

The Buzz



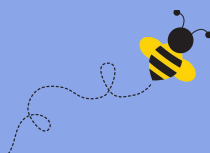
A Message from our Principal, Bonnie Johnson-Aten

Hi EES Families!

Welcome back! I hope that everyone had a relaxing and restful break. The reports from our EES scholars have been positive about their time away. It was quite a week to be away. As you know, Derek Chauvin, the police officer who murdered George Floyd, was found guilty. This is unusual because, in many cases, police are not convicted of murder after killing people. Of approximately 15,000 killings of civilians by police, there have only been seven other convictions.

The guilty decision made all the media. Since we weren't at school, we knew that our students might have an increased awareness of the national event. Given the potential impact on our students of color, as well as their friends and allies, I asked teachers to spend some time this past week providing space to address student questions. While I know some folks may think our students are too young to discuss issues of race, the research is clear students are aware of race issues. As educators we must do our part to support all our students.

Mrs. J-A



Upcoming Dates & Events:

- EVERY WEDNESDAY till the end of the year, dismissal at 11:30
- May 3 thru 7 - Teacher Appreciation Week
- May 7 - School Lunch Hero Day
- May 7 - 5:00-6:00pm - Asian, Asian-America, Pacific Islanders and white parents of Asian children affinity group
- May 10 - SBAC Testing Begins for Students in Grades 3-5
- May 31 - Memorial Day, No School
- June 15 - 11:30am - Last day of school

Next week is National Teacher appreciation week. EES teachers have worked long and hard and we will be honoring them throughout the month for their unwavering dedication to our scholars. Feel free to show your appreciation.

Welcome back Joanna Elliott! We are happy to have our amazing art teacher back in the building.



Morning Routine Reminders!

A thank you and gentle reminder that there is no supervision on school grounds prior to 7:45 and that students are not permitted in the building until 8:00 a.m.. Please drop off your child as close to 8:00 as possible, Your help with this is greatly appreciated!



Bring your Water Bottles to School!

As our temperatures are climbing, a reminder that the water fountains are still closed, but the water bottle filling stations aren't; so remember to bring your water bottles!

Middle School Summer Program

The Burlington & Winooski School Districts, in partnership with the Sara Holbrook Community Center, are excited to offer the 2021 Middle School Summer Program, free of charge, to all incoming 6th - 9th graders of the Burlington & Winooski School Districts. For program details and to register your student, click on the following links! [Program Details](#), [Registration Form](#)

5th Grade Chorus!



With the weather warming and the students returning to school five days, our Music Educator, Ms. Betsy Nolan, is able to offer a chorus experience to students in grade 5 every Friday afternoon. Students will meet outside under the tent or in the gymnasium depending on the weather. Our goals are to develop singing skills, work on singing in harmony, and have fun! Due to the short duration of chorus and the fact that we will not be having any outside of school performances, we are not going to have the students complete permission forms, we do ask, that after the first rehearsal, the kids make a commitment to the group, so we can lean into the work together and create balanced parts and beautiful music. Thanks, as always, for supporting your child's music education!

District News: Updates & Reminders

SBAC Assessments

This is a reminder that all Vermont students are required to participate in state assessments as part of the accountability system for the *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)*.

2021-2022 School Year Calendar (in case you missed it) It's here! The 2021-2022 school year calendar was approved at the April 6th Board Meeting. The 2021-2022 calendar assumes a return to full in-person instruction, with the first day of school for students scheduled for August 25.

EQUITY WEBINAR EVENT: AAPI Support at BSD - New!

Join the BSD Office of Equity on May 7th 5:00-6:00 PM. This virtual event is designed as an affinity space and is open only to Asian, Asian-American, Pacific Islanders and white parents of Asian children in the greater Burlington community. Come learn about what BSD is doing to address Anti-Asian racism and participate in breakout rooms to share your concerns and make recommendations to the school district. Vietnamese, Karen, and Nepali interpretation will be available. [Join via Zoom](#)

Burlington School District Budget Survey - New!

Last month voters approved the District's budget for school year 2021-2022. BSD's leadership would like to take the opportunity to reflect on what went well during this budget development cycle and how we can continue to better distribute resources and information to the students and families who need them most. We hope you will take 5-10 minutes to complete a brief [Equitable Budgeting Community Survey](#) by Monday, April 26. If you need support completing this survey in a language other than English, please call Nijaza Semic at 802-288-6048 and we will be happy to assist you.