

THE CONNECTION

NEWS AND UPDATES FROM YOUR BURGESS PTO

Who the PTO is

We are parents and guardians.
We are teachers and staff.
We care about our children.
We want to build a better Burgess.
We are you.

Every parent and guardian is already a member of the PTO. Please get involved. We welcome your participation. Even as little as an hour or two can make a significant difference.

What the PTO does

By raising funds, we are able to provide school supplies, field trips, cultural events and more, and in turn, improve the educational experiences of our children.

By publishing *The Connection*, we promote communication between the school and families.

By involving families in the betterment of our children's school and experiences, we foster a spirit of community and cooperation.



Building a Better Burgess

What's inside:

Family Fun Night.....	3
PTO Openings.....	3
From the Nurse's Office	4
Book Fair Thank You.....	6
Lunch Menu	7



Dear Burgess Parents, Guardians and Staff,

It's hard to believe that we're already half way through the school year. I hope that you've all been keeping warm and enjoying the activities that winter has to offer here in New England.

Family Fun Night

Our annual Family Fun Night will be held Friday, March 2 from 5:45 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. We are excited to announce that The Brain Show will be returning to Burgess for the evening's entertainment.

The Brain Show is an authentic educational trivia game show with the unique look and feel of a real T.V. game show, and it has been seen by hundreds of thousands of people throughout the United States. The Family Fun Night performance is the pop culture version of the production where families compete against each other. "You'll laugh until your tummy hurts!" There will also be an educationally-based daytime school presentation including grade-level appropriate questions provided by teachers across the country.

This year's Family Fun Night is an event not to be missed. It will be an exciting show that the whole family will enjoy. The event is free to attend, snacks will be available for purchase, and we will be raffling off exciting gift baskets.

Burgess Wear

Burgess Wear items can be purchased online through our website at BurgessPTO.org. Click on the 'Burgess Wear' tab under 'Forms & Documents' to view our online store. Paper order forms will also be sent home, and all ordering will be open through March 5. Items will be delivered to students prior to April vacation.

Try Something New

Have you been to a PTO meeting lately? Would you like to learn more about the fabulous programs that your PTO supports, or how you can get involved? Come join us in the Burgess library on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 13.

Have a great month,

Karen Kowal, PTO President
email: BurgessPTO@gmail.com, web: BurgessPTO.org

Month-At-A-Glance

FEBRUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			

February 19 - 23 No School, Vacation

Burgess PTO Website

burgesspto.org

Burgess PTO Meeting

at the Burgess Elementary School in the Library on

Tuesday, February 13 at 7:00 pm

All parents and guardians are welcome to attend.

5th Grade Fundraising Meeting

at the Burgess Elementary School in the Library on

No Meeting in February.

See you in March!

All parents and guardians are welcome to attend.

School Improvement Council

will meet at the Burgess Elementary School in the Conference Room on the

Second Monday of each month at 3:15 pm (unless otherwise posted)

Open to the public.

Sturbridge School Committee

will meet at the Burgess Elementary School in the Library on the

First Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm (unless otherwise posted)

All parents and guardians are welcome to attend.

The Connection Submission Deadline

All material for the February issue should be submitted by 3:00 pm:

Tuesday, February 13

email: burgessconnect@gmail.com

Contact Burgess

Main Office: 508-347-7041

Nurse: 774-241-3004

Website: www.tantasqua.org/burgess

Address: 45 Burgess School Road
Sturbridge, MA 01566

PTO Bulletin Board

Though fundraisers are not mandatory, please know that your participation in ANY form is invaluable to our students, our staff and our school - and we always appreciate all that YOU do to make our students' community the best it can be. *Thank you!*

Box Tops for Education



Box Tops for the 2017-2018 school year are due to the Main Office by February 16. Please return your clipped box tops in a baggie or envelope labeled PTO Box Tops. If possible please group in bunches of 50, though any amount is welcome

Clip and save Box Tops labels available on hundreds of products you buy every day!

Main Office 101

School Cancellation/Delay

Burgess Elementary School is part of School Union #61 and the Tantasqua Regional School District.

When School is delayed or cancelled, you will be notified by the Blackboard Connect phone service/email notification system. You can also check online at www.tantasqua.org and click *Cancellations*.

See your parent student handbook for more information.



Support Burgess Elementary when you shop this holiday season. Visit smile.amazon.com/ch/04-3577534 and Amazon donates to Burgess Elementary School PTO.

