

FRIDAY



FLASH

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

Date and Volume Number

EDMUNDS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

From the Principal's Desk

I was inspired last night by the speech that Michelle Obama gave in New Hampshire this week. If you have not heard or seen it, I would encourage you to do so, regardless of which candidate you support. The reason I appreciated her speech was because of the points she made about the importance of elevating the way women are talked to, and seen. It was inspiring to see actual athletes from both the NBA and NFL, who spend countless hours a year in locker rooms, set the record straight about what is appropriate and what is intolerable when talking about women. I had heard about the athletes setting the record straight about locker room talk and went to view the videos myself. I found the clips on the CNN website, and was struck by the fact that the ad that was on prior to the clip included another example of a highly sexualized portrayal of a woman.

Coincident, to these events was a conversation I had with a parent about a dress code that included language that spoke of apparel of girls as "suggestive". The topics are related and show how deep seated attitudes towards females remain despite so much progress and effort. Our daughters and sons are bombarded with images of both males and females in increasingly explicit situations. Fashions continue to expose far more of girls bodies than many are comfortable with, yet they feel compelled to wear the clothes because of the messages they are getting. I worked in the garment industry and went to the Children's Fashion Trade Show in NY one year. There I saw lovely age appropriate clothing for children, and I saw extremely inappropriate clothing, as if 2 and 3 year olds were to dress for a night out on the seamier side of town. Within the garment industry, that clothing was referred to as "baby slut". As horrific as I found that, what I found even more despicable were the adults who thought nothing of creating clothing that denied children the innocence they so richly deserve, thrusting them far too early into a world where "sex sells".

I have been part of the fight for women's rights, walking the the March for Women's lives with over a million others. I have worked as a sole female manager in manufacturing among 30 males managers and have had the demeaning comments made towards me. I have been frightened for my physical safety in the work place, and have been grabbed by a total stranger. I started this walk towards greater equality decades ago. The struggle is far from over. My 28 year daughter told me that she was grabbed by boys on the sidelines as she played varsity basketball here in VT. She has encountered far too many unwanted comments and physical contact. Until we give a

October 14, 2016

Up Coming Events:

Oct. 17 - Coat Swap Continues

Oct. 17 - Sukkot Begins

Oct. 17 - PTO Meeting (EES Art Room)

Oct. 21 - Inservice Day; No School for Students

Oct. 30 - Deepavali/Diwali/Tahir (Festival of Lights Begins)

Oct. 31 - Halloween Parade!

Nov. 8 - Scholastic Book Fair Begins

Whole School Assembly
October 19, 2016
Traditional Morning Meeting
Miss Fitzpatrick's Class Leading

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strong message to those in positions of power who minimize the comments made by a presidential candidate, until we tell the purveyors of products, to producers in media that the constant and pervasive messaging about what women should look like, and how men and women should behave towards each other, we will not truly be a society that models respectful behavior for our children.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR IS COMING!!

Our annual book fair is once again being held in the Edmunds Middle School Library the week of November 7-11. To make sure our fair is a success we need YOUR help!! We are looking for volunteers to assist us with stocking the bookcases, keeping the displays neat and in order, running the cash register, and helping students with their purchases. We need volunteers for the following days and times:

- Tuesday, November 8th: 8:00 am to 3:30 pm
(closed from 11:00 - 12:00 for lunch)
- Wednesday, November 9th: 8:00 am to 2:00 pm
- Friday, November 11: 8:00 am to 2:00 pm

If you have some time to volunteer (we are asking for an hour or more if possible) please contact EES Librarian Kathy Neil: kneil@bsdvt.org Thank you in advance for your help. More information about the fair itself will be coming home with your children soon. Please be on the lookout for it!

PTO Leaders: Leigh Fisher, Hollie Foley & Rachel Shelley

PTO Contact: pto@eespto.org

**DAN'S CHOCOLATE ORDERS DUE TODAY FRIDAY,
OCTOBER 14th!!**

Order stubs and cash/check envelopes are due into school. You may submit your orders online as well - ****Please try to total up your orders before putting them in online**** use the link here:

<http://www.dansfundraising.com/f7w4>

**VERMONT COFFEE COMPANY ORDERS DUE TUESDAY
OCTOBER 18th**

EES makes \$6/bag! Orders will be collected the third Tuesday of every month. This month orders will be delivered Monday October 24th. Order forms at Front Office and EES PTO website.

(<http://eespto.org/fundraisers/Vermont-coffee-fundraiser/>). Checks payable to EES PTO, OR Pay via PayPal; Please note in PayPal "Purpose Box" number of bags and coffee choice. Contact Pam Moreau ([802.999.4590](tel:802.999.4590) or pmoreaulawvt@gmail.com) with questions.

**EES WINTER COAT AND GEAR SWAP NEED A
COAT? HAVE AN EXTRA ONE?**

Bring your used winter coats and gear to Edmunds main entrance starting October 12. Hang donations on our racks, boots and gloves can be stowed underneath. Swap officially begins on October 14. Take what you need, you don't need to give to get! Questions? Email Courtney Asaro at courtneypasaro@gmail.com.

PTO MEETING MONDAY OCTOBER 17 5:30-6:30

All Are Welcome Located in the Art Room Child Care and Pizza Provided!

**OCTOBER 26TH 8AM-10AM THE BURLINGTON
PARTNERSHIP FOR A HEALTHY COMMUNITY**

*invites you to attend to our 8th annual "Roots of Prevention Award Celebration" to publicly honor the outstanding contributions of our awardees to support Burlington to be a safe and healthy place for us all. We at EES would like to recognize and congratulate all the award recipients, but especially, **Clare Wool for the Outstanding Individual Award.** If you would like to attend, please RSVP via the [online form](#), or call us with questions at [\(802\) 652-0997](tel:802.652.0997). This event is free and open to the public. A \$10 donation is appreciated, but not required to attend.*