

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

PTO Executive Board Members

President: Alicia Rice
Vice-President: Erin Perreault
Treasurer: Melissa David
Secretary: Gretchen Marino

Email: BurgessPTO@gmail.com
Web: BurgessPTO.org

PTO Basket Raffle Donations & Wrapping

It is basket raffle time! Through March 6, the PTO is collecting *NEW* items for themed raffle baskets. Flyers with donation themes for each grade went home before Winter Break. Parents are asked to donate *NEW* items to the basket in the child's classroom. Basket wrapping will take place in the school library at 6:00 p.m. before the PTO meeting on March 10.

Annual Burgess PTO Basket Raffle

Don't miss a chance to WIN! Nine different themes with 29 baskets total. All the fun happens during the week of Spring Conferences. Tickets can be purchased in advance through March 17 or during conferences. Flyer will be sent home in backpacks.

Scholastic Book Fair - March 13 - 20

The book fair is BACK! Time to grab your next bedtime read or grab a book for your child's classroom - many teachers create a wish list for books. The book fair is run exclusively by Burgess family volunteers. Sign up here to help: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0848adad2ba1fa7-burgess3>

Book Fair Shopping Hours

School days 9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. and during afternoon and evening conferences. Reach out to Michele Phillips, MPhillips@BronxLJG.org with any questions.

STEM Nights

Sign Up For STEM Nights is on the Burgess PTO Facebook and on the PTO website. Additional information was sent via email from Burgess Elementary School and in your students' backpack. Dates for each grades are listed below. Program time is 6:15 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. in the Burgess Cafeteria.

- March 9th - Grade 3
- March 10th - Kindergarten
- March 11th - Grade 1
- March 12th - Grade 5/6
- March 13th - Grade 4
- March 16 - Grade 2

Board Elections for 2020

Please note that President and Treasurer are up for Election this year. If you are interested in either of these positions, please contact Alicia Rice at BurgessPTO@gmail.com

Jog-A-Thon

Come to our next PTO meeting if you are interested in getting involved in the planning of our biggest fundraiser of the year.

The next PTO meeting will be held in the library: **Tuesday, March 10 at 7:00 p.m.** See you then!

Month-At-A-Glance

MARCH						
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
29	30	31				

March 17 - Early Release; Parent Teacher Conferences

March 26 - Early Release; Staff Development Day

Burgess PTO

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 10 at 7:00 p.m. in the school library.

Website: burgesspto.org

Email: burgesspto@gmail.com

Burgess Wear: burgesswear@gmail.com

Facebook: Burgess Elementary School PTO

Remind App: burgesspto

Connection: burgessconnect@gmail.com

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 p.m. (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 p.m. (unless otherwise posted)**
All parents and guardians are welcome to attend.

Contact Burgess

Main Office: 508-347-7041

Nurse: 774-241-3004

Website: www.tantasqua.org/burgess

Address: 45 Burgess School Road
Sturbridge, MA 01566

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.

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!*



Easy Everyday Ways To Support Your School



Amazon Smile - Use smile.amazon.com/ch/04-3577534 while shopping and Amazon donates to Burgess Elementary School PTO

NO MORE CLIPPING. SCAN YOUR RECEIPT.

THE NEW BOX TOPS LABELS

Traditional Box Tops clips are being phased out of production, but you can still send any remaining unexpired clips to school.

Eventually the Box Tops program will become digital-only. Participating brands are starting to change their packaging from a traditional Box Tops clip to the new Box Tops label.

If you see this label, use the new Box Tops app to scan your receipt. **Box Tops are still worth 10¢ for your school.** The app will find participating products purchased at any store and instantly add cash to your school's earnings online.

DOWNLOAD THE APP AVAILABLE ON ANY MOBILE DEVICE

App Store | Google Play

DOWNLOAD THE APP TODAY!

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.

Stop and Shop® A+ School Rewards - Register online at www.stopandshop.com/aplus or register by phone at 1-877-275-2758 or register right at the store with your smart phone. After you register your card, each shopping trip at Stop&Shop using your Stop&Shop Card earns cash for our school. Once you registered you don't need to register your card again.

Available online 2019 - 2020

District School Calendar

You can access the 2019 - 2020 school year calendar online at tantasqua.org

Click on **District Calendars**.



Download the remind app to stay connected to the Burgess PTO. Once you set up your free account; select "Join Class", enter "burgesspto" next to the @ symbol, and select "Join" account. You will receive messages from Burgess PTO directly to your phone like a text.



Burgess Wear Day Every Friday!

Every Friday is now Burgess Wear Day.
Wear your Burgess Wear or Pack color!





Here is what is happening around the school. Dates and times to remember. Ways to get involved. And more!

