



Superintendent's Message

The Burlington Board of School Commissioners has appointed **Trevor D. Christopher** to be the new principal at the Integrated Arts Academy effective July 1, 2011. Mr. Christopher was chosen following an extensive nation wide search and inclusive search process which included parents, teachers, and administrator involvement.

Mr. Christopher comes to Burlington after having been an administrator in the U.S. Virgin Islands, Virginia, Maryland, and Illinois for 14 years. In all four districts, he has been noted to be a strong student advocate who works with faculty and staff and parents to develop a strong community for academic achievement. His interest in the integrated arts is a part of his passion for school transformation focused on student success.

"I am excited to become a part of the Burlington School District and to lead the Integrated Arts Academy," said Mr. Christopher. "I look forward to being part of the leadership in the premier school district in the state of Vermont."



The Board also appointed **Brian Williams** as Interim Principal of the Sustainability Academy effective July 1, 2011. Brian is currently the Interim Principal at the Integrated Arts Academy and has previously been Assistant Principal at Burlington High School. The appointment of an interim principal will give the school time to conduct a national search and Mr. Williams will serve for the 2011-2012 school year, as this search commences in the fall and winter of that year.



"Mr. Williams has done an excellent job as interim principal at IAA," noted Superintendent Jeanné Collins. "He has a proven track record of learning what the school needs, setting up systems and building communities of support around the magnet schools. We appreciate his enthusiasm and experience as a leader in transformation of the schools."

the schools."

Parent Involvement Surveys and Focus Groups

It is time again for gathering information about parent involvement at your school. As you may remember from last year, we gather this information as part of overall evaluation of our schools and it is grant funded. Fifth Element Associates, an independent research group, designed and conducted a phone survey (completed April 15th) of randomly selected families from each school, matching professional research standards. The sample of families surveyed reflected the diversity of our schools and this research helps us understand how we can work better with families within the District.

We will also be sponsoring a series of focus groups in late May/early June at IAA and SA where parents will have the opportunity to speak to what they believe is working well and where things can be improved, especially in terms of the school experience and getting parents involved. There will be two groups of approximately eight people each at both academies. BSD will be inviting parents in late April and early May to attend one of the groups. This is the second year of our Parent Involvement evaluation. We will be getting the results this summer and look forward to sharing what we find out. You can view the presentation of the survey research from last year at:

<http://bsdweb.bsdrv.org/Board/ParentalInvolvementPPT.pdf>



Teacher Appreciation Week May 2-6
Our thanks to all Burlington School District faculty and staff!

BHS' **Terry Buehner** has been named the Vermont History Teacher of the Year! In addition, many of Terry's 11th graders took top honors on April 2nd at the Vermont History Day Competition, sponsored by the Vermont Historical Society.



More news from BHS...**Scott Hubbard** has been named a Vermont Outstanding Math Teacher of the Year by the Vermont Council of Teachers of Mathematics!

Section 125 Open Enrollment will begin soon for the next Plan year. Please see the next Spotlight (as well as email announcements) for details.



NEW ADDRESS BEGINNING MAY 1ST, 2011

CONCENTRA, our workers' compensation treatment provider, is purchasing Champlain Valley Urgent Care located at **7 Fayette Road, South Burlington, VT 05403.**

On May 1st, CONCENTRA will be closing the current 110 Kimball Avenue / South Burlington facility and relocating its operations to 7 Fayette Road. This move provides patients improved accessibility to urgent care, occupational health and physical therapy.

CONCENTRA will also offer extended hours, including nights and weekends! The hours will be:

Monday – Friday: 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Saturday – Sunday: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Tech Byte

A Friendly Reminder
from the Help Desk...

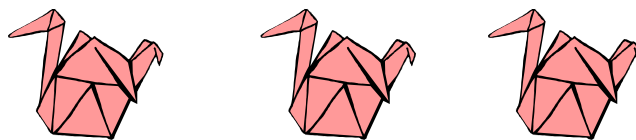


It is time for spring cleaning! The Student and Staff servers are getting full and there are many outdated files as well as large video and picture files that need to be removed from the servers. Please take the time and check your classroom folders, shared and H drives. Delete files no longer needed or move any files you would like to archive to external storage (flash drives, external hard drives, DVDs.)

GroupWise email is another location for weeding and deleting. Please delete outdated messages and messages that contain large attachments such as pictures and videos. Remember to delete from your Sent Items folder as well as your Mailbox.

If you need assistance, please contact a Tech Support representative or a Technology Integration Specialist. The Help Desk is open during student hours and can be reached at 864-8437. The online support form can be accessed within the District at:

<http://bsdweb.bsdrv.org/techrequest/>



Art teacher **Judy Wolf** spearheaded the making of more than 3000 paper cranes for Japan relief efforts, with EMS students raising over \$7000!

New Board Committees

Board Chair: Keith Pillsbury
Board Clerk: Katharine Chasan

Agenda Committee

Bernie O'Rourke
Haik Bedrosian
Amy Werbel
Alan Matson

Finance Committee

Alan Matson, Chair
Meredith Woodward King
Bernie O'Rourke
Amy Werbel

Curriculum Committee

Amy Werbel, Chair
Katharine Chasan
Rebecca Grimm
Jill Evans
Meredith Woodward King
Ed Scott
Ben Truman

Policy/Advocacy Committee

Haik Bedrosian, Chair
Katharine Chasan
Paul Hochanadel

Infrastructure & Technology Committee

Bernie O'Rourke, Chair
Matt Conger
Dave Davidson

EMS Student Places in Statewide Essay Contest

Nathan Treadway placed as one of the top three winners around Vermont for the *Hildene Essay Contest*. There were 112 submissions from 8th grade students, with only three top winners and two honorable mentions selected (1st place will win \$1,000, 2nd place \$750 and 3rd place \$500!) Nathan will read his essay out loud at the Lincoln Family Home on May 22nd, at which point the winners will be announced. EMS Social Studies, English and Reading teachers proof-read and provided feedback and encouragement for all of the essays that were submitted.

Guided by Carole Renca, EMS Librarian, students met in the library weekly to discuss the Lincoln and Douglas Peoria speeches and Lincoln's ideas, as well as to fine-tune their essays. The four students who submitted essays should be applauded for their outstanding effort above and beyond classroom expectations: Nathan Treadway, Isaiah Mindich, Paxton Hyde and Alexia Long.

More about the essay at:

<http://www.hildene.org/schools.html>