

FRIDAY



FLASH

EDMUNDS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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

Date and Volume Number

From the Principal's Desk

February 15, 2019

Have you ever thought about what makes Edmunds Elementary what it is? The sense of community and the happy climate here has a lot to do with the way our parents support our school community. We have counted over 300 people in one year who have volunteered in one way or another. Most of our volunteers are working parents and need to balance work, childcare, and volunteering.

The EES PTO, currently lead by **Jenny Sullivan, Stacey Kelleher and Pam Moreau** does a great deal towards making the EES climate better for all. It starts in the Spring with the planning for next year, setting up the calendar for the favorite activities, from Tours of the School, New Kindergarten Parent Mentoring, Greenup and Ice Cream Social the day before the first day of school, Room Parents, Thankful Thursday, the Back to School BBQ, Coat Swap, Math Night, Skate Night, Multicultural Night, No Frills Fundraiser, Coffee Sales, the Spring Play and we can't forget Mayfair! While some of these things are fundraisers, many are not. Instead, they are opportunities for parents to meet each other and the families of their children's friends.

Our PTO co-chairs have understood the importance of spreading the work so that many can contribute and the load isn't too heavy for anyone. Thankfully, no one has to reinvent the wheel. The PTO has also had the wisdom to capture the knowledge gained in how to organize and run the events over the years. They have a binder with the information regarding how to set up and run each event. That means that the quality is good from one year to the next. For example, Mayfair has been a successful event for close to two decades.

The importance of new people picking up the banner of leadership or volunteering to take on the chairmanship of one event cannot be underestimated. Relying on "someone else doing it" isn't a safe assumption. If we all think that way, it ends up with no one doing it. We lose that which we love about EES for our kids and our family. The fact is that many people are willing to volunteer at Edmunds. There is never a need for a handful of people to do all the work. The Chairs' work is more about giving people an assignment of work that needs to be done, whether flipping burgers, dishing out pizza, hanging up coats, or

Up Coming Events:

Feb. 20 - Fine Arts Night Grades 3, 4 & 5

Feb. 22 - Report Cards Go Home

Feb. 25 - Mar. 4: Winter Break

Whole School Assembly
March 7, 2019
Edmunds Elementary Song
Ms. Nolan Leading

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making some portion of a costume. All efforts are valued. The coordination of those efforts is important and that is the primary role of the committee chairs and the PTO Leaders. Our current chairs have given a lot and are ready to hand the reigns to a new team for 2019-20. I know that there are plenty of capable people in our community who can help out and I ask that you think about taking on one of the roles of the PTO. I promise you that your efforts will be rewarding and will make a difference within our community. If you are one who sees the benefit to your children and have time.



PTO NEWS

PTO LEADERS: Jenny Sullivan, Pam Moreau and Stacey Kelleher. **PTO CONTACT:** pto@eespto.org



SEEKING MAYFAIR SILENT AUCTION DONATIONS

Though Spring feels a lifetime away right now, it will come, and with it, our beloved Mayfair celebration! We are beginning to gather names of potential donors for the Mayfair Silent Auction. Are you a local business owner? Do you have a favorite business, artist or crafter you might recommend for us to solicit donations or that you yourself could ask? We need your help to make this year's auction extra exciting. Donations can be in the form of gift cards or merchandise. With many schools and charitable organizations seeking donations, any personal connections would be super helpful. Please email Stacey Kelleher at staceyhk1568@yahoo.com with your suggestions and to let us know if you might be available to help with the Silent Auction.

FROM THE COMMUNITY

The COTS Walk is almost here!

Kicking off from Battery Park, the COTS Walk is a 3.5-mile journey around Burlington, visiting COTS program and shelter spaces.

This is the one day of the year when we invite you to see firsthand how your support makes a difference in our community. Register Today by [clicking here](#).