2020 MCAS Testing Schedule		Read Across America Day – March 2
ELA March 31 April 1 April 2 April 3	Grades 5 & 6 Grades 5 & 6 Grades 3 & 4 Grades 3 & 4	 <p>Burgess Elementary School celebrated Read Across America Day on March 2, 2020. This day recognized the birthday of Dr. Seuss. The event provided an opportunity for adults from our community to share the joy of reading with children. Members from various boards and agencies of our local government, police officers, fire fighters, school officials, and retired teachers volunteered as celebrity readers. The students enjoyed listening to the stories and participating in the various Dr. Seuss activities. This special literacy event is always an enjoyable and rewarding experience for everyone involved. Thank you to all who participated! Read Across America Day is truly a community celebration of reading.</p> <p>Amy Cantwell, <i>Literacy Coordinator</i></p>
MATH May 12 May 13 May 14 May 15	Grades 5 & 6 Grades 5 & 6 Grades 3 & 4 Grades 3 & 4	
STE May 18 May 19	Grade 5 Grade 5	

Talented Bears

Preparations are well underway for the Second Annual Burgess Bears Got Talent Show! Auditions are being held on Wednesday, March 4, 2020. There are over 70 acts that include more than 120 Burgess students. We are so proud of all the students who have signed up to audition! We have so many Brave and talents Bears. The Talent Show will be held on Friday, April 3. We also hope to share some of the amazing talent during in school mini-shows.

Remember the Burgess Way, Let's be Bears today!



Please Join Us for a “Grand-family” Meeting

A gathering to support and connect Grandparents who are parenting grandchildren in our community.

Wednesday, March 25, 2020

Meeting Program:

6:00-6:30: Pizza, Salad, Desert, Beverages provided in the Burgess Cafeteria

6:30-7:30 Informal Discussion – Child Care will be provided

Grandparents will meet in the library while children are being supervised by school staff/volunteers and high school students in the Burgess Cafeteria where they will play games and color.

Our goal is to have you meet other Grandparents who are parenting grandchildren in our community and to share experiences and build support.

Guest speakers include:

Terri McIsaac who is a facilitator of “Grandparents in the Know” which is a local support group for Grandparents raising grandchildren.

Sturbridge Council on Aging representative

Special Education Parent Advisory Council representative

Many Resources Materials will be provided!

Please RSVP to Lisa Meunier/School Nurse at 774-241-3004 by March 20, 2020 if you can join us!

March 2020
Burgess Elementary
BREAKFAST



Breakfast comes with milk, fruit, juice and yogurt. \$1.50 reduced is .30 cents



Nutrition Tip: March is National Nutrition Month! To celebrate try eating at least one new food each week. Keep it interesting by picking out new foods you've never tried before, like mango, lentils, quinoa, kale, or sardines.
References: Academy of Nutrition & Dietetics, USDA MyPlate

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Donuts 2	Breakfast sandwich 3	French toast 4	Scrambled eggs hash brown potato and toast 5	Cinnamon roll 6
Donuts 9	Breakfast sandwich 10	French toast 11	Scrambled eggs, hash brown potato and toast 12	Cinnamon roll 13
Donuts 16	Breakfast sandwich 17	French toast 18	Scrambled eggs, hash brown potato and toast 19	Cinnamon roll 20
Donuts 23	Breakfast sandwich 24	French toast 25	Scrambled eggs, hash brown potato and toast 26	Cinnamon roll 27
Donuts 30	Breakfast sandwich 31			

March 2020
Burgess Elementary
LUNCH



Daily offering: chicken patty, veggie burger, gluten free chicken, chef salad. Assorted milk and fruit with lunch. \$3.00 reduced is .40 cents



Nutrition Tip: March is National Nutrition Month! To celebrate try getting more creative in the kitchen and trying a new recipe or cuisine you haven't had before.
References: Academy of Nutrition & Dietetics

