

Note from the Principal

February 19, 2019

Dear Families,

I hope everyone enjoyed the long President's Day weekend! It was great to see so many families at conferences and thank you to our PTA for providing our teachers with a delicious lunch and snacks on Friday!

With all of the days off over the last couple of weeks, the start of the 2nd semester has been challenging from the perspective of continuity. I believe I can speak for our teachers, when I say that we are all looking forward to a solid stretch of uninterrupted school weeks to close out February and move through March.

Thank you to all who took the time to take the budget survey we sent out and to share your thoughts regarding the programming we provide for our students here at Burroughs. We value your input and your feedback will help to guide our decision making as we begin to plan for next school year.

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

Vocabulary- Vocabulary refers to the words we must know to communicate effectively. Vocabulary can be described as oral vocabulary or reading vocabulary. Oral vocabulary refers to the words we use in speaking or recognize in hearing. Reading vocabulary refers to words we recognize or use in print. Vocabulary plays an important part in learning to read. Vocabulary also is very important to reading comprehension. Readers cannot understand what they are reading without knowing what most of the words mean. Four types of vocabulary are referred to in the literature:

- Listening Vocabulary-the words we need to know to understand what we hear;
- Speaking Vocabulary-the words we use when we speak;
- Reading Vocabulary-the words we need to know to understand what we read; and
- Writing Vocabulary-the words we use in writing.

(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

Joe Janssen, 2nd grade Teacher - Mr. Janssen has been a first and second grade teacher in the Minneapolis School District since 1995. He is married to Colleen and has two children, Nathan and Meghan. Mr. Janssen believes it is important for the children to develop a love of learning. He hopes to do this each year by creating a positive classroom climate. He views his job as knowing the curriculum and presenting it through interesting lessons. He also believes in the importance of modeling respectful behavior to all living things.

Announcements

- **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 deadline has been extended to Friday, February 22. The application can be found at http://burroughs.mpls.k12.mn.us/burroughs_visioning_notes
- **Important date changes** - 1st and 2nd grade music concerts have been rescheduled. The 1st grade concert will be on Thursday, April 11 at 9:30 am and the 2nd grade concert will be on Thursday, April 18 at 9:30 am. In addition, our

Read-a-thon closing Ceremony is scheduled for Wednesday, March 20 at 9:30 am. My apologies for any inconvenience these changes may have caused.

Dates to Remember

- **February 19** Site Council 5:00 pm
- **February 28** - Strategic Planning Committee Meeting 6:00-8:00 pm
- **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 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