

Note from the Principal

April 16, 2019

Dear Families,

Let's hope the spring-like weather is here to stay! With last week's temperatures in the seventies on Monday and then a snow storm on Wednesday and Thursday, I think we are all ready to say good-bye to winter. It was great to reconnect with students, families, and staff last week! I've heard from many of your children about all of the fun and adventure that was had over spring break.

As always, Burroughs is a buzz with lots of activity as we get back into the swing of school and launch into the fourth quarter. This week, spring MCA and FAST testing began. In addition, the next few weeks are full of fun events including spring music concerts, the spring half price book fair, and the annual all school picnic.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the PTA and Jen Feriancek for bringing Mindfulness to Burroughs throughout the last three years. Our students, staff and families have learned a lot about Mindfulness -being aware of the present moment with kindness, and how to incorporate mindfulness tools into our daily lives. Ms. Jen wrapped up her work with us last week. Although she will no longer be at Burroughs teaching us about mindfulness, we will continue to incorporate what we have learned from her. If you have not already seen it, please check out our latest school-wide mindfulness project, the "Kindness Wall". This is a daily reminder of the importance of kindness in our lives.

Please make sure to check out the announcements and important dates below. As always, feel free to reach out to me with any questions that may arise.

Sincerely,
Ana Bartl
Principal

Meet the Burroughs Staff

Gena Pavek, Speech and Language - Ms. Pavek has worked with Minneapolis Public Schools for 20 years, as a Speech and Language Pathologist. She is originally from Canada and has also attended college and worked in North Dakota and Florida. She is married with 3 children and two dogs. Her passions include getting out and exploring nature, snow shoeing, music, yoga and having fun with her kids. At Burroughs she enjoys collaborating with staff and working with teams to create programs that bring out the best in students of all abilities. She hopes that her students learn as much from her as she does from them. She love and appreciates being part of the Burroughs COMMUNITY!

Instructional Insights

Procedural Fluency - The National Council for Teachers of Mathematics states the "Procedural Fluency is a critical component of mathematical proficiency." Procedural fluency refers to the ability to apply procedures accurately, efficiently, and flexibly. Students exhibit procedural fluency when they are able to transfer procedures to different problems and contexts, build or modify procedures from other procedures, and recognize when one strategy or procedure is more appropriate to apply than another (*Procedural Fluency in Mathematics*, NTCM 2014). The Singapore Math approach to mathematics instruction incorporates various strategies including number talks, number bonds, and ten frames to help students develop procedural fluency in mathematics.

Announcements

- **1st grade Spring Concert** - Due to the snow day last week the 1st grade concert has been rescheduled for Wednesday, April 24 at 9:30 am in the Cadotte Auditorium.
- **Report Cards** - 3rd Quarter report cards will be backpacked home between the end of this week or beginning of the week of April 22. Please reach out to your child's teacher with any questions about report cards.
- **Student Information Forms** - If you'd like to provide us with information about your child before we begin the process of creating classrooms for the 2019-20 school year, student information forms will be available in the main office beginning on April 8. We will be accepting these forms through April 26. These forms are **optional** and we do not accept requests for specific teachers.
- **Drop off Circle** - To ensure a safe arrival to and dismissal from school, please review the drop off circle procedures on our website at

http://burroughs.mpls.k12.mn.us/pick_up_drop_off. Please only use the drop off circle if you have students in kindergarten, 1st or 2nd grades.

Dates to Remember

- **April 16** - Site Council 5:00 pm, PTA 6:30 pm
- **April 18** - 2nd grade Spring Concert 9:30 am
- **April 24** - 1st grade Spring Concert 9:30 am
- **April 30** - Band/Orchestra Concert 6:30 pm
- **May 1** - All school picnic 6:00 pm
- **May 10** - Coffee with the Principal 9:30 am
- **May 16** - 3rd grade concert 9:30 am, 4th grade Parade of States 1:45 pm
- **May 21** - Site Council 5:00 pm
- **May 22** - Track and Field Day 9:45 am 3-5 grades, 1:00 pm 1-2 grades
- **May 23** - 4th grade concert 5:00 pm
- **May 30** - 5th grade concert 5:00 pm