

January 2012

BOBCAT PRINTS

the official newsletter of the Burnley-Moran Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization

From the Co-Chairs

Happy New Year and welcome back from winter break!

At the December meeting the BME PTO approved a 2012 PTO budget and we're excited to start work on our goals for this year – including outreach and assistance, enrichment activities, possibly a schoolyard garden, and healthy food initiatives.

Our most pressing need now is for volunteers. We have many passionate parents that do so much for BME, but we are always in need of more. Please contact us if you think you might be able to help out. The best form of contact is by email, but you may also leave a message at the main school line. Burnleymoranpto@gmail.com. Also if you have not been receiving PTO email updates it means that we don't have you in our mailing list yet. Please send us an email and we'll add you.

On January 24 there will be a Charlottesville City School Division budget meeting held at Burnley-Moran. This is part of the 2012-13 budget process and the district would like to solicit input from parents and community members. **We have also rescheduled our January PTO meeting (previously scheduled for January 17) to take place immediately following the Budget Meeting on January 24.**

There are a number of opportunities for parents and other community members to learn more about the budget and share their views on what is most important. You are welcome to attend any of the events. All meetings are open to all interested parties. We encourage you to attend a budget meeting at any school at a convenient time. Current information is posted at <http://www.ccs.k12.va.us/departments/budget/budget-wkshp-3dec2011.html>. Information about the Telephone Town Hall on January 19 may be found at <http://www.ccs.k12.va.us/community/TeleTownHall2012.html>.

Budget Meetings

- Telephone Town Hall: 1/19/12, 6 p.m. -- CHS Media Center
- PTO-budget update and input: 1/24/12, 5:30 p.m. -- Burnley-Moran Elementary
- PTO-budget update and input: 1/25/12, 5:30 p.m. -- Buford MS
- PTO-budget update and input: 1/26/12, 6:00 p.m. -- CHS
- Budget work session: 1/28/12, 8:30 a.m. -- Walker Media Center
- PTO-budget update and input: 1/30/12, 6:00 p.m. -- Johnson Elementary
- Review of proposed budget and public hearing: 2/02/12, 5 p.m. -- CHS Media Center
- Special Business Session – Approval of Superintendent’s Proposed Budget: 2/23/12, 5 p.m. -- CHS Media Center

PTO Co-Chair Kristen Suokko will be traveling abroad for the remainder of the school year. **Stephanie Bolton has volunteered to step in as interim co-chair for the rest of Kristen’s term.** We appreciate all of Kristen’s hard work over the past two years and will miss her this spring. You can reach us at any time using burnleymoranpto@gmail.com. We would love to hear from you. Elections for officers (including filling Kristen’s co-chair role) will be held in May.

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Sincerely – Dee and Stephanie

Cookie Dough Fundraiser was a Success!



Many thanks to everyone who participated!
We made over \$2,700!

January 2012	
16	School Closed – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
19	Telephone Town Hall Meeting 6:00 p.m.
20	Crazy Hair Day
23	School Closed – Teacher Workday
24	CCS Budget Meeting at BME / PTO Mtg 5:30 p.m. (everyone welcome – childcare provided)

Principal LoCasale's Message

Dear Burnley-Moran Bobcat Family,

WELCOME BACK! We are so excited that our students are all back and ready for a great year of learning!

I would like to say thank you to all of the families who were able to contribute time and/or financial support to over 70 Burnley-Moran families. This is an incredible example of a community that truly cares and supports each other. What a great example for our students!

I am very excited to share with you Burnley-Moran's future schoolyard garden. Mr. Morrell, K-parent, has taken the lead on writing a grant for our schoolyard garden. Ms. Volenick, 1st and 4th grade parent, has designed an incredible garden that our students will help develop, build, maintain and enjoy. Thank you Mr. Morrell and Ms. Volenick for helping to provide an incredible opportunity of real-world learning for our students! Who knows, our fruit and vegetables from the garden may make it to our salad bar one day.

We are excited to announce that our school received the 2012 Virginia Index of Performance (VIP) award for advanced learning and achievement.

The incentive program, which was created by the Board of Education in 2008, recognizes schools and divisions that achieve excellence goals and far exceed minimum state and federal accountability standards. More information about the VIP program is available on the VDOE website:

