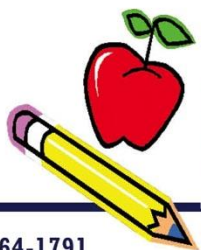


FRIDAY



FLASH

EDMUNDS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

299 Main St, Burlington, VT 05401 • 864-1791

Date and Volume Number

From the Principal's Desk

I want to thank all who communicated with the district through the survey on our website or through one of your representatives about the needs of our schools as they relate to the budget. Whatever your position, it is important for our School Board to get the pulse of our community. We all recognize that the sample of respondents is not fully representative of the community, as those without children in our schools may have been unaware of it, but it at least gave a feel for the level of support among those most closely associated with the work of our schools.

The research I did as a Doctoral candidate was to examine the impact of cumulative per pupil investment on student test scores. This work was based on my curiosity about a problem I saw in processes that was based in the difference between education and manufacturing. Now I know that many would be horrified that I would even equate the two, but the reality is, that process is process - regardless of what you are doing. The trick is to adapt a process to the specific problem or task at hand. Manufacturing pays close attention to every step to insure that parts progressing through a process, meet the specifications needed. Cutting a length of wood for a table or chair is an early step in the process, but if the leg is too short or too long, the product's quality is impacted. Continuing to add processes like sanding, painting and finishing to a table leg that's the wrong length, is costly and results in waste. Continuing to push a child beyond their level of preparation without giving additional assistance results in them falling farther behind, and needing even more assistance while they lose confidence and engagement in their own education.

When I entered education, I saw the parallels between the concepts of quality and how the manufacturing idea applied to education. I looked at why education did what it did and I realized that part of the problem was in the way our systems were designed and how funding was allocated. More dollars are allocated to children as they are closer in age to the work force, (13% more per pupil for High School than elementary school) ignoring the fact that the work done in the beginning lays the foundation for the ability of the students to progress at high levels of quality.

I was puzzled that research on education funding indicated that dollars did not have an impact on education test scores, until I looked at the methods the economists applied. The economists' methods were flawed. They looked only at per pupil investments in the same year as

January 26, 2018

Up Coming Events:

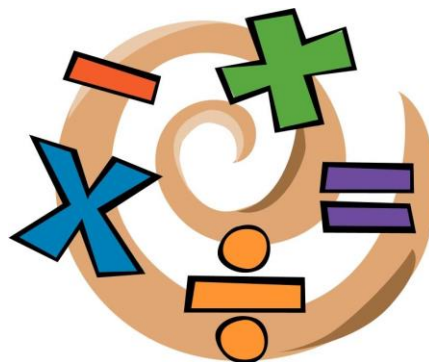
- Jan. 27: Math Night - 5:00 - 7:00 PM
- Feb. 9: PACK THE GUTT - 7:00 PM
- Feb. 15: Fine Arts Night (Grades 3-5) - 6:00 PM
- Feb. 23: Reports Cards Go Home

Whole School Assembly
February 1, 2018
Food Audit Results!
Chittenden Solid Waste District

(cont)

test scores, as if students magically were able to read, write and do math all in one year. There was no recognition that the ability to read the tests or knowledge of numeracy or computational skills required for math tests, were supported by investment over several years before any tests were given. I looked at scores for 4th, 8th and 10th grades for 1355 students in 56 Vermont schools and investments made from first through eighth grade (Kindergarten is not required by the state so financial information was not included) and found that the gap in test scores grew over time as they related to the level of investments made. If you are interested in learning more, go to this link on [Spending and Student Achievement: Money Matters When Equity is at Issue](#). My conclusion? Money matters. And it matters early on.

Reminder!
Math Night is
Tomorrow 5 - 7 PM!



LOVE YOUR LIBRARY!

February is **Love Your Library** month at EES and this year we are excited to offer a reading challenge to all of our students called "**Read for the Gold!**" This year's race will have a winter Olympics theme and our students will be reading and speed skating their way to the finish line! From February 1 through the 21st, students will record the amount of time they spend reading outside of school and we will tally each classroom's total to see which class reads the most during the month. Progress will be recorded on the library bulletin board speed skating oval with each class having their own speed skater racing to the finish line! Your child will be bringing a letter home that gives more details about the race along with coupons to record their reading time. Please look over the letter and help your child to remember to fill out the coupons and return them to school. We are looking forward to a fun reading event and thank you for your support! Kathy Neil, EES Librarian

CHORUS NEWS

The EES Chorus will be performing at the Discover Jazz Festival in June. We have a number of other performances and are planning to make a video of our work this semester too! Our goal is to get a tee-shirt for every chorus member so we look as great as we sound; please consider sending in a few extra dollars to sponsor another singer if you are able. Tee-shirts are \$10.00 each; scholarships are available. We will use the same design next year so order with room for fourth graders to grow into them. Please send in order forms with your singers by the end of next week! See the order form [here](#).

FINE ARTS NIGHT

3-5 Fine Arts Night is scheduled for Thursday, February 15th at 6:00PM. This is great opportunity for families to see the wonderful work that happens in art and music at EES!

PTO NEWS

PTO LEADERS: Leigh Fisher, Jenny Sullivan and Rachel Shelley **PTO CONTACT:** pto@eespto.org

BOX TOP\$ = PIZZA PARTY!!

Each classroom now has their very own pizza box to hold all those will be treated to a pizza party!

IT'S NOT TOO LATE! RSVP THIS SATURDAY!!!, JAN.27th

The Edmunds Elementary PTO is sponsoring the 10th Annual Family Math Night. FREE!!!! PIZZA, MATH, Family FUN!!!! FREE!! We're Bringing back PIZZA at 5:00.

Join us for FREE pizza in the First Grade Hallway before Math night begins.

RSVP by sending an email to Rachel Shelley (rachskye@gmail.com) including your child's name, grade level and number of people attending.