

## Note from the Principal

June 6, 2017

Dear Families,

I can hardly believe this is my final note of this school year. What a year it has been! I thank you all for your support and encouragement throughout this year. I have learned so much, enjoyed getting to know you and your children better, and am so grateful for how you have welcomed me and Ms. Woods into the Burroughs community. We feel so lucky that you share your beautiful children with us every day!

In the 'Instructional Insights' section this week, I am highlighting our district's literacy framework. Minneapolis Public Schools has spent this year researching, piloting, and vetting literacy curricula. On June 13<sup>th</sup> the school board will vote to approve the adoption of our new pre K-5 literacy curriculum. This summer our teachers along with myself and Ms. Woods will have the opportunity to learn about this curriculum and how to implement it with our students. I am proud to say that Ms. Woods and Mrs. Manes participated on the district's steering committee as related to this adoption. Their participation is an asset to our community as their expertise will be crucial in helping to lead this new learning and implementation at our school.

I look forward to our continued work together next year and wish you all an amazing summer!

Sincerely,  
Ana Bartl  
Principal

## Instructional Insights

**Balanced Literacy Approach** - The MPS K-5 Literacy Framework is a balanced literacy approach using Reader's and Writer's Workshop. This approach is an integrated and comprehensive standards-based literacy program for all elementary students. A Language Skills Block allows a teacher the opportunity to target specific language skills. This approach seeks to find an appropriate balance of all components and elements of literacy instruction. For the purposes of the MPS Literacy Framework, balanced literacy includes an articulation of grade level standards for reading, writing, speaking and listening that utilizes the instructional strategies below:

- Modeled reading and writing ("to" students)
- Shared reading and writing ("with" students)
- Guided reading and writing

Regardless of the literacy curriculum that is adopted by Minneapolis Public Schools, it is through balanced literacy approach that the instruction will be delivered to students.

## Announcements

- **Music Teacher** - We are excited to welcome our new music teacher, Michael Hensley, who will be joining our music team along with Mr. Carrick. Mr. Hensley has been a music teacher in the district for more than ten years and comes to us from Pillsbury Elementary School in Minneapolis.
- **Change for a Change** - This year's campaign raised \$1,205.58 for PAB's Packs. Thank you to the 4<sup>th</sup> grade students who organized this successful campaign!
- **James Avenue**- For the safety of all students, if you drop off or pick up on James Ave., please do so at bus sign #8, closer to the bridge. Children can walk to the building from there. Also, please do not pull into the loading dock driveway to turn around.
- **Drop off Circle** - The drop circle is for families with children in grades k-2 only. Please review the procedures at [http://burroughs.mpls.k12.mn.us/pick\\_up\\_drop\\_off](http://burroughs.mpls.k12.mn.us/pick_up_drop_off).

## Dates to Remember

- **Monday, June 5 and Tuesday, June 6**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Grade to Lowry Nature Center
- **Wednesday, June 7- Friday, 9**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Overnights at Voyageur Environmental Center

- **Tuesday, June 13**  
9:45 am - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion Ceremony  
4<sup>th</sup> Grade Choir will perform
- **Wednesday, June 14 Last Day of School**  
5<sup>th</sup> Grade Picnic  
1:30 Kindergarten Program