

# The Core



Orchard Elementary School ▪ 2 Baldwin Avenue, South Burlington, VT 05403 ▪ 802-652-7300

March 24, 2017  
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## Important Dates

### Book Fair

April 3-7, 2017  
8am-5pm

### Parent Conferences

April 6 & 7, 2017  
11:30 Dismissal

### Kindergarten

#### Registration

April 19 & 19, 2017

### Spring Vacation

April 24-28, 2017



### *Dear Parents,*

We had an awesome turn out for Skate Night last Friday night! It was a fun evening and it looked to be more popular than ever. The baskets were really impressive, they seem to get better every year. Thank you to our PTO team for coordinating this popular annual event.

**Students will not have school tomorrow, Friday, March 31.** Teachers will be participating in a district-wide in-service (professional development). Thank you for your flexibility and support.

Our SBACs (Smarter Balance Assessment Consortium) begins in two weeks. This is a federally mandated test for all students in grades 3 and up. The testing is extensive, rigorous and all online. Because it is federally mandated, there are no exemptions. Our staff found our best practice is to split the testing into two days for two weeks. Because of this, student work time looks quite different during these weeks. Please see that attachment that gives more information on the SBAC.

As presented last week, the South Burlington School Board along with our district administrators are moving forward with a new budget to be approved on Tuesday, April 6th. Last week's flier provides information on the budget, see below for the main points.

Finally, we are hurting for substitute teachers and staff! If you are not currently employed and would like to try out some time in one of your favorite places (Orchard School), please sign up to sub. We will be really good to you and make sure you land softly. It's decent pay, rewarding and fun. Please contact me or our office staff if you are interested.

Have a great weekend; take some time to read with your child. Mark Trifilio

## South Burlington School District Budget Updates

### *Main Points:*

- ★ Vote date is April 6<sup>th</sup>
- ★ Absentee Ballots are available at City Hall.
- ★ Additional Information can be found on our District Website at <https://www.sbschools.net/Page/1038>
- ★ 0.07% Tax Rate reduction.
- ★ -\$3 decrease on an average Condo (\$227,647)
- ★ -\$4 decrease on an average Home (\$335,839)



~ PTO News ~

**Thank you for Skate Night!** Please help us thank the amazing Skate Night Committee (Jamie Kelly, Liz Sidle, Hadley Bunting, Kristen Landerman, Ellie Gover and Angi Murray) for another successful Skate Night at Cairns Arena last Friday. Also, a big shout out to all the other volunteers; parents, teachers, and Orchard staff that helped to make this event happen. We raised over \$3,000 for the PTO, and over 500 cans of food were donated to the Vermont Food Bank. Thanks to all the students and their families for coming out to support this awesome annual Orchard School event!

**Seeking Spring Fling Co-Chair** Spring Fling is our annual fun filled family event, this year on May 19th. There are games, scavenger hunts, crafts, food, lots of fun and more! We are looking for a new Spring Fling Co-Chair for this year with a view to stepping into the lead for 2018. If you would like more information about this event and what the Chair position entails, please reach out to the PTO email at orchardschoolvt@gmail.com.

Save the Date for *The Incredibles!* Family Movie Night on Friday, April 7th at 6:15. Deadline for forms is Monday April 3rd!

**Next PTO Meeting** will be on April 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm in the Teachers Lounge.

**Update from South Burlington Healthy Schools**

We invite you to take a look at our new website: [www.sbschools.net](http://www.sbschools.net); choose "Staff" from the menu at the top of the page; choose "Healthy Schools" from the drop-down menu. Additionally, we invite you to join us at any of the following upcoming early spring events:

**Thursday, March 30, 5:30-7:00 p.m., FHTMS Cafeteria (flyer attached):** Round-the-World Dinner #2! Please join us to enjoy tastes of delicious international foods from our own school families and staff.

**Tuesday, April 4, 6:30-8:00 p.m., SBHS Cafeteria 2 (flyer from last week):** Diversity/Equity/Inclusion Community Series, #3 of 3. Please join us for teen-led, small-group dialogue on diversity/equity/inclusion to listen and learn from one another and plan for the series' continuation.

**Adventure Playground**

Ever heard of an adventure playground? Remember how long you could play with a cardboard box as a kid? Looking for a unique activity to take up some weekend time? Stop by at the University Mall on Saturday, April 1st from 11:00-4:00 for an amazingly simple and surprisingly engaging activity for children of all ages. Totally free, no registration necessary!  
*Thomas Urbanak, SBHS Senior*



**Exciting News for our Early Bus Arrivals!**

Orchard will be piloting our new **Walking Club** on Monday, April 3, 2017! 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders who arrive to school early (on buses 12 and 15) will be encouraged to spend their time between 7:45-8 am walking outside instead of waiting in the cafeteria. Walkers will be able to earn "Walking Bucks" that they can trade in for various health/fitness related prizes (sports balls, stress balls, etc.) to celebrate their choice to **GET MOVING** before school. Early Arrivers will continue to get off the bus and go straight to the cafeteria where they will be

given a choice to eat their breakfast right away or go outside to walk. Those who choose to walk can take their breakfast with them to class after walking. We hope to expand this program to include the K/1 grades and may also expand it to provide opportunities for all kids to earn prizes for extra movement in various settings (at recess or by doing suggested exercises at home). We are eager to get started with this pilot group, recognizing the positive impact of exercise for getting the body and brain ready to learn. We also recognize that the students like to be outside as much as possible as the weather gets nicer. Our P.E. Teacher, Tommy Hamlin, will be introducing this exciting new opportunity to students in the cafeteria today so they know what to expect when they arrive on Monday.

Lunch Menu from April 3 — 7				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Macaroni & Cheese Broccoli Fruit/Veggie Bar Milk	Taco Bar Beef or Bean Mexican Rice Fruit/Veggie Bar Milk	BBQ Chicken Mashed Potatoes Maple Glazed Carrots Rolls Fruit/Veggie Bar Milk	<b>Half Day</b> 11:30 Dismissal  Bag Lunches to go <b>Please order in advance</b>	<b>Half Day</b> 11:30 Dismissal  Bag Lunches to go <b>Please order in advance</b>