drop off and pick up children quickly because they go on to other schools. The personnel working with those children are doing their best to get the children loaded and unloaded as quickly as possible. It is very important to keep traffic moving so that the buses can come into the driveway and get out as quickly as possible.

We know that everyone is busy and in a hurry, and we ask that we remember to simply take a deep breath, look around and help each other by simply working together.

Hello EES Community,

I'm Cori Chandler. You may have seen me in your classrooms the past few weeks during guidance time. I am currently interning with Melissa Hathaway for the Spring semester. Prior to starting the UVM Graduate Counseling Program, I worked as a science teacher at Milton Middle School for five years. I also worked as an environmental educator for the the Charolate Harbor Environmental Center in Florida.

I am so happy to be working with all of you and your students. EES feels like a welcoming and vibrant community, and it has been a pleasure to see your and your students' hard work and creativity.

I am looking forward to getting to know you and your students more throughout the semester and to become a part of this great school.

Please feel free to connect with me if you have any further questions or concerns.

Thanks,
Cori Chandler

From the PTO

PTO MEETING AND PARENT NIGHT THURSDAY, JANUARY 30 5:30-8:00PM

What does research show will help our kids make healthy lifestyle choices now and into their teenage years? Come find out, with BHS's Student Assistance Program Counselor, Margo Austin. Margo has worked with adolescents and families in the school setting for 20 years. She is a licensed alcohol and drug counselor who provides education, prevention and early intervention services to help young people make healthy lifestyle choices. Evening will include a PTO-sponsored dinner and brief meeting. All are welcome to attend; childcare provided. **Please RSVP to pto@eespto.org if you plan to attend.** If you have any questions, contact PTO leaders Marni Slavik, Stephanie Mueller, and Clare Wool at pto@eespto.org.

MATH NIGHT: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15 5:00-7:00 PM

Looking for donations of new or gently used math games for the raffle. Please put them in box outside of Monica's office starting Monday, February 10. Please contact Stephanie Mueller (smueller@vnrc.org) with any questions.

LANDSCAPING PROJECT VOLUNTEERS

Dr Mathias is looking for volunteers to help lead with the ongoing landscaping project at Edmunds. We have 5 beautiful designs but we have not settled on a final design. We have some money, but we need to get more. We see this as a project that can help visitors and Burlingtonians alike enjoy nature right in the middle of the city. It can be a place where the students can experience science first hand, and where food can be grown and shared. The vision for the project includes:

- An amphitheater
- Raised beds for each classroom
- Outdoor classroom
- Various ecosystems of native vegetation
- Fruit trees and bushes.
- An ecological place in the middle of the city that helps with some of the run off to Lake Champlain.

We believe that the project is achievable if we break it down into smaller parts. If the many talents of the people in our community are brought together, we will be able to realize an exciting vision. We need you if you have expertise in any of the following areas: landscape design, soil conservation, marketing, grant writing, organization and scheduling, if you are good at finding deals or equipment, we need you. If you are good at pulling other people into the project, boy do we need you! If you know that we need your expertise in an area that we have not even thought of, please, come and tell us how you can help in our quest.

If you are interested, please email pto@eespto.org.

EES SCHOOL APPAREL IS HERE!



Check out our CLASSIC WARM school apparel for your child. Every FRIDAY the PTO will be selling these items in the front office. Stop by before or after school...what a BIRTHDAY present! Order forms are available at the FRONT OFFICE. Checks made out to EES PTO or cash is accepted.

Contact: Clare Wool (clarewool@mac.com)

POM POM HATS are due in FEBRUARY 10th!

