

## Note from the Principal

November 24, 2020

Dear Families,

It was great to see so many of you last week between Site Council, PTA, and the Social and Emotional Wellness committee event with Dr. Anne Gearity on Thursday evening! I appreciate these opportunities to see faces and hear perspectives on how things are going for our students and families. Thank you for your engagement and support during these challenging times!

Soon you should receive 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter report cards in the mail. While in distance learning, evidence of student learning and progress looks different than in traditional in-person learning. Our teachers have worked hard to create rigorous and engaging learning experiences and provide students with opportunities to show what they know. Remember, the report card is just one opportunity for teachers to communicate student progress towards mastery of grade level standards. Please reach out to your child's teacher if you have any questions regarding the report card and your child's progress.

With the Thanksgiving Holiday upon us, I want to express my gratitude for each and every student, family, teacher, and staff member in our community. The partnership, kindness and support that I have witnessed and experienced within our community throughout distance learning has been truly amazing. I am so grateful to be a part of the Burroughs community. Thank you for sharing your children with us! I wish you all a safe and relaxing holiday. I hope that even though your plans may be different than in years past, you are still able to find joy and gratitude, and maybe even discover some new traditions.

Have a wonderful week and safe Thanksgiving Holiday! As always, please feel free to reach out with any questions that may arise.

Be well,

Ana Bartl  
Principal

## Announcements

- **REMINDER: MPS Application for Educational Benefits** - Please take a few minutes complete the [MPS Application for Educational Benefits](#). The deadline for completion is December 15. This application needs to be completed every year for every family. School funding is impacted by the number of applications that are completed. Our school social worker, Beth Alvarez, will be reaching out to families who have not yet completed their application.
- **Teacher Planning Day** - A reminder that Monday, Monday, November 30 is a designated planning day for classroom teachers and specialist teachers. Classroom room teachers will communicate with families about student expectations for that day. Morning meeting, Closing circle, and live meetings with the classroom teacher will not take place. The only specialist class that will have a live meeting is Art due to Art Adventure.
- **December Virtual Coffee with the Principal** - Join Principal Bartl on Friday, December 2 from 9:30-10:30 am for coffee and conversation. Please use the Zoom invite below.  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9971677936?pwd=MWgyb082TkZSa1dseWVNRUdDQUNjdz09>
- **Virtual School Request Kick-off** - On December 5, from 10:00 am to 12:30 pm Minneapolis Public Schools will host a virtual School Request Season Kick-off event. <https://mpls.k12.mn.us/request-kickoff.html>
- **2020-21 School Request Season** - There will be more detailed information regarding school requests for SY 2021-22 in the coming weeks. Until then, please see the information provided here <https://schoolrequest.mpls.k12.mn.us/>. There will be an option for families who will be outside of the Burroughs attendance area due to the CDD to request Burroughs.

- **Phases to Safe Learning** - Due to the continued rise in COVID numbers MPS is pausing on plans to move to phase 3. We will remain in full distance learning until further notice. Information on the Phases to Safe Learning can be found here <https://b2s.mpls.k12.mn.us/EnglishUpdates?itemId=1241>.
- **Annual Forms** - Please take a few minutes to complete these annual back-to-school forms

For English please use this link: <https://forms.gle/dpH3SRTFGCDt1Yfy6>

For Spanish please use this link: <https://forms.gle/HPD2exLWXT98UuGy9>

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- **School board Meeting Agendas and Minutes** - Find the latest information and updates regarding distance learning, the Comprehensive District Design (CDD) and other district business here <https://meetings.boardbook.org/Public/Organization/1807>.
- **COVID Attendance Guide, Home Screening Tool and Decision Tree** - The health and safety of our students and staff is a priority. Please see the resources below from the Minnesota Department of Health.
  - <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/schools/attendance.pdf>
  - <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/schools/homescreen.pdf>
  - <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/schools/exguide.pdf>
- **Free School Meal Boxes for All Youth**- All families are invited to pick up free school meal boxes for their children. School meal boxes contain five breakfasts and five lunches and meet Minneapolis Public Schools Culinary & Wellness Services' (MPS CWS) high standards for nutrition and quality ingredients. In every box, children will find school favorites, whole grains,

fresh fruits, and vegetables. Milk is offered on the side, up to ten milk cartons per box.

- All youth 18 & under can participate.
- Youth do not need to be enrolled in MPS.
- Youth, parents, or siblings can pick up one box per child, per week.
- **Pick up at any of the 29 school sites** - no registration required.
- All sites are open Monday through Friday, most from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and a few have extended hours of 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

MPS is able to offer these free meal boxes to all children, 18 and under, through a short-term waiver issued August 31 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (read the USDA press release [here](#)). After that, MPS will continue to serve food to MPS students, and will keep the community informed of all changes that will take effect at that time.

For questions, please call 612-668-2820 or [contact us](#).

- **Technology Resources and Support** - If you have questions or need support with student devices, please go to this site <https://source.mpls.k12.mn.us/support-for-your-students>
- **Attendance** - During Distance Learning the top priority is that students are engaged in learning every day. As such, the definition of an absence is when a student, or parent/guardian for elementary students, does not have contact with the teacher on an instructional day. If your child will be absent, please notify the school by calling the attendance line at 612-668-3288.
- **School Spirit Fridays** - Celebrate your Burroughs Spirit every Friday. Encourage your children to wear our Burroughs Colors (navy blue and yellow) or any 'Burroughs Wear' they have.

## [Meet the Burroughs Staff](#)

**Kenza Sahir, Kindergarten Teacher** - Ms. Kenza is in her third year of teaching Kindergarten at Burroughs. She joined our team after completing her teaching residency at Bancroft Elementary School in Minneapolis. Prior to completing her

residency and licensure, Kenza worked as an Associate Educator for Minneapolis Public Schools. We are so happy to have Ms. Kenza as a part of the Burroughs team! She is passionate about teaching kindergarteners and her technology expertise has been a huge asset to our team during Distance Learning!

## Dates to Remember

- **Wednesday, November 25-27** - No School, Thanksgiving Holiday
- **Monday November 30** - Asynchronous learning day due to teacher curriculum planning
- **Friday, December 4** - Coffee with the Principal 9:30-10:30 am
- **Saturday, December 5** - MPS School Request Kick-off 10:00 am-12:30 pm
- **Tuesday, December 15** - Burroughs School Request Season Virtual Open House 6:00-7:00 pm