

Note from the Principal

April 23, 2019

Dear Families,

Last week ended on such a beautiful note! It was wonderful to see so many students biking, walking, and scooting to school on Friday. I think it is finally safe to say that spring is here to stay!

Thank you to all who came out to the final PTA meeting of this school year last week! I am so grateful for the support that our PTA provides us. A special thank you to our PTA executive board and all of the committee leads for the extra time and effort you put in throughout the year. You play an integral role in making the Burroughs Community what it is. Also, a warm welcome to the new members of the PTA executive board. I am excited for the year ahead!

Our Spring concert series kicked off last Thursday with a fabulous performance by our second graders. This week our first graders will have the opportunity to take the stage on Wednesday to display their hard work and vocal talent. These concerts are a fun reminder of how talented our students and staff are. Thank you to Mr. Hensley and all of our classroom teachers for the work they do to help prepare our students for these events!

Spring testing is off to a great start! Students are working hard and putting forth their best effort to show what they know and what they have learned this school year. Although we know that these tests do not give us the whole picture of a child, they do provide us with some important information to help us make instructional and programmatic decisions.

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

Announcements

- **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.
- **Emergency Drills** - We will continue to conduct our required emergency drills throughout the spring. On Wednesday, April 24 in the afternoon, we will be conducting our third code red drill of the school year. A code red is called when there is a threat inside the building. The purpose of this drill is to ensure that staff and students know how to execute important safety procedures in the event that we would have a situation at school that would require us to secure the building via a lockdown. Staff has been notified of the drill and instructed to review the procedures of a 'code red' with their students. Please go to this link http://emss.mpls.k12.mn.us/uploads/a_parents_guide_to_what_we_do.pdf for more information about Minneapolis Public Schools Emergency procedures. You may also want to take a few minutes to discuss emergency procedures/drill with your children.

Meet the Burroughs Staff

Alyssa Kuhlman, 2nd grade -Mrs. Kuhlman has been teaching in Minneapolis Public Schools for 9 years and this is her 5 year in 2nd grade at Burroughs. Mrs. Kuhlman loves teaching and learning and has a particular passion for teaching reading and literacy. She has her master's degree in Elementary Reading and Literacy and is certified in Montessori education. She lives in Bloomington with her husband and two children. When Mrs. Kuhlman is not at school, she loves spending time with her family, playing with her kids, reading books and gardening.

Instructional Insights

Computational Fluency - The National Council for Teachers of Mathematics refers to computational fluency as the ability to have efficient and accurate methods for computing. In addition to producing accurate answers efficiently, students who demonstrate computational fluency, are able to be flexible with the computational methods they choose and are able to demonstrate an understanding of these methods and have the ability to explain these methods. It's more than just speed! (*Fluency: Simply Fast and Accurate? I Think Not!*, NTCM 2012). The Singapore Math approach incorporates mental math strategies to support the development of computation fluency in mathematics.

Dates to Remember

- **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