

All the news from Birchwood Elementary for the week!

BIRCHWOOD ELEMENTARY

Weekly Bulletin -- April 3, 2014



Calling Birchwood gardeners and nature-lovers! It's time to start thinking about bringing the Birchwood Nature Park out of hibernation! Whether you are a "budding" gardener or an experienced one, we have a job for you! Submit [the form](#) sent home in backpack mail by Friday (extended deadline) and receive a Birchwood PTO custom-made planting kit. Let's get planting!

Questions? Contact [Deb Foley](#)



[Let's Grow Together](#) AND earn money for Birchwood! Do you shop at the local kids consignment sales? Ever think of becoming a consignor at one of these sales yourself? Well, you can shop and/or sell at the Let's Grow Together Sale May 2-4 at Afrim's Sports (636 Albany Shaker Road) and support Birchwood PTO at the same time! The Birchwood PTO will earn 5% of your total purchase when you present this [flyer](#) at checkout. We also earn \$5 for each person that registers as a consignor and enters Birchwood PTO in the referral line. See [this link](#) for more info on consigning at the sale. This could be a great opportunity to save a little money when outfitting your growing kids or even make a little if you decide to sell some of your outgrown items...all while helping Birchwood!

Calling All Fourth and Fifth Graders.... Let's put on a play! With the





help of Mrs. Luyckx and Mrs. Albanese, there WILL be a Birchwood play this year! [Drama Club](#) will be run as an ASEP class. All fourth and fifth graders have received a flyer with registration information. [Sign up now!](#)

Questions? Contact [Mrs. Luyckx](#) for Drama Club information and [Pam Ober](#) for help with registration.

The District has created a [Summer Enrichment Program](#) for K-12 students. Classes blend academic subjects with hands-on exploration and are taught by NCS D teachers and instructional staff. It is the hope that this revenue-generating program will provide further learning opportunities for Niskayuna students. For more information, go to the [District Website](#).



The Niskayuna Central School District's 60th anniversary will be recognized at the April 6 concert of the [Schenectady Symphony Orchestra](#). All Niskayuna families are invited to attend - and children under age 18 are free of charge when accompanied by an adult ticket holder. Check out the [flyer](#).



[Friends of Music](#) would like to share upcoming dates for our musically talented students.

Congratulations to all our Birchwood musicians and vocalists on all your hard work!!

Elementary District Orchestra, 5th Grade
Thursday, April 10th

Niskayuna High School, 7:00 PM

Elementary District Band, 5th Grade

Thursday, April 24th

Niskayuna High School, 7:00 PM

Birchwood Chorus & Birchwood 4th Grade Strings

Tuesday, May 13th

Niskayuna High School, 7:00 PM

**Birchwood's 4th Annual
Poetry "Open Mic" Night**



Will be held on Thursday, May 29th, 2014 in the Birchwood cafetorium from 6:00 PM –
7:30 PM.

Students: It's time to start thinking about what poem you may want to read
or maybe you will write a poem for all of us to enjoy.

Parents, teachers and staff: we want to hear your favorite poems as well.

Watch in the coming weeks for sign-up sheets and more information.

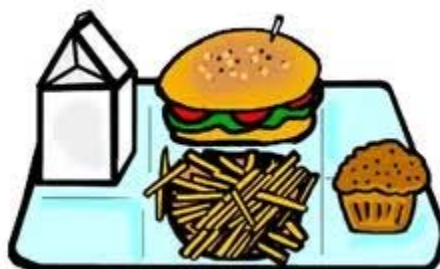
**Note: The Birchwood PTO Website is experiencing technical difficulties. You can
still access it via: bit.ly/birchwoodpto. It will be fixed soon, we hope.**

Mark Your Calendars!

- April 1-3: NYS Grades 3-5 ELA Test
- April 9: [Birchwood PTO Meeting](#) (6:30pm)
- April 11: School Banking and Popcorn Friday
- April 12 - 20: Spring Vacation
- April 30, May 1, 2: NYS Grades 3-5 Math Test
- May 2 - 4: [Let's Grow Together](#) Fundraiser

Check out the comprehensive calendar including all Birchwood and District events [HERE!](#)

April's Menu is posted [HERE](#).



BOX TOPS!!!

It's spring! Let's keep collecting!
Our school gets 10 cents for each box
top.

Easy AND fun!

More Box Tops info and tons of fun
sheets available [here!](#)



Need Books?

Check out Birchwood Media Center's
Catalog at [OPALS!](#)

[Mrs. Furey](#) added many new titles.

It's easy for your children to take out lots
of great e-books!

Learn how at [Birchwood's Media Center
Page.](#)



It's Almost Niska Day!

And Birchwood needs help with the
Beautiful Birchwood banner! It is getting
more and more difficult to carry the banner
and we need some alterations -- either by
constructing a new rod or shortening the
length of the fabric. Anyone even



NISKAYUNA SCHOOLS NEED YOU! Please
be an advocate for funding for our school
district. Follow these links to review
[information](#) regarding the state and district
budgets, what you can do to help, and take a
minute to [write your legislators](#) to let them
know that our schools are important to you!
Up-to-date budget planning information also
available at the [Birchwood PTO Website.](#)

semi-experienced in these matters should
contact [Amy Jasiewicz](#).

Help us make our banner better!

The District has also posted contact
information for the governor and our federal
representatives, a sample letter, and other
helpful information on a new "Budget
Advocacy" webpage [here](#).

Feedback? [Click here](#)

Add/update an email address? [Click here](#)

*The Birchwood Bulletin is produced by the PTO Communications Committee in cooperation with the
Birchwood principal and staff.*

To submit information for the weekly bulletin, please email [Birchwood@niskyPTO.org](mailto: Birchwood@niskyPTO.org) by Sunday night of
the week you want it to appear.

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Contact us:

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Birchwood PTO homepage:

<http://birchwood.niskypto.org/>

Birchwood school homepage:

www.nisk.k12.ny.us/birchwood

Niskayuna School District:

<http://www.niskayunaschools.org/>

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