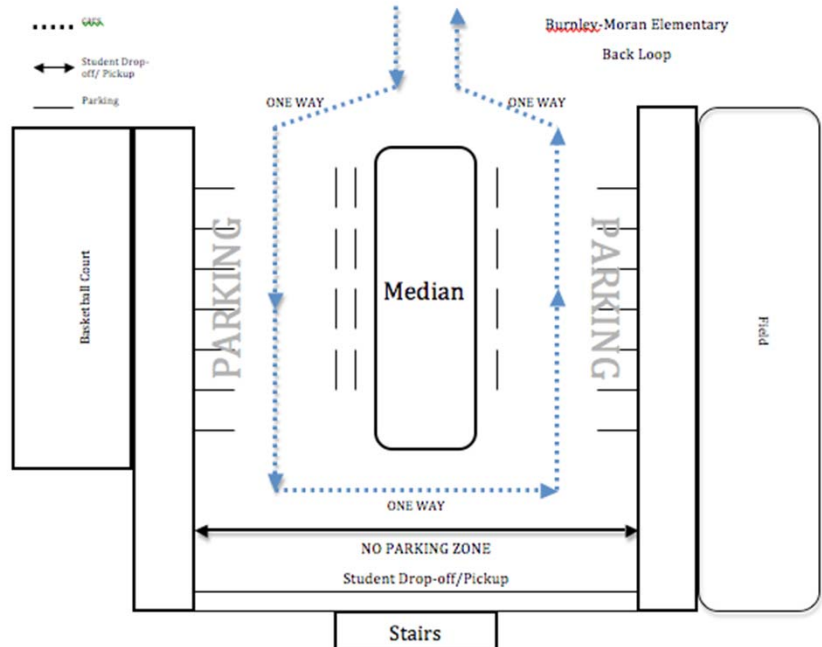
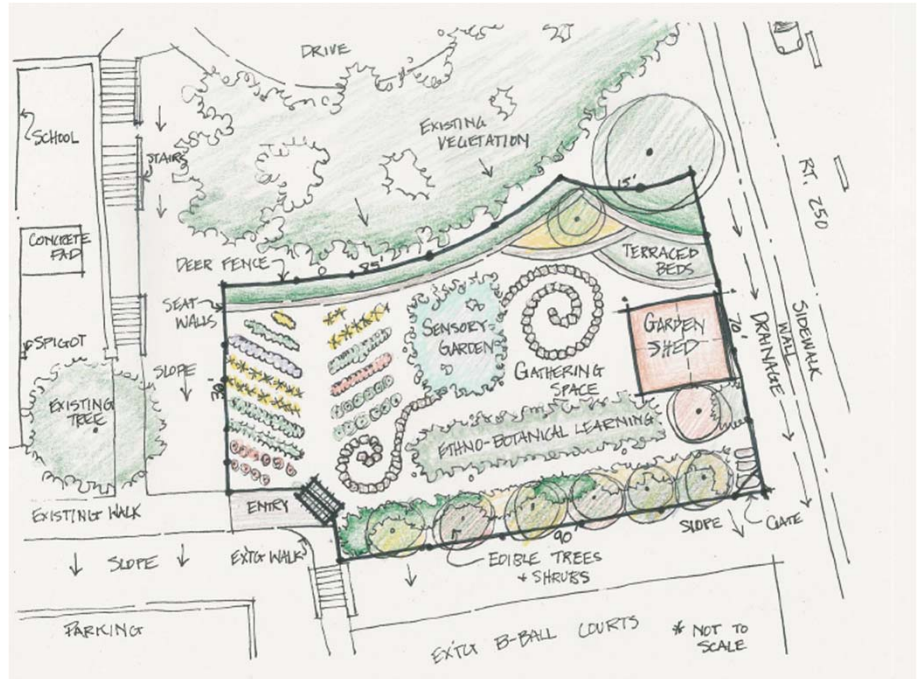
http://www.doe.virginia.gov/statistics_reports/va_index_performance_awards/index.shtml

It is important to keep our students safe. The **front** of the school is for Bus drop-off and pick-up. Please use the **side** of the school for student drop-off and pick-up. Student drop-off is 8:10-8:30 and student pick-up is 3:00-3:15 pm. If you are dropping your child off in front of school after 8:15 or picking your child up after 3:15 please do not park your car along the median in the front of the school. This makes it difficult for bus drivers to maneuver the buses safely through the parking lot.

To keep student-pickup and drop-off safe please see adjacent chart for appropriate procedures.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to the Bobcat Family. I look forward to working with everyone in the 2012!

Sincerely,
Dr. L.



Desperately Seeking Volunteers!



Fruit and Veggie Bar

We are looking for a few volunteers for the Fruit and Veggie Bar. The equipment for our wonderful Fruit and Veggie Bar was provided last year by Whole Foods Market's Whole Kids Foundation and the Nutrition Services Staff at Burnley-Moran handles procuring the fruits and veggies to stock the bar. Setting up and overseeing the bar each day is run by parents, caregivers, UVA students, and other volunteers. We need 6 people to staff it and currently have 1.

If we can't staff the Fruit and Veggie Bar, we will lose the wonderful fresh and delicious food for the kids. We need people Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 11:10-1:00. We need two people for each day and would love volunteers to commit to one shift every week. All training is provided. The children get really excited about having the bar and it is incredibly rewarding to get to experience their excitement first-hand.

Please let Kate Bennis know if you are available and please spread the word. kate.bennis@gmail.com

Garden Committee

Now that we have the initial grant proposal in and plans drawn up, it is time to form a formal Garden Committee to ensure long-term sustainability and support. We also need to begin looking for other sources of funding and planning the timeline to get everything going. We would like to schedule a workday on a Spring Saturday to do all the initial hard labor in beginning the garden. If you would like to join the Garden Committee, please contact Geoff Morrell at gmorrell22@gmail.com.

