

Budget passes! Birchwood wins a grant. PTO survey (please reply). Field Day photos, final offers, and farewells!

BIRCHWOOD ELEMENTARY

Weekly bulletin -- June 20th

Tomorrow is the **LAST DAY OF SCHOOL!** 10:45 dismissal. Have a great summer break! Classes resume in the fall on Mon., Sept. 9th.

[2013-14 School District Calendar](#)

From the PTO Co-Presidents...

Dear Birchwood Parents, Volunteers, and Staff:

Thank you for sharing your time and talents with us this school year! Your assistance goes a long way toward bringing so many great activities and programs to our school and we sincerely appreciate your important contributions! Our school becomes a better place every day when you are there to lend a hand and give support.

It was our pleasure to serve the Birchwood community as PTO Co-Presidents this year. With determination and a love for our school, we did our best to strengthen our organization and position in the district. Increased parent involvement both at Birchwood and the district level (through emails, letter writing, and attendance at Board meetings) was fantastic. Thank you for all your support! We continually strive to make improvements and will work to do so with new members to our leadership team in 2013-14 as well.

Our team of PTO parent volunteers, who work on our many activities and events, are unquestionably the best, and Birchwood would not be as strong as it is without them! We would also like to say a special thank you to our teachers and staff at Birchwood. At a time when you are faced with an increased number of demands, you continue to support our PTO initiatives and work tirelessly to give your students the best possible school experience. We value you and appreciate all you do for our children!

Thank you again to everyone. We wish you a great summer vacation that's full of fun!

Deb Foley and Sonya Ward
Birchwood PTO Co-Presidents



...And a big **THANK YOU** back to **Deb and Sonya** for the many, many hours of service they devoted to Birchwood this year!



Want to lend a hand at Birchwood next year as well? There are still **volunteer positions open**: [Volunteer SignUp](#)

Please give us your feedback about this year's PTO programs and events--here's a short survey and your feedback is extremely valuable. Please click now--the survey can take as little as a minute, or a bit longer if you have time to comment:

[PTO SURVEY](#)

Niskayuna voters APPROVED the revised school budget on Tuesday! Thank you for voting and supporting our schools!

[READ MORE](#)

Great news! Birchwood was awarded \$2,500 from the [Niskayuna Community Foundation](#) for the nature park! This money will go towards installation of permanent raised vegetable beds and other Nature Park projects. The award is contingent on Birchwood raising equal funds.



Big thanks to all who donated to Paws for the Park (an initiative led by 3rd graders), which raised \$93! Money raised for through Paws will be used to install a butterfly garden along the border of the Nature Park and can be used towards the funds needed to match the NCF grant.



Birchwood students--including Buddy!--had a blast at **Field Day on Monday**. Thanks to our 5th graders (and parent volunteers) for putting on an entertaining talent show!



Still need a yearbook? We have a few left--\$20 cash to [Millie Gnatek](#) by tomorrow!

Last chance to get your child's artwork in next year's **Birchwood directory**! Submit their drawings (pencil, colored pencil, or markers) to decorate next year's school directory. Scan and email them to: Shereen Tate (fivetates@nycap.rr.com) - OR - [PRINT](#) and return to the Main Office tomorrow (Fri.). Thanks for your contributions! (Update your contact info here: [Birchwood Directory update.](#))

Birchwood school is open this summer for "green bag" book exchanges from 6:30am-2:30pm, except holidays. If you need to reach someone in the main office, please call ahead to verify hours (344-2910).

Are your kids heading to Iroquois next year? Bring Birchwood's tradition of parent involvement with you! They need volunteers for all sorts of positions. If you can help, email Iroquois' PTO Co-Presidents, [Helen Kim](#) or [Joyce Charland](#).



Relay for Life

Congrats to the Birchwood PALS for raising money and participating in the Relay for Life event on Friday night...AND for winning the flag contest! Note the awesome t-shirts featuring Buddy the Beagle--thanks to Brian Meservey!

The Birchwood team included:

Mrs. Azer

Mike, Deb, Faith, and Connor Foley

Sonya Ward

Amy and Caroline Jasiewicz

Kate, Cameron, Oliver, and Elliot

Brownsey

Katrina, David, Mathena, and Johnathan

Rush

Tracy Lasek

Kudos to everyone for representing Birchwood and supporting the cause of cancer research!

Signing off

I've enjoyed serving as editor of the weekly bulletin this year!

Birchwood is a very special school--our whole family will miss it as we head to "greener pastures" in Burlington, Vermont. Best of luck and thanks for being a great audience to write for!

-- Michelle Rosowsky



Buddy is ready for summer break...

Are you?

**Have a good summer,
Birchwood families!**



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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