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
HAPPY BIRTHDAY 2 DR. SEUSS! GREEN EGGS & HAM WITH WHOVILLE HASH BROWN POTATO and 1 fish 2 fish goldfish or Fruity yogurt parfait	Hamburger or cheeseburger with baked fries and green beans or soup with a muffin and cheese sticks 3	Chicken alfredo over bow tie pasta with broccoli or fruity yogurt parfait or Munchable bagel with cream cheese and yogurt 4	Corn dog with sweet potato fries and peas or soup with muffin and cheese sticks 5	Cheese or pepperoni pizza with carrots and ice cream or fruity yogurt parfait 6 gluten free pizza available
Chicken nuggets with baked fries and mixed vegetables or fruity yogurt parfait 9	Grilled cheese with tomato soup and broccoli or soup with a muffin and cheese sticks 10	Brunch for lunch! Pancakes with hash brown potatoes and sausage or fruity yogurt parfait 11	Walking taco! All the fixings to into your Dorito bag! Served with corn or soup with a muffin and cheese sticks 12	Cheese or pepperoni pizza with green beans and a cookie or fruity yogurt parfait 13 gluten free pizza available
Chicken and waffles with baby carrots and dip or fruity yogurt parfait 16	NO LUNCH 17	Meatball grinder with roasted chick peas and peas or fruity yogurt parfait or Munchable 18	Turkey and cheese panini with baked chips and mixed vegetables or soup with a muffin and cheese sticks 19	Cheese or veggie pizza with green beans and chocolate pudding or fruity yogurt parfait 20 gluten free pizza available
Chicken tenders with sweet potato fries and broccoli or fruity yogurt parfait 23	Brunch for lunch! French toast with bacon and hash brown potato or soup with a muffin and cheese sticks 24	Nacho cheese boat with warm cheese and taco meat and corn or fruity yogurt parfait 25	NO LUNCH 26	Cheese or pepperoni pizza with carrots or fruity yogurt parfait 27 gluten free pizza available
Hot dogs with baked beans and green beans or fruity yogurt parfait 30	Appetizer plate! <u>Chimozzarella</u> sticks with marinara sauce and (3) chicken nuggets with carrots or soup with a muffin and cheese 31			

Joshua Hyde Public Library



Saturday, March 7

10:30 am - 4:30 pm

Sunday, March 8

12:30 pm - 4 pm



\$5 PER PERSON / \$20 MAX.PER FAMILY

Fun For All Ages!

(children 10 & under must be accompanied by an adult)



**Sponsored
by the Friends of
the JHPL**

**All proceeds fund
library
programs**





Supporting Our Community

Baba Sushi has committed to donating 1% of their revenue every day to a local organization in our community. Our organization has been selected for the following dates:

Burgess Elementary School PTO

Saturday, January 4

Friday, February 14

Saturday, May 23

Sunday, June 7

Saturday, July 4

Thursday, August 20

Sunday, October 4

Saturday, December 5

Please consider supporting the businesses who support us. We're All In This Together.



WATT Cause Marketing
www.wattcausemarketing.com



455 Main Street, Sturbridge
(774) 304-1068



FAMILY FOUNDATIONS 5

Connecting families & community and supporting YOU as your child's first teacher!

Funded by the Coordinated Family and Community Engagement Grant from the Department of Early Education and Care and serving the towns of Brimfield, Brookfield, Holland, Sturbridge, and Wales

Positive Solutions for Families

Developed by The Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (CSEFEL)/Vanderbilt University

FREE 4-part Workshop Series

Positive Solutions for Families will provide information for families on how to promote children's social and emotional skills, understand their problem behavior, and use positive approaches to help children learn appropriate behavior.

Dates: Tues. March 31st, Thurs. April 2nd, Tues. April 7th and Thurs. April 9th, 2020

Time: 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Location: Hitchcock Free Academy - 2 Brookfield Rd, Brimfield, MA

Facilitated by Cheryl Cameron, Early Ed/Elementary Teacher & CFCE Grant Coordinator



Positive Solutions for Families



Family Foundations 5 will provide a playgroup/story-time for children whose caregivers attend these workshops.

Throughout this *evidence-based* workshop, caregivers will learn how to promote children's social and emotional skills, understand their challenging behaviors, and use positive approaches to help children learn appropriate behavior. These sessions will provide general information on key strategies that may be used with all children; however, sessions are not designed to offer parents specific advice for their child's individual issues.

At the conclusion of the 4-part program, parents will be offered a routine guide that provides advice for supporting their children across common family routines.

Registration Required by 3/20/20. Register at any Family Foundations 5 program, at Union61CFCE@Tantasqua.org, or call Cheryl at 508-867-2232 with your name and contact phone/email. Please include names and ages of children who will be attending the playgroup.



Tantasqua & Union 61
special education parent advisory council

SE PAC is a parent-driven organization, which works with the district and families to improve educational outcomes for students with learning challenges or differences.



Brimfield • Brookfield • Holland • Sturbridge • Wales

Upcoming Meetings:

Wednesday, Jan 8 @ 6-8pm

Wednesday, Feb 12 @ 6-8pm

Thursday, March 12 @ 6-8pm

Wednesday, April 15 @ 6-8pm

Wednesday, May 20 @ 6-8pm

Location:

Tantasqua High School
@ Cafeteria

Wednesday, June 10 @ 6-8pm
location To Be Decided



All parents and caregivers are welcome to attend whether or not their child has an IEP or 504. Come talk with others and ask questions!

Join us to share, learn, and get involved:

- ❖ Advocacy & Information
- ❖ Connection & Support
- ❖ Training & Workshops

* Check the [website](#) or [facebook](#) for upcoming events and locations.

