FRIDAY

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

EES' trip to watch the UVM Women's Hockey Game at Pack the Gutt, is coming up and I felt myself tearing up a bit to think it would be my last time with our school attending that event. There are probably some who wonder why EES has partnered with the UVM Women's Ice Hockey Team. In some ways, it goes way back to when I was growing up as a girl. My older brother was a quarterback and I often practiced with him. I was bigger and could punt, pass and kick as well as he if not better. I was not allowed to participate in the annual Punt, Pass and Kick Competitions because I was a girl. My high school awarded Varsity letters, but only to the boys despite having a Girls Basketball, Tennis, and Gymnastics Team.

People talk about remembering where they were when certain historic events happen, like the moon landing. I remember exactly where I was when I heard about the passage of Title IX in 1973. The law provides equal access to sports to girls and women in schools, colleges and universities. I remember thinking I was glad for the women and girls who came after me, but it was too late for me. I was wrong thinking that Title IX wouldn't have any impact on me because it opened up opportunities for my daughters, one of who captained her basketball and soccer teams. I started playing Ice Hockey when I was 47. In 2012, I was the goalie for Vintage Vermont, when we won the USA Hockey National Championship for Women's Rec 50 and Over. We were coached by a woman who had grown up playing sports through college, and had benefited from Title IX.

When I started attending UVM Women's and Men's Ice Hockey games I was disturbed by the disparity in attendance; 3-4,000 for the men, 2-300 for the women. The level of skill and play was comparable, as were the win/loss records. I recognized a parallel between attitudes towards women as contributors of value to society and attendance at women's sporting events, where a stereotype continues to plague girls and women who are training and playing just as hard as their male counterparts. The reality is, that the attendance and attitudes towards the value of women athletes is directly related to attitudes regarding jobs, most promotions, executive positions, seats on boards and



GROW with DIGNITY

Whole School Assembly January 23, 2020 Math Night Ms. McMorris' Class Leading

importantly, pay. I wanted to do something to change attitudes and saw the opportunity in bringing our students to the UVM Women's Games to support the players. 2012 was our first year attending a game and over 600 members of the EES community participated; students, parents, siblings, faculty and staff. Everyone saw that girls play hard, they are highly skilled, aggressive and very competitive. Seeing women play hard and skillfully was important for our girls AND boys.

The BHS Girls Soccer Team was in the news this fall for their support of the USA Women's Soccer team with the #EqualPay shirts and I applaud their effort, and to continue the work of change; we need to support women by showing up and recognizing them for their work. I hope to see as many as possible join us on Friday, February 7 at 6:00 at the Gutterson Field House to watch UVM women play UCONN for Pack the Gutt for my 9th and final year with EES.



Friday Flash



Kindergarten registration is now open. We would love everyone's help in alerting your friends and neighbors who have children who will be 5 by September 1 (or you think might be). This will be especially important for those friends who will be first time parents in education. Next Thursday, **January 23**, **there is a Kindergarten Sneak Peek Pizza party from 5:30 to 6:30**. This is a time for potential K families to come to EES and visit the classrooms, meet the teachers and visit with current Kindergarten families to hear about their experiences with EES. There will be a story time and time to play. Please help us get the word out to families about that as well. RSVP to <u>askPTO@qmail.com</u>

EES COMMUNITY DINNER AND FAMILY DANCE

This event is Wednesday, January 22nd **5:45 pm-7:00** pm and is open to all EES families. The evening features a free dinner to all who come, followed by a Community Dance of traditional folk dances from a variety of cultures. No experience necessary! Some of the dances will be accompanied by members of the EES community thanks to the support of our community partner, Mark Sustic and Young Traditions Vermont.

4th and 5th graders have been signing up for volunteer jobs for this event. Parents are invited to help out too! Sign-up <u>here</u> if you are available to help!



PTO LEADERS: Kim Brockway, Kimberly Price & Stacey Kelleher PTO CONTACT: askeespto@gmail.com

Page 2

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25th, 5:00-7:00 PM

The Edmunds Elementary PTO is sponsoring the 12th Annual Family Math Night. Explore the wonders of math with your children and let them show you what they are learning. A variety of activities, math centers and home learning activities will be available for children of all ages, such as graphing, chess, games using dice and playing cards and many other fun activities. Prizes, pizza, desserts and drinks too! We will have National Honor Society students from BHS to help facilitate games so that parents can fully enjoy the night with their children. **RSVP** by sending an email to Rachel Shelley (rachskye@gmail.com) including your child's name, grade

(<u>rachskye@gmail.com</u>) including your child s name, grade level and number of people attending.



FROM THE COMMUNITY

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. COMMUNITY CELEBRATION ECHO Leahy Science Center – Free admission January 20 @ 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

