

## Note from the Principal

### September 11, 2018

Dear Families,

It was great to see so many of you at curriculum nights last week!

Some common themes I heard across grade levels during curriculum nights were the importance of relationships, establishing classroom and school wide rituals and routines, meeting individual student's needs through differentiated instruction, and providing all students with meaningful and rigorous learning experiences that are engaging and promote academic and social growth.

As autumn approaches, your students will be settling into their learning routines. Your support at home is crucial to your child's success at school. Please ask your children to tell you about what they are learning at school each day. We encourage you to build reading into your nightly routines, whether children are reading independently, you are reading to them or you are listening to them read. Such routines will support our children in developing academic skills as well as encourage a love of learning.

Our first PTA meeting of the school year is coming up on Tuesday, September 25 at 6:30. We have many, fun PTA sponsored events coming up this fall and could use all of the help we can get. Attending PTA meetings is a great way to stay informed about what is going on in the Burroughs community, get involved, as well as connect with others. We are grateful for all that our PTA does for our students!

Please feel free to reach out by phone, email, or in person, with any questions that may arise.

Sincerely,

Ana Bartl  
Principal

## Instructional Insights

**Equity** - Equity along with Social Emotional Learning and Multi-Tiered Systems of support has been declared a district priority for Minneapolis Public Schools. "Educational equity" means raising the achievement of all students while narrowing the gaps between the lowest and highest performing students, and eliminating the racial or cultural predictability and disproportionality of which student groups occupy the highest and lowest achievement categories including rates of graduation.

At Burroughs, Equity is directly aligned with our mission of inspiring all students to be College, Career, and Life Ready as well as well-educated, global citizens who give back to society. Our goal is to create an environment where adult behaviors are concentrated on the elimination of gaps, particularly those predicated on a student's race, ethnicity, home language, personal characteristics or culture, and on assurance of educational equity between students.

## Announcements

- **Fall Assessments** - On Wednesday, October 12 we will begin administering FAST assessment in both reading and math for grades 1-5. Teachers use this information as one baseline data point to inform their instruction and design classroom experiences that meet the learning needs of all students. As a school we use the data we gain from screener assessments such as the FAST to look at academic growth and to help us make programmatic decisions that are in the best interest of our students. Teachers will be sharing individual results of these assessments with families at Fall Conferences in mid-October. More information on the FAST assessments can be found at [www.fastbridge.org](http://www.fastbridge.org).
- **Family Calendar Handbook** - Family Calendar Handbooks will be ready and sent home with student in mid-September. Until then, please refer to our website for dates and times of school events
- **School Spirit Fridays** - Celebrate your Burroughs Spirit every Friday. Encourage your children to wear our Burroughs Colors (navy and yellow) or any 'Burroughs Wear' they have.
- **Breakfast** - School breakfast is available and free of charge on a daily basis for any student who would like it. At 8:55 am students are released from the atrium. To go to breakfast and/or their classrooms. If a student is having breakfast they go to the cafeteria to pick up the food and then take it to their classrooms to eat.
- **Coffee with the Principal** - Beginning in October, I will be hosting 'Coffee with the Principal' on the second Friday of each month from 9:30-10:30. This will be an opportunity to connect with myself and others in the community throughout the year.

- **Community Visioning Event** - Thank you to all who came out to be a part of this conversation on June 14 and August 16! I am feeling inspired and energized by the conversations. We will be holding one final input gathering event on Thursday, October 11 from 6:00-8:00pm. This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with others in our community and provide input into what we envision for our school community over the next 3-5 years. If you were/are unable to attend the event in person, and would like to provide input, please use this link to share your ideas using this link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7NF3X9D>.

## Meet the Burroughs Staff

**Kim Galloway, Special Education Resource Teacher** - Kim has worked for Minneapolis Public Schools as a special education teacher and most recently as a District Program Facilitator in the Special Education department. Kim brings a wealth of knowledge and experience working with students and families to ensure that academic and social emotional needs are met in the school environment. She is enjoying her new role as a member of the Burroughs team and loves collaborating with classroom teachers to support the success of all students.

## Dates to Remember

- **Tuesday, September 18** - School Pictures
- **Tuesday, September 25** - PTA Meeting 6:30 pm
  
- **Tuesday, October 2** - Mindfulness Family Night 6:00-7:30 pm
- **Saturday, October 6** - Book Fair 11:00am-2:00pm
- **Saturday, October 13**- Campus Clean Up (Times to be determined)
- **Tuesday, October 16** - Conferences 4:00-8:00pm
- **Wednesday, October 17** - Conferences 8:00am-4:00pm (No School Students)
- **Thursday, October 18** - No School
- **Friday, October 19** - No School