Children are welcome!

Don't have childcare? Bring them with you! SE PAC understands the challenges we face with in-person meetings. Tables, crafts, and a supportive environment are provided.

CONTACT US

(774) 241-8141 + union61sepac.org

Union61SEPAC@gmail.com or TantasquaSEPAC@gmail.com

Facebook @TantasquaUnion61sepac

March, 2020

Brookfield Elementary School – 17 Central Street, Brookfield
 Hitchcock Free Academy – 2 Brookfield Road, Brimfield
 Holland Public Library – 23 Sturbridge Road, Holland
 Wales Public Library – 77 Main Street, Wales
 Heritage Green Community Room – 40 Heritage Green Dr, Fiskedale

Tantasqua Regional/Union 61



FAMILY FOUNDATIONS 5

Connecting families & community and supporting YOU as your child's first teacher!

Funded by the Collaborative Family and Community Engagement Grant from the MA Dept. of Family Education and Care and serving the towns of Brookfield, Brookfield, Holland, Sturbridge and Wales.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Music & Mvmt 9:25-10:25 Brookfield Elem Playgroup 9-11AM Hitchcock Academy	3 Music & Mvmt 9:25-10:25 Brookfield Elem Playgroup 9-11AM Hitchcock Academy	4 Music & Mvmt 9-10AM Hitchcock Academy Story Time 10:30-11:30 Wales Public Library	5 STEAM 9-10:30AM Brookfield Elem STEAM 9-10:30AM Hitchcock Academy	6 Playgroup 9-11AM Brookfield Elem Story Time 10-11 Holland Public Library	7
8	9 Music & Mvmt 9:25-10:25 Brookfield Elem Playgroup 9-11AM Hitchcock Academy	10 Playgroup 9-11AM Brookfield Story Time 10:30-11:30AM Heritage Green, Sturbridge	11 Music & Mvmt 9-10AM Hitchcock Academy Story Time 10:30-11:30 Wales Public Library	12 STEAM 9-10:30AM Brookfield Elem STEAM 9-10:30AM Hitchcock Academy	13 Playgroup 9-11AM Brookfield Elem Story Time 10-11 Holland Public Library	14
15	16 Music & Mvmt 9:25-10:25 Brookfield Elem Playgroup 9-11AM Hitchcock Academy	17 Playgroup 9-11AM Brookfield Story Time 10:30-11:30AM Heritage Green, Sturbridge	18 Music & Mvmt 9-10AM Hitchcock Academy Story Time 10:30-11:30 Wales Public Library	19 STEAM 9-10:30AM Brookfield Elem STEAM 9-10:30AM Hitchcock Academy	20 Playgroup 9-11AM Brookfield Elem Story Time 10-11 Holland Public Library	21
22	23 Music & Mvmt 9:25-10:25 Brookfield Elem Playgroup 9-11AM Hitchcock Academy	24 Music & Mvmt 9:25-10:25 Brookfield Elem Playgroup 9-11AM Hitchcock Academy	25 Music & Mvmt 9-10AM Hitchcock Academy Story Time 10:30-11:30 Wales Public Library	26 NO PROGRAMS today	27 Playgroup 9-11AM Brookfield Elem Story Time 10-11 Holland Public Library	28
29	30 Music & Mvmt 9:25-10:25 Brookfield Elem Playgroup 9-11AM Hitchcock Academy	31 Playgroup 9-11AM Brookfield Story Time 10:30-11:30AM Heritage Green, Sturbridge *Positive Solutions Workshop series begins 6PM				All programs are free. No prior registration is required unless noted otherwise.

*Please register by 3/20 for the Positive Solutions for Families series (details on back)!

Follow us on Family Foundations 5 · Twitter @Union61cfce · web: <https://familyfoundations5.doodledoit.com>
 Email: Union61cfce@Tantasqua.org · Phone: 508-887-2232

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

STURBRIDGE RECREATION PROUDLY PRESENTS

The 8th Annual

Family Ham Toss

Friday March 20, 2020

WHEN: 6:00-8:30PM

WHERE: Burgess Elementary School Lower Gym

WHAT: Family members team up to shoot hoops for a chance to win a HOLIDAY HAM and gift basket!

- ★ Teams consist of two members of the same family: One adult (over 18) and one child. Youth can only enter once, and adults may enter with more than one family member. Teams will make a series of foul shots to gather as many points as possible.
- ★ Each team that enters receives a free ticket to our *Spring Basket Raffle*



START PRACTICING THOSE FOUL SHOTS!

See backside for example

Age Divisions and Times:

6:00-6:45PM

4 and Under
5-6 years of age

7:00-7:45PM

7-8 years of age
9-10 Years of age

8:00-8:30PM

11-12 years of age
13-14 years of age
15-17 years of age