School Store

Attention 5th and 6th Grade students. The Burgess School Store is open from 11:30-12:30 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Burgess Directory Copies Still Available

There are a limited number of Burgess Directories still available for sale. Please email BurgessPTO@gmail.com if you would like to purchase one..

FREE MONEY FOR BURGESS

Entenmann's Turn Trash to Cash Project A+

Little Bites has teamed up with TerraCycle to help eliminate waste. Save your Little Bites Snack Pouches and drop them off to the PTO Mailbox. Burgess receives \$.02 for each pouch turned in.

Target® Take Charge of Education

If you're a Target REDcard holder, each purchase you make with your card can earn dollars for Burgess. Simply enroll in the program at www.target.com/tcoe.



Burgess SPIRIT DAY

Our next SPIRIT DAY will be **Friday, February 9.**
Wear your BLUE and GOLD and/or Burgess Wear!





Theme Basket Raffle Donations

During Family Fun Night/BRAIN SHOW, you will have the opportunity to purchase raffle tickets for baskets filled with awesome goodies. We need your help filling these baskets. Each grade is assigned a theme to help diversify the baskets. Gift cards are always welcome. There will be a special Gift Card basket this year! Please return donations to your child's classroom by Wednesday, February 7, 2018.

New Items or Gift Cards Only

Preschool & Creative Pathways:	Play Time
1st Grade:	Cooking & Baking
2nd Grade:	Legos
3rd Grade:	Nerf
4th Grade:	Family Movie & Game Nights
5th Grade:	STEM Activities
6th Grade:	New England Sports

If you have any questions at all, please contact:
Alicia Rice at weeshrice@yahoo.com
Erin Perreault at perreaultfam05@gmail.com
We will be wrapping baskets at our next PTO meeting on February 13th at 6:30pm.



13th Annual Family Fun Night / BRAIN SHOW
FRIDAY, March 2nd 5:45-9:00 P.M.
Doors Open for ticket sales 5:45-6:30 P.M.
Brain Show 6:30-8:00 P.M.

The Brain Shows is an authentic educational trivia game show with the unique look and feel of a real live T.V. game show. Magic Touch Entertainment has been an innovator in the entertainment industry for over 26 years.

Raffle Ticket Prices:

\$1 ...1 ticket
\$5...6 tickets
\$10...15 tickets
\$20...40 tickets
\$40...100 ticket

DO NOT FORGET YOUR ADDRESS LABELS.....SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO WRITE YOUR NAME ON EACH RAFFLE TICKET.

Baskets will raffled from 8:00-8:30.
You do not need to be present to win.
Snacks will be available for purchase.

Final Announcement of PTO Openings

Would you like to become more involved with the Burgess PTO? We have several exciting opportunities available.

- We have two PTO Executive Board positions available for the next school year. Both the Treasurer and President positions will be vacant as Sharon Mrotek and Karen Kowal will be completing their final terms this spring.

- Also, we are looking for a new Scholastic Book Fair Coordinator for next year. Heather Adamson, who has done a fantastic job coordinating the fairs for several years, will be retiring once her daughter graduates from Burgess this year. We thank Heather for her commitment and dedication to the book fair.

Please email Karen Kowal at BurgessPTO@gmail.com to learn more about these positions



From the Nurse's Office

Dear Parents,

The flu that is going around this year is called H3N2 – a subtype of influenza A. This season only injectable flu vaccines are recommended by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. The CDC recommends that you get a flu vaccine if you haven't already this season. The main symptoms of influenza (flu) include fever in combination with a cough and/or sore throat. Some people may also have a runny nose, body aches, headache, chills, and feel tired and may also have diarrhea and vomiting.

To keep flu from spreading in the community it is important to keep your sick child at

home when he or she has the flu. The following may help you to decide if your child should attend school or child care:

1) If your child had a fever of 100.4 degrees F or higher in the past 24 hours please keep your child home for at least another day to observe for additional symptoms.

2) If your child has a fever and a cough OR sore throat, please keep your child home. Your child may have an influenza-like illness. If your child has a cough or sore throat without fever, he or she may be well enough to go to school or child care.

3) If your child was given acetaminophen (Tylenol) or ibuprofen (Motrin or Advil) to reduce fever in the past 24 hours, please keep your child home for at least another day to observe for additional symptoms.

Please call your child's doctor if you have questions about their symptoms. A doctor's note is always appreciated to excuse absences due to illness. It is important that you notify the school when your child is absent and I am keeping track of illnesses in classrooms. It is helpful if you notify me of your child's illnesses.

