



# FRIDAY FLASH



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

September 6, 2013

## Upcoming Events

- Sept. 6 PTO BBQ 5:30
- Sept. 9 Picture Day
- Sept. 10 PTO Meeting - 7-8 pm, childcare available
- Sept. 11 Whole School Assembly and Walk and Roll
- Sept. 18 Whole School Assembly
- Sept. 20 EES Family Skate Night 5:30 - 7:30

## From the Principal's Desk

Wow, we're off to a great start! Today we were able to announce that the students have already earned over 600 bees, and that doesn't even count all the bees earned in the classrooms that are not quite at 100 yet. Now for those of you who are new to our school, bees are a form of acknowledgement of students meeting our expectations and as each class reaches 100 bees, their classrooms have some form of celebration and we announce it to the school community. This is a part of our Positive Behavior Intervention Supports system. The most important part - is the teaching of those expectations and our expectations center on insuring that we have an environment that is a good learning environment for all students.

Behaviors are critically important to the success of any school and if we think about it, any organization. We take appropriate behavior as a norm and generally don't even think about it, but the reality is that we as adults are faced with behavioral expectations every day, some more clearly defined than others. A great example would be at the airport. If you want to board a plane, you will need to take off your shoes, empty your pockets and make sure any liquid is less than 3 oz. and in a plastic bag. On the plane, we hear that we need to put our tray tables up and seats in the upright position take off or landing. If we, as adults, need reminding, we can safely assume that kids need even more.

When a student makes a mistake, we have found that it is more helpful to talk to a child about what is needed to be successful, rather than scolding them about the mistake they made. If we spend time focusing on the mistake, we are actually reinforcing the behavior we don't want because that is where we are placing our attention. Often, attention is what a child really wants. Getting negative attention is still giving attention.. It's so much more peaceful to teach them what you want, acknowledge them when you see it (I noticed that you put your dishes in the dishwasher. Thanks for helping keep the kitchen clean), and reteach it when you don't.

The more we do this, the easier it gets for the student, and us as teachers and parents. Life is calmer, and kids gain the confidence we all want for them.

Whole School Assembly – September 11  
Walk and Roll to School Kick Off

## Walk and Role to School

EES has done really well with the number of students walking and rolling to school. We are trying to achieve a gold standard for this and last year we were really close. Please help by encouraging your student to walk or ride their bikes or scooters to school. Even parking a block or two away and walking in counts!

## Electronic Friday Flash

In the interest of reducing paper and waste, and providing greater convenience, we are able to send you the Friday Flash through email. If you want to take advantage of that service, please complete the form on the third page of this Friday Flash and return it to your child's teacher.

## Media Form

You will find a Media Form attached to the Friday Flash and I hope that you won't sign it. As part of our normal activities, we will take pictures, display student work, and sometimes take videos of students in learning activities. We do not include student's names when we do this. We find that students enjoy sharing their work and we are proud to display what they do. It is my hope that you do not sign the form, and simply recycle it. IF you have any questions, please call us and we'll be happy to help.

## From PTO

### EDMUNDS COMMUNITY BBQ - FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6 - 5-7 PM

Please join us **TONIGHT** for the annual Edmunds Community BBQ, sponsored by the EES PTO, on the upper playing field. This is for our students, parents, families, and EES faculty and staff. **FREE!!** Burgers, veggie burgers, hotdogs and drinks will be provided.

***EES Families with last names from A - L: Please bring salad or side dish to share; Last names from M - Z: Please bring dessert to share.***

### FIRST PTO MEETING - TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 - 7-8 PM

Please join us and childcare is provided! Edmunds Elementary, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Library Resource room. We will give an overview of the PTO, and discuss upcoming events and exciting volunteer opportunities. We would love to hear about new ideas for the coming year. Please email Clare Wool ([clarewool@mac.com](mailto:clarewool@mac.com)), Stephanie Mueller ([smueller@vnrc.org](mailto:smueller@vnrc.org)), or Marni Slavik ([marnislavik@yahoo.com](mailto:marnislavik@yahoo.com)) if there are specific topics of interest to you.

### WALK AND ROLL KICK-OFF - WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

Let's kick off the school year with walkers and rollers showing our EES pride as we walk or roll to school! Look for monthly themed walk and roll to school days the 2nd Wednesday of each month. Help Edmunds become a Gold Partner in the Vermont Safe Routes to School program! Contact Rachel Shelley ([rachskye@gmail.com](mailto:rachskye@gmail.com)) with any questions.

### EES SKATE NIGHT: LEDDY RINK - FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 -- 5:30-7:30 PM

Please join us for a free night ice skating at the Leddy ice rink. Free skate rentals and pizza. Contact coordinator Pam Shea ([pj\\_shea@yahoo.com](mailto:pj_shea@yahoo.com)) with questions.

