



Champlain Elementary School

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Burlington School District Launches School Climate Survey: A Letter from Superintendent Yaw Obeng

Dear Burlington School District Parents and Guardians,

BSD continues to work towards building a stronger relationship with all parents/guardians, students, staff and teachers throughout our school community. As part of this work, we will be conducting a district-wide climate survey this month. This survey is a direct response to the District's Strategic Plan forums and the focus on some of the goals which came out of that process regarding Equitable Culture and Climate and Inclusive Teaching and Learning. Research proves positive school climate is recognized as an important target for school reform and improving behavioral, academic, and mental health outcomes for students (Thapa et al., 2012). Therefore, we have sought and received grant funding to work with the National School Climate Center (NSCC) to plan, administer, and analyze a district-wide survey that will provide benchmarks across several demographics (employees, parents, and students) regarding the current state of the culture and climate throughout our district.

We would like to hear from as many students, parents, and adults in our district as possible, so we are asking all parents/guardians to complete the Comprehensive School Climate Inventory (CSCI) survey. There will be different versions of the survey for students, parents/guardians, and BSD employees and we have developed an additional strategy that includes working with members of our community who do not primarily speak English or have easy access to the Internet. The survey is designed to assess perceptions of school climate, including feelings about safety, relationships, learning, the environment, and communication within the school.

The survey should take approximately 20 minutes to complete. Your feedback is imperative to helping Burlington School District understand and improve the specific climate issues in our schools and district. All responses are strictly anonymous. There are no names or other personally identifying information attached to the survey. Furthermore, results will not be broken down to sub-groups with ten or fewer respondents to protect their confidentiality.

The survey will be open for responses between May 7, 2018, and May 27, 2018. All surveys *must be completed no later than May 27, 2018*. Here is the link to the climate survey for parents/guardians:
<http://www.schoolclimate.net/survey/schools/parent.asp?caseid=1183769&survey=4>

Details on how to access and complete the survey will be sent out early next week and will be shared throughout BSD's various communication channels. NSCC will compile all of the results, conduct a thorough data analysis, and send us a detailed report. These findings will then be analyzed by District administrators, teachers, staff, students and parents. Once we have identified our strengths and weaknesses, we plan to share the findings and engage the greater community in creating action steps based on the results beginning at the start of the school 2018-2019 school year. Thank you for your help in this critical exercise.

Sincerely,

Superintendent Obeng and the BSD Climate Team

Champlain's Fun Run Around the Bend!

By Elzy Wick, Champlain Parent

The 10th annual Champlain Elementary School Fun Run will be held on **Sunday, June 3 at 8:30am** at the lower pavilion at Oakledge Park. It's a beautiful spot for this fun event that builds school community and is an important fundraiser for the PTO. We request \$5 per runner - all participants welcome! Runners can opt for a 1-mile, 2-mile, or 3-mile out-and-back distance on the Burlington Bike Path. Volunteers will be stationed along the route. And for kids under 5, we kick off the event with a fun 50 yard dash. Stick around after the run for snacks and a raffle!

Registration information will be sent home the week prior to the event. Registration will also be available at a registration table outside of school during school pickup time for the week leading up to the event. Runners can also register on the morning of the Fun Run right at Oakledge. The first 100 kids to register will receive a free Fun Run shirt!

Seeking raffle prizes! Please consider donating a raffle item to this event! The business you own or work for might have "just the right thing." Every dollar raised through registration and the raffle goes right to the PTO. Interested in volunteering? Lots of volunteers are needed to help make this event run smoothly. Please contact me about your donation and/or to volunteer with Sign Up Genius at elzywick@gmail.com.

Dog Biscuits for Sale on Thursday, May 17

Straight from our Champlain kitchen and handmade by our Kindergarten students, our Kindergarten team will be selling homemade dog biscuits! These dog biscuits will get tails wagging and all proceeds will go to the Humane Society in Burlington. Students have been learning about Community Helpers and decided that this would be a great way to give back to our community. Prices are by donation. The Kindergarten team will deliver all proceeds with a walking field trip to the facility. **Dog biscuits will go on sale Thursday, May 17th, right on Champlain's front door steps at 2:40 PM.**

After-school Plant Sale to Benefit Outdoor Committee Projects on May 31 and June 1

As Spring takes hold and garden fever strikes, please consider donating any perennials that you may dig or divide. Please pot them up, label them, water regularly, and get them looking good. We will collect plants at school after Memorial Day. If you are looking to add to your gardens, don't miss this chance to get some great plants at good prices. Have questions, need pots, have pots to donate, or want to help out? Email sara@burlingtontelecom.net.

Sign Up to Help Champlain's Fun Run at: <https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/1494489/false#/invitation>

Important Dates

Friday, May 11	Trivia Night and Live Auction - St. John's Club, 9 Central Ave @ 6:00 - 9:30 PM
Wednesday, May 16	South End Capital Plan presentation with Property Services director Marty Spaulding & architect - Champlain library @ 6:00 - 8:00 PM
Friday, May 18	BSD Elementary Schools Spelling Bee at the Miller Center @ 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM
Monday, May 28	Memorial Day - School closed
Sunday, June 3	Champlain Fun Run - 1-3 mile run/walk - Oakledge Park lower pavilion @ 8:30 AM
Tuesday, June 12	Champlain Fifth-grade Step Up ceremony in the gym @ 6:00 PM
Thursday, June 14	Last day of school - 11:30 AM Dismissal