For more information regarding the flu, these websites may be helpful:

- www.mass.gov/flu
- www.cdc.gov/flu
- www.immunize.org

Lisa Meunier, School Nurse
meunierl@tantasqua.org
774-241-3004/fax 774-241-0674

Reading to Succeed

Students at every grade level are Reading to Succeed! The Read to Succeed program will continue through February 5th. Parents are reminded to please send any completed Read to Succeed log sheets to school by this date as no log sheets will be accepted after February 5, 2018.

The "real" Six Flags tickets will be distributed in May. Please be aware of the expiration date as the tickets will no longer be usable after this time. As the May date approaches, watch for another article regarding the Read to Succeed Six Flags ticket distribution. Many thanks to all of the parent volunteers for their time, effort, and involvement in this special literacy program.

Amy Cantwell, Literacy Coordinator

Save the Date!

February 5

READ to SUCCEED ends

February 9

Burgess Spirit Day

February 13

Family Fun Night Raffle Basket Making

February 19 - 23

February Break - No School

March 2

Family Fun Night



FREE One-day camp for children aged 5-25 along with their entire family, who are grieving the death of a loved one.

Saturday, March 10, 2018

12:00 - 4:00 P.M.

Burgess cafeteria

We have many students and their families who have suffered the loss of a loved one. This event provides a safe and fun place for families to share stories surrounding their grief and learn coping skills together. Families will also work together to remember their loved ones, create new memories and care for each other as they share their experience.

Please contact Lisa Meunier, *School Nurse* for more information, meunierl@tantasqua.org

6th Grade Trips

The 6th Grade Environmental Excursion refers to two trips taken by each 6th Grade Class. The first trip, to The Ecology School in Saco, ME, takes place at the beginning of the school year. The second trip, called Project Oceanology, takes place in June and in Mystic, CT. For more information visit the Environmental Excursion section of the PTO website at <http://burgesspto.org/info/6th-grade-trip/>.



Sixth Grade Library Fiction Shelf

Answering numerous student requests for fiction on topics more interesting to middle schoolers, the Burgess library will begin offering sixth graders a collection of books selected for middle school students. At this time, the collection will be available only to sixth graders. Some will be novels we already own, which our 2018 students haven't discovered. Others will be selected from lists of books recommended by reliable sources, including the American Association of School Libraries (a division of the American Library Association), <http://www.ala.org/aasl/>, and Common Sense Media, <https://www.commonsensemedia.org/>, and staff/student recommendations. We will also look at books available for students at Tantasqua Regional Junior High School. That collection already includes many books popular here.

We know that free-choice reading starts to decline in fifth grade. For years we have seen sixth graders borrow relatively few books, compared to what they borrowed in younger years. We want--we need--for reading and libraries to remain relevant in these challenging times. By sixth grade, children have more developed awareness of the larger world. They ask deep, thoughtful questions about it. We aim to offer interesting, thought-provoking reading choices to help them grow. Plus some light reading, because it's fun.

For any questions, please contact me, Sarah Swift, School Librarian, swifts@tantasqua.org, or Principal Kathy Pelley, pelleyk@tantasqua.org.

Sarah Swift, M.Ed., School Librarian

Joshua Hyde Public Library

Mini-Golf

SAT., MARCH 3

10:30 am – 4:30 pm

SUN., MARCH 4

1:00 – 4:30 pm

\$5.00 per person
\$20.00 max. /family



FUN FOR ALL AGES

(Children 10 and under must be accompanied by adult)



Sponsored by the Friends of the Library
ALL proceeds fund library programs

Sturbridge Library, 306 Main St.



VACATION FUN CLUB

February 19th - 23rd
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
(Extended Care From 6:45-8:00am & 5:00-6:00pm)

For Grades
K-8 / up to age 14

ANIMAL KINGDOM!

Monday - Pampered Pets
Tuesday - Creatures of the Deep
Wednesday - Rodent Roundup
Thursday - Land, Air, Water
(Field Trip to Billy Beez -Holyoke Mall)

Friday - Leapin' Lizards

In addition to great happenings, we will also be outside soaking in all of the awesome weather, swimming, and other fun activities!

Cost: \$30/day for members & \$40/day for non members

43 Everett Street, Southbridge, MA 01550

P. 508.765.5466 / F. 508.765.5894 / W. tricomcommunityymca.org



Sturbridge Little League Spring 2018

ONLINE Registration Open

www.sturbridgelittleleague.com

Registration for the 2018 Sturbridge Little League season is open. For more information or to register visit www.sturbridgelittleleague.com.