### PTO EMAIL UPDATES

The PTO sends out weekly email updates. If you would like to be added to the PTO email list, please email the EES PTO ([pto@eespto.org](mailto:pto@eespto.org)).

For more information about PTO events visit:

<http://eespto.org/> or <https://www.facebook.com/eespto>.

### CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR THE FOUR WINDS PROGRAM

Interested in being involved in your child's classroom in a meaningful way? Four Winds is a hands-on natural science program that is available to every class at Edmunds. It is run entirely by parent-volunteers and no science experience is necessary, just your curiosity and a willingness to learn. Volunteers attend a 2-hr training 8 times a year (approximately once a month) on Friday mornings during the school year and learn how to teach a one-hour workshop in the classroom. The workshop is then scheduled directly with your child's teacher at a mutually convenient time during the day. If you have a flexible schedule, this is a great way to be involved in your child's class. **The first training is scheduled for Friday, September 13 from 8:05-10:15 in the art room.** Two or more volunteers are needed for each classroom in order for that class to participate. Nearly every class at Edmunds has been able to participate during the past three years and we hope to have enough volunteers to offer it to all again this year. You can learn more about the Four Winds program for this year (<http://www.fwni.org/eco.html>). Our theme this year is ecosystems. We will be comparing a variety of ecosystems and examining the plants and animals that inhabit each. If you have questions about the program or are just curious about how it works, please contact our Four Winds coordinator Carolyn Hanson ([carolynhanson21@gmail.com](mailto:carolynhanson21@gmail.com)) or 860-6638.

### TEACHER WISH LIST ITEMS

This list is ongoing and updated throughout year. Contact: Marni Slavik ([marnislavik@yahoo.com](mailto:marnislavik@yahoo.com)) or the teacher directly.

***Kara Quinn (Rm B 208):*** paper towels, plastic utensils, napkins, sanitizing wipes, water color paper, packing tape, pipe cleaners, nature magazines to cut up, puzzles, Ziploc bags, play-doh

***Shelley Spinner (Rm B 209):*** kid-sized broom and dustpan, printer cartridge: HP Office Jet J4580, dry erase markers and erasers, hangers

***Misa Lindberg (Rm B 109):*** Sanitizing wipes, plants for room, headphones and/or little speakers for computers.

## **BURLINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT 2014-2015 BUDGET PROCESS**

Keith Pillsbury, a School Board member and Chairman of the BSD Finance Committee, would like the EES community to learn about the budget process for this year. They are implementing a new process to gather community input on the FY15 budget prior to its being developed, and would like wide dispersion of this information to the community.

### **Burlington School District 2014-2015 Budget Process**

In an effort to receive input from voters prior to making budget decisions, the Burlington School Board of Commissioners is reaching out to the community, asking what the program priorities are before developing proposals for further public comment and input.

Throughout the rest of August and September, Commissioners will attend school events to ask for ideas, schools will include information in newsletters and PTOs will also notify parents. A budget survey has been created to capture all voices and is available online ([www.bsdrv.org](http://www.bsdrv.org)) and in hard copy form, to be distributed by Commissioners.

In October, the survey data will be reviewed by the Board and the Finance Committee, at the same time that financial goals will be set for 2014-2015. Proposals will then be developed at the administrative level in October and November, based on priorities set by the Board. Public input will be gathered on these proposals on December 17th and 18th. Per law, the budget will be finalized in early January for a March vote on Town Meeting Day.

"We are trying to engage the larger community in the earliest steps this year, asking for input on the relative merits of programs as well as relative direction the budget should be heading", commented School Board Chair Alan Matson. This approach will bring greater transparency and more voices into identifying the values of the Burlington community for its schools.

Visit [www.bsdrv.org](http://www.bsdrv.org) for a link to the survey and more details on the budget process and timeline.

CONTACT: Jeanné Collins, Superintendent

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[www.bsdrv.org](http://www.bsdrv.org)

Alan Matson, School Board Chair

(802) 860-7437

[amatson@bsdrv.org](mailto:amatson@bsdrv.org)

## **From the Community**

### **Burton Snowboard offers Snowboard Experience**

This will take place during the art hop on SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7th from 11 AM to 3 PM at the Burton Flagship Store, 80 Industrial Parkway, in Burlington (Right by Red Rocks Park).

Burton Snowboards is sponsoring this event to try and introduce young children to the sport of snowboarding. Not only will there be snowboard instructors with kid friendly boards (and safety equipment) but there will be tons of other great activities going on....such as a bouncy castle, coloring wall, sticker station, and give away prizes!! Participation is free for children between the ages of 3 and 6. The Burton Riglet Park is a revolutionary teaching environment specially designed for kids aged three to six years to experience snowboarding in an easy and fun environment.