

Shelburne Community School News

March 2016



Pati Beaumont, PreK-5 Principal

Allan Miller, 6-8 Principal

Dawn Gruss, Director of Special Education

Dates to Remember:

- 3/15 5:00 pm
School Board Meeting
@ CVU
- 3/18 6:00 pm-8:00 pm
5th grade Social
SCS gym & cafeteria
- 3/22 7:00 pm
Winter Band Concert
SCS gym
- 3/25 NO SCHOOL
- 3/1 SBAC Testing window
opens for students in
grades 3-8
- 4/1 7:00 pm Cabaret Night
Middle School Band &
Chorus Fundraiser



Lots of Great Learning Still to Come!

Potholes, mud, maple syrup and warmth - even those of us who love winter welcome the inevitable shift in the seasons and the arrival of spring in the Northeast. But just in case anyone starts thinking summer is right around the corner, there are over 50 days of school still left. That's over 350 hours of great lessons for your son or daughter, and fantastic opportunities for all kinds of learning. We also look forward to some great concerts with our bands and choruses, to Jogathon and some wonderful end of year celebrations. Thank you for encouraging your children to finish their year strong and build on all the hard work that they have put forth over the past 7 months.

With the spring, comes the opportunity for our children to get outside and play without snowpants, sleds and skis. Instead they can take their baseball and softball gloves, their lacrosse sticks to join teams or their running shoes to join great opportunities like our new middle school track team, Girls on the Run or Ready Set Run. We want to highlight one athletic opportunity for SCS students that is inside this newsletter on Page 6. Two years ago our school community mourned the passing of one of our parents, John Scotnicki. In his memory the Shelburne Parks and Rec Lacrosse program has received generous donations that have been dedicated to create a scholarship fund that is available for any student wanting to play lacrosse but who is unable to pay for their registration or equipment. We so appreciate this and so many other examples of generosity within our community.

We are also already hard at work making plans to be sure the 2016/17 school year is an even better one at SCS. One of the most important steps was the passing of our budget for next year - thank you so much for your support in passing our budget by one of the largest margins in the last ten years. We also are in the midst of registering our next class of Kindergarteners and look forward to meeting them and their families in the coming weeks. Inside on page 3 you can also read about a professional development plan that we are confident will allow our great teachers and support staff to provide our students with even better learning opportunities.

One of the most exciting developments for next year is the work that is progressing around the renovation of the D and E Wings and the replacement of the roof. The Board recently hired the Bread Loaf Company from Middlebury as our Construction Managers for the project. Teaming with Dore and Whittier Architects we have begun the detailed design phase and are deep into planning the creation of 21st century learning centers to replace our current 1960's open concept classrooms. We look forward to sharing more specifics with everyone over the coming months.

SCS Environmental Club and IdleFree Vermont.

Be Idle Free!



Idle Free—by Sydney Deavitt (Grade 8—Winton)

When I say the word idle, does it mean anything to you? To me it means running your engine when your car is immobile. To a small child, it means eye level to asthma. Idling has done more harm than good, if you want to know more about how fuel in the atmosphere has affected our world, ask the polar bears who are currently suffering from global warming. When you idle your car, you emit fuel into the air, contributing to global warming through the greenhouse effect.

Idling may have its environmental impact but it also has an effect on humans. Fuel in the throat or eyes can cause cancer, asthma, and irritation. Although starting your car a few minutes earlier than you intend to drive in it, keeps you warm in the winter, and cool with air conditioning in the summer, is it really worth the price you have to pay when your bill is due? If you idle every day, waiting for your child at pick up, it would cost you \$55.87, considering the average gas price is currently \$1.85 and we burn 32 gallons per year.

So consider turning off your engine the next time you find yourself sitting in your stationary car because you could change the earth, your monthly car bill, and the life of others, even yourself.

Idle Free—by Ethan Harvey (Grade 8—Winton)

Why you should be idle free? Idling is not only bad for the environment it also wastes money and is dangerous to humans. When you idle, the CO₂ coming out of your car pollutes the environment along with air you and your children breath. Exhaust from idling cars is a big asthma trigger at schools. Fifteen minutes of parked idling can cost from \$65 up to \$200 and idling for just ten seconds is worse than shutting off and turning back on your engine. UPS, one of the biggest delivery companies in the world save money by shutting off and restarting their engines all day. If they can do it, you can too!