

Note from the Principal

February 12, 2019

Dear Families,

I hope everyone had a safe and warm surprise long weekend! The weather the last couple of weeks has been crazy. We had a great turn out on Saturday for our community reading event and yesterday for National African American Parent Involvement Day and the Read-a-thon opening ceremony. Thank you to all who helped to coordinate these events and to all who joined us to spend a day in the life of your children.

In honor of Black History month, grade level teams and specialist classrooms engage students in a variety of activities this month and throughout the school year to teach our students about important people, events, accomplishments and contributions of African Americans to our history and culture. Check out classroom newsletters or contact your child's teacher to learn more about how our students are engaged in learning about African American History.

This week and next are short yet busy weeks. For students, the long weekends coming up are a great opportunity to read, read, read - earning minutes for the read-a-thon. For teachers and parents, Thursday evening and Friday are another opportunity to check in on the progress of our children. We look forward to seeing many of you at conferences.

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

Instructional Insights

Reading Fluency- Fluency is one of the five pillars of literacy and in MPS is an important component of our approach to reading instruction. Fluency is the ability to read a text accurately and quickly. Fluent readers recognize words automatically and are able to group words quickly to help them gain meaning from what they are reading. Children can become more fluent readers by having models of fluent reading and by reading text passages repeatedly with guidance (Key Components of Reading Instruction - Minneapolis Elementary Literacy Framework). For more on fluency instruction and other components of reading instruction please see this link

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B2uurRrQi2cqaC1uWlowYWQtYjg/view>.

Meet the Burroughs Staff

Michael Templeton, 2nd grade Teacher - This is Mr. Templeton's third year on staff at Burroughs. He has been teaching in Minneapolis since 1996 and has taught grades 1-3, with the majority of those years teaching 2nd grade. Mr. Templeton received both his BS and MEd from the University of Minnesota. He is passionate about helping students become the best that they can be. Mr. Templeton is committed to providing a safe environment in which children will learn to discover and develop hidden gifts, take risks in communicating with others, assume responsibility for his/her own learning, and apply the necessary citizenship skills they'll need to help them be confident and competent in our increasingly global community.

Announcements

- **Winter Conferences** - Winter Conferences are coming up on Thursday, February 14 from 4:00-8:00 pm and on Friday, February 15 from 8:00 am-4:00 pm. Please use this link <https://tinyurl.com/BurroughsWinter2019> to sign up for a time slot to meet with your child(rens) teacher (s).
- **Strategic Planning Committee** - In February we will be convening a strategic planning committee. If you are interested in participating on this committee, please complete an application. The application can be found at http://burroughs.mpls.k12.mn.us/burroughs_visioning_notes
- **Family Budget Survey** - School budget season will soon be upon us. Your input is important to us! Please use this link, <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VKM2Z2G>, to take a short survey to provide

us with input that will help guide us as we make budget decisions for the 2019-20 school year.

Dates to Remember

- **February 14-15** Winter Conferences
- **February 18** NO SCHOOL President's Day
- **February 19** Site Council 5:00 pm
- **February 28** - Strategic Planning Committee Meeting 6:00-8:00 pm
- **March 7** - 1st Grade Music concert 9:30 am
- **March 8** - Coffee with the Principal 9:30-10:30 am
- **March 19** - Site Council 5:00-6:30 pm, PTA 6:30-8:00 pm
- **March 21** - 2nd Grade concert 9:30 am
- **March 20** - Read-a-thon closing ceremony 9:30 am
- **March 28** - Last day of the 3rd Quarter
- **March 29** - No School Record Keeping Day
- **April 1-5** - No school Spring Break