Kid Pan Alley

Kid Pan Alley returns to Charlottesville the week of February 13-17. Professional songwriters will be in residence at BME to assist the third graders with writing their own songs which will be performed at a community concert on February 17. Volunteers are needed to assist during the week. Contact David Day at kdcdday@hotmail.com.

Spring Fling Committee

Its time to start getting a spring fling committee together! Spring Fling is April 20. We need help with acquisitions for the auction, food planning, games planning, and lots of volunteers for the event. We would like to have new game ideas and rotate out some of the games that were not as popular, so let us know if you have any game ideas. We also need prizes. Keep all of your little toys as you clean out clutter from the holiday break and donate them as prizes for the Spring Fling. There will be collection boxes set up in April at the school.

Please email elvirahoskins@gmail.com if you would like to join the committee; lets make this fun and spread the work around.

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Information on the School Board

The Charlottesville City School Board is made up of seven members who are elected to at-large seats. School Board members are elected to four-year staggered terms. The chairperson and vice-chairperson are elected by the entire board annually. Duties of the School Board include: Setting policy for the school division; Hiring and evaluating the superintendent; Approving a budget to meet the financial needs of the school division; Approving the annual school calendar and school operating times; Determining school boundaries.

Charlottesville City Public School Board Meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month at 5:00 p.m. at CHS. School Board agendas, minutes, and information for meetings can be found at <http://esbpublic.ccs.k12.va.us/>. Charlottesville residents are encouraged to attend Board meetings and to address the Board with thoughts and suggestions. Each Board meeting has a public comment period at the beginning and end of the meeting. Residents may also send the School Board an email message (SchoolBoard@ccs.k12.va.us) or a letter to : Charlottesville City School Board, 1562 Dairy Road, Charlottesville, VA 22903.

Our current School Board Members are:

Mr. Ned Michie, Board Chair; Ms. Colette Blount; Ms. Amy Laufer; Ms. Jennifer McKeever (BME parent); Ms. Willa Neale; Ms. Leah Puryear; Mr. Juandiego Wade (BME parent).



Notes from the Nurse
by Melissa Dean-McKinney, Burnley-Moran Nurse

A Head Scratcher

Welcome back from Winter Break! January is one of the busiest months for lice, so I wanted to give parents some information about the school policy, how to monitor your household for lice, and how to treat and follow-up should you find them!

If a teacher sees a child scratching with abandon, they will send the child to the clinic so I can assess the scalp. I always have a second pair of eyes check the child’s head, as well, it’s just good practice. If a live louse/lice is found, we will contact the parents and ask that the child be picked up and treated. Sometimes we find the nits (eggs) of lice, depending on where in the hair we find the nits, we may also call and have the child picked up from school to be treated. Once a child has been treated, he/she may return to school the following day; school policy requires the box top from the treatment be returned to me, as well.

Treatment often requires two or more applications (follow directions *exactly*), and you will need to check every member of the household for nits and lice and possibly treat, too. Lice do not fly, hop or jump—they walk, and they cannot walk very far! Lice only live on humans; pets do not transmit head lice. Head to head contact is the primary mode of transmission for lice. It is critical to wash all combs, brushes, bedding, pillows, scarves, hats, sports helmets, towels, headbands, stuffed animals and coats, etc. All items must be washed in the washing machine at a temperature above 54 C (130 F), and dried in the dryer on the hottest setting for at least 20 minutes. Items not able to be washed should be vacuumed and/or sealed in a plastic bag for at least 4 weeks, and then shaken vigorously before reusing. Please remind your children not to share hats, combs/brushes, etc.!

If you see and treat over a weekend or holiday break, please send an email to let me know, or give me a call. I never discuss names with teachers or staff, but do need to know which class to monitor a bit more closely. Lice do not care about how clean a home, or a child’s hair, may be; they are happy when they find a scalp of any kind in any place. There are many old stigmas attached to getting lice, and they still swirl around! Be vigilant after treatments-watch for itching and scratching children, we will be doing the same!

Thanks, Melissa

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Show Your School Spirit on Crazy Hair Day – Friday, January 20

Join in the fun, and participate in the Bobcat Spirit Days! SCA members will count participants in each classroom, and the winning classroom will get a prize!

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PTO 2011-2012

Officers

- Co-Chair - Dee Cogill, burnleymoranpto@gmail.com
- Interim Co-Chair – Stephanie Bolton
- Secretary - Mary Esselman, mdesselman@gmail.com
- Treasurer - Andra Skeen, Andra.Skeen@ccs.k12.va.us
- Fundraising - Darah Coyte, darahcoyte@yahoo.com

Grade Level Liaisons

- Kindergarten – Darah Coyte, darahcoyte@yahoo.com
- 1st Grade – Becca Peters, beccapeters@virginia.edu
- 2nd Grade – Elisa Trowbridge, etrowbridge@virginia.edu
- 3rd Grade – Stephanie Bolton, stephaniebolton@me.com
- 4th Grade – Lisa Torres, eseenlisa@gmail.com