FRIDAY

299 Main St, Burlington, VT 05401 • 864-1791 From the Principal's Desk

You should have received a message from Superintendent Obeng via School Messenger regarding the incident on a bus on Thursday, of last week. My responsibilities lie in how to work with students as a result of the incident. One of the issues of importance is that some students felt that they had been racially targeted. We must do more to explore this with students and our community and will.

Behaviors of some students on the bus were of concern, as they were not in accordance with school expectations, and they impacted other passengers and the driver, who is responsible for the safety of the passengers, pedestrians and other motorists on the road.

We have spent time this year working on Restorative Practices, which provides opportunities to have open, honest conversations. This process enables us to help our students learn to be more introspective about a situation and their role in situations including those resulting in harm.

Introspection is important, as is hearing from another perspective. For example, our students don't drive yet. Would it be beneficial for the students to calmly listen to a bus driver explain how their ability to focus on driving a bus is impacted when behaviors are excessively disruptive? Some students may want to blow off steam by being raucous and extremely loud with each other at the end of the school day. Other students may be exhausted and would prefer a calm, quiet ride home. Would behaviors improve if students and drivers were able to come to a mutual agreement about behaviors that work for all parties on the bus? Would they be more empathetic to the students who are frightened by behaviors or the sheer volume of noise? Having an opportunity to think how one's actions impact others is really helpful in developing introspection and a better understanding about the possible motivation of another.

GROW with DIGNITY

Date and Volume Number

FLASH

May 31, 2019 Up Coming Events:

June 11: 5th Grade Tribute, 6:00 PM June 13: Last Day of School – 11:30 Dismissal

Whole School Assembly June 6, 2019 Kindergarten/Fifth Grade Flower Ceremony Ms. Nolan Leading

HELP! WE NEED BOXES!

Several of our teachers are moving into different classrooms over the summer. If you have any boxes you'd like to donate to the cause, we'd be happy to take them off your hands! We've purchased some moving boxes, but we're going to need a whole lot more. We'll be collecting and storing the boxes in room 108, so if you bring some in, just drop them off in there! Thank you in advance for any help you can give us!



LIBRARY BOOKS DUE!

Books are due back to our library by Monday, June 3rd. Please help your child return his/her library books on time. Notices of what books your child has checked out are sent home weekly. If you don't know if your child has books out, please contact Mrs. Neil at the library (kneil@bsdvt.org) for this information. Thank you for your help in getting our books back so others can enjoy them again next year!

PTO NEWS

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

EES 5TH GRADE NORTH BEACH PARTY -

Monday, June 10, 10:15 to 1:15. We will order pizza but would like help with games, drinks and paper goods. We will be sending out a sign-up genie for each event soon.

EES 5TH GRADE CELEBRATION OF LEARNING

Tuesday, June 11 at 6:00 – 7:30 pm.

Kids should arrive by 5:45. Families welcome! Ceremony - EMS gym. Reception - EES gym

PHOTOS!

We are collecting photos of 5th Graders when they were kindergarten age. You only need to send in 1 photo. If you haven't already done so, please send in 1 photo as soon as possible. Please either give the photo to your teacher or email it to Pam Moreau at pmoreaulawvt@gmail.com. Thank you!