

## Note from the Principal

### January 15, 2019

Dear Families,

We had a busy week last week with MIA fieldtrips, auditions for the read-a-thon skit, and the 5<sup>th</sup> grade spelling bee, and FAST Testing.

As we begin to wrap up the first semester of the school year, we have another opportunity to reset and reflect on our progress and goals for this school year. In many of our classrooms students were engaged this week in setting goals or making resolutions for the New Year. This habit of goal setting and reflection support our student's development into becoming responsibly independent human beings who will experience social and academic success.

The New Year also reminds us that it is time to start thinking ahead to next school year. In the coming weeks and months I look forward to engaging with families to gather input and insight as we begin to plan for the 2019-20 school year. Your input is crucial as we determine our community priorities and continue our work towards living out our mission:

*Our mission is a commitment to inspire all students to be College, Career and Life Ready, well-educated with a sense of determination, bravery and the capacity to fulfill their aspirations. Burroughs students will be Global Citizens who give back to society and continue to be life-long learners.*

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

Sincerely,

Ana Bartl  
Principal

## Instructional Insights

**Student Goal-Setting and Self-Reflection** - Goal-setting and reflection are powerful learning tools. Teaching children how to set goals and providing them the opportunity to set their own learning goals is an important strategy to support student success in school and in life. Research shows that by setting goals students can improve their academic performance, increase their motivation to achieve, increase pride and satisfaction in performance and improve their self-confidence. This video clip shows an example of how a classroom can incorporate goal-setting <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yiFWPd1PJZc>.

## Meet the Burroughs Staff

**Jake Knaus, STEM Teacher** - Mr. Knaus returned to us this year as our STEM specialist after being on sabbatical. This is Mr. Knaus' 11<sup>th</sup> year teaching at Burroughs and in that time he has taught Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grades. Last school year Mr. Knaus was on sabbatical finishing up his coursework for a doctorate in Curriculum and Instruction at the University of Minnesota. We are so lucky to have him back at Burroughs and in this new role! Mr. Knaus is a Minneapolis native and alumni of Minneapolis Public School. He has a bachelor's degree in Political Science and Spanish from Gustavus Alophus College and earned his Master's degree and teaching credentials from the University of St. Thomas. Mr. Knaus lives near Burroughs with his wife and two children. In addition to teaching and spending time with his family Mr. Knaus likes to run, play soccer, play with his family's 6 chickens and their dog, and play his guitar.

## Announcements

- **Spelling Bee** - Congratulations to our Spelling Bee Finalists! Ilsa Beck: 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Will Cherveny: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Jacob Rowell: 3<sup>rd</sup> Place.
- **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](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.
- **Winter Weather Attire**- As the weather turns colder, please make sure that your children are coming to school with appropriate attire to be outside for

recess and P.E. Coats, hats, mittens/gloves, and snow boots are important to keep kids safe and having fun when it is cold outside.

- **Drop-off Circle** -The drop off circle is for families of students in K-2 grades only. Please do not park in the drop off circle or in the designated handicap drop off/pick up area at any time. **Please drive slowly, pull all the way up, adults stay in the car, and students exit the car from the passenger side only.** Safety is our number one priority at arrival and dismissal. In order to ensure safety for all of our students it is important that we work together to follow these guidelines. [http://burroughs.mpls.k12.mn.us/pick\\_up\\_drop\\_off](http://burroughs.mpls.k12.mn.us/pick_up_drop_off).

### Dates to Remember

- **Tuesday, January 15** - Site Council 5:00, PTA 6:30 pm
- **Monday, January 21** - No School MLK Jr. Day
- **Wednesday, January 23** - 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Ends
- **Thursday, January 24 - 25** No School Teacher PD and Record Keeping Day
- **Wednesday, January 30** - Read-a-thon Opening Ceremony 9:30
- **February 4-8** Ice week in P.E.
- **February 11** National African American Parent Involvement Day
- **February 14-15** Winter Conferences
- **February 18** NO SCHOOL President's Day
- **February 19** Site Council