TRYLAX 2018

Registration for the 2018 Tantasqua Regional Youth Lacrosse season is open. For more information or to register visit www.trylax.com.



Sturbridge Girls Softball League 2018 Season

Registration for the 2018 season is NOW OPEN. For more information or to register visit: <http://sturbridgegirlssoftball.activesports.com/Register>

Email questions to: sturbridgegirlssoftball@gmail.com

FAMILY FOUNDATIONS 5



Family Foundations 5 is awarded funding through a grant from the Department of Early Education and Care

Facebook: Family Foundations 5

Website: <http://familyfoundations5.doodlekit.com>

Email: Union61cfce@tantasqua.org

Phone: 508-867-2232

If Union 61 Schools are closed due to inclement weather, scheduled school breaks or have a two-hour delay we are closed.

MONDAY

Caregiver/Child Playgroup

9:00-11:00 am, Hitchcock Academy
2 Brookfield Rd., Brimfield

TUESDAY

Caregiver/Child Playgroup

9:00-11:00 am, Brookfield Elementary
37 Central Street, Brookfield

Caregiver/Child Playgroup

10:30-11:30 am, Heritage Green
Sturbridge

WEDNESDAY

Music and Movement

9:00-10:00 am, Hitchcock Academy
2 Brookfield Road, Brimfield

Story Time

10:30-11:30 am, Wales Public Library
77 Main Street, Wales

THURSDAY

STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math)

9:00-10:30 am, Hitchcock Academy
2 Brookfield Rd., Brimfield

STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math)

9:00-10:30 am, Brookfield Elementary
37 Central Street, Brookfield

FRIDAY

Caregiver/Child Playgroup

9:00-11:00 am, Brookfield Elementary
37 Central Street, Brookfield

Story Time

10:00-11:00 am, Holland Public Library
23 Sturbridge Road, Holland

All Programs are funded through a grant from the MA Dept. of Early Education & Care, and are FREE.



Family Foundations 5 Additional Family Events

February 10, 2018, 10:00 A.M.

Winter Luau
Brookfield Elementary School, Room 212

February 15, 2018, 6:00 p.m.

Friendship Day
Brookfield Elementary School, Room 212

February 17, 2018, 10:00 a.m.

Friendship Day
Heritage Green, Sturbridge

February 19 - 23, 2018

No Programming - School Vacation

Additional Program Information

Caregiver/Child Playgroup is a literacy based program for children and their caregivers to spend time with their peers. We will have a short circle-time, story, art-time, and free-play. Please bring a nutritious snack.

Music and Movement is a literacy based music program that gets everyone up and moving to the beat.

Story Time is best suited for children 0-3 years.

STEAM is a literacy based Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics program that has fun performing new experiments each week.

Scholastic Book Fair Thank-You

Burgess families and staff again make the book fair a great success! Gross fair sales of \$11,627.23 will net the Burgess PTO both a cash and Scholastic Dollars profit. Your support of the book fair supports classroom activities, off-site education, reading initiatives, and puts more reading materials into your children's classrooms. Thank you Burgess Community for your eager and generous support of the book fair.

The book fair requires a resource of people to pull it all together. I am grateful for the many people that give their time and effort to help bring the book fair to our students.

Thank you to Mrs. Pelley for her support and encouragement. Her "Principal Pelley's Picks" selections are eagerly awaited each fair! Thank you Mrs. Jaeger and Mr. Canavan for your support. The assistance of Amanda Cassina, Marie Piscopo, Lynn Conceison and Karen Bolduc, as well as Al Dionne is greatly appreciated. They all offer consistent behind the scenes support and help that makes the book fair run smoothly.

Our parent volunteers bring the book fair to life! Without them, there would be no book fair. Thank you Karen Kowal, Alicia Rice, Erin Perreault, Sharon Mrotek, Holly Orquiola, Erin Weeden, Michele Phillips, Danielle LaFlash, Kellie Moats, Lorrie McDermott, Gretchen Marino, Laurie Ertsgard, Audra Strause, Jenn Bailey, Sarah Michalak, Peg Hall, Michelle Scanlon, Mary Bellezza, Marni Treitman, Rose Miller, Maureen Melillo and Doreen Sparkman.



Daily alternate: chicken patty, **gluten free chicken, veggie burger, or chef salad.** Assorted fruit and milk offered daily. Menu subject to change.



Nutrition Tip: Practice stealth health - sneak veggies into favorite foods. Go light on the meat and top your pizza with vegetables like tomatoes, onions, bell peppers, mushrooms, zucchini, and artichoke hearts.



Monday

The USDA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider
chick peas offered daily to all!

Tuesday



Wednesday

Lunch 52.75
Reduced .40 cents

Thursday

Chicken nuggets with baked fries and carrots or soup with roll and cheese stick **1**

Friday

Cheese or veggie pizza with green beans or fruity yogurt parfait **gluten free pizza available** **2**

Bosco's cheese filled breadsticks with marinara sauce and seasoned peas or fruity yogurt parfait **5**

Shepherd's pie beef, corn and mashed potatoes or soup with a roll and cheese stick **6**

Hot dog with baked beans or fruity yogurt parfait **7**

Popcorn chicken with mashed potatoes and gravy and corn or soup with a dinner roll and cheese stick **8**

Cheese or pepperoni pizza with carrots and ice cream or fruity yogurt parfait **gluten free pizza available** **9**

Macaroni and cheese with a dinner roll and broccoli or fruity yogurt parfait **12**

Ham and cheese croissant with corn chowder and peas or soup with a roll and cheese stick **13**

Brunch for lunch pancakes with sausage and tator tots or fruity yogurt parfait **14**

Sweet and sour chicken over rice with carrots and fortune cookie or soup with a roll and cheese stick **15**

Cheese or BBQ chicken pizza with broccoli or fruity yogurt parfait **gluten free pizza available** **16**

NO SCHOOL **19**

NO SCHOOL **20**

NO SCHOOL **21**

NO SCHOOL **22**

NO SCHOOL **23**

Fish sticks with smiley fries and carrots or fruity yogurt parfait **26**

Chicken parmesan over pasta with green beans or soup with a roll and cheese stick **27**

Toasted cheese sandwich with tomato soup and peas or fruity yogurt parfait **28**



Bus Pass

Burgess Elementary School Bus Pass 2017/2018

This form is to be used each time a child is changing their drop off location and/or bus. Thank you.

Name: _____ Homeroom: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardians Name & Day Phone: _____

Bus # _____ o Same Bus o Different Bus

Address to be dropped off at, and with whom: _____

Approved by the Bus Supervisor if taking a different bus: o Yes o No

Please contact Bus Supervisor for approval at 508.347.8940

Approved by the Main Office: _____

February 2018

Burgess Elementary

BREAKFAST



Fresh fruit or canned fruit, yogurt and choice of milk comes with breakfast.
Breakfast \$1.50
Reduced .30cents



Nutrition Tip: Practice stealth health - sneak veggies into favorite foods. Go light on the meat and top your pizza with vegetables like tomatoes, onions, bell peppers, mushrooms, zucchini, and artichoke hearts.



Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday



Breakfast sandwich **6**



French toast **7**

Scrambled eggs, toast and hash brown patty **1**

Scrambled eggs, toast and hash brown patty **8**

Warm cinnamon roll **2**

Warm cinnamon roll **9**

Pancakes **5**

Pancakes **12**

Breakfast sandwich **13**

French toast **14**

Scrambled eggs, toast and hash brown patty **15**

Warm cinnamon roll **16**

Winter Break **19**

NO SCHOOL **20**

NO SCHOOL **21**

NO SCHOOL **22**

NO SCHOOL **23**

Pancakes **26**

Breakfast sandwich **27**

French toast **28**



Next Submission Deadline: **Tuesday, February 13**
burgessconnect@gmail.com

Editor:
Christine Neslusan

Submission Guidelines: • Submissions may be sent to the newsletter editor(s) at burgessconnect@gmail.com. • The preferred format is electronic. All submissions are subject to reformatting. • All articles are limited to school-, PTO- or town-sponsored activities intended for Burgess students and their parents or guardians. • Publication of any submission is subject to space availability. • Approval of all articles is at the discretion of the school's Principal. • The submission deadline is on or around the 20th of the prior publishing month. • Late submissions will either be put in a subsequent issue or, if time permits, placed in the current issue at the discretion of the editor(s).

All students, regardless of race, color, sex, gender identity, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, or homelessness, have equal access to the general education program and the full range of any occupational/vocational education programs offered by the district.



Burgess Elementary School

45 Burgess School Road
Sturbridge, MA 01566

508-347-7041 phone • 508-347-8237 fax