



Translations of handbook are available in Arabic, Burmese, French, Kirundi, Nepali, Spanish, Swahili, and Vietnamese.

EEO: This material is available in alternate formats for persons with disabilities. To request an accommodation, please call 1.800.253.0101 (TTY) or 1.800.253.0195 (voice).

CONTACT INFORMATION

(You must dial 802 for all calls within the State.)

Our Schools

For more info: www.bsdrv.org

School	Principal / Director	Address	Telephone	Fax
Burlington High School	Sabrina Westdijk	110 Seahorse Street	864-8411	864-8408
Burlington Technical Ctr.	Jason Reed	110 Seahorse Street	864-8426	864-8521
Champlain Elementary	Joe Resteghini	800 Pine St.	864-8477	864-2157
Eagle Bay Academy	Dr. Lara White	20 Rock Point Rd.	864-8496	864-8408
Early Education Program	Stacie Curtis	150 Colchester Ave.	864-8463	864-8452
Edmunds Elementary	Michelle Basile	299 Main St.	864-8473	864-2166
Edmunds Middle School	John Oliver	275 Main St.	864-8486	864-2218
Flynn Elementary	Sally Hayes	1645 North Ave.	864-8478	864-2145
Hunt Middle School	Melanee Alexander	1364 North Ave.	864-8469	864-8467
Integrated Arts Academy	Mattie Scheidt	6 Archibald St.	864-8475	864-2162
C.P. Smith Elementary	Len Phelan	332 Ethan Allen Pkwy.	864-8479	864-4923
Sustainability Academy	Antony Dennis	123 North St.	864-8480	864-2161

District Offices

For more info: www.bsdrv.org

Office	Name	Address	Telephone	Fax
Superintendent	Tom Flanagan	150 Colchester Ave.	864-8474	864-8501
Director of Curriculum	Katherine Grykien	150 Colchester Ave.	864-8492	864-8501
Director of Human Resources	Michelle Meola	150 Colchester Ave.	864-2159	540-3010
Director of Multilingual Learners	TBD	150 Colchester Ave.	865-5332	864-8501
Director of Equity	Sparks	150 Colchester Ave.	865-4168	864-8408
Exec. Director of Finance and Operations	Nathan Lavery	150 Colchester Ave.	864-8462	864-8501
Director of Food Service	Laura La Vacca	110 Seahorse Street	864-8416	864-8438
Director of Grants	Barry Gruessner	150 Colchester Ave.	864-8462	864-8501
Director of Property Services	Lyall Smith	287 Shelburne Road	864-8453	864-8513
Exec. Director of Student Support Services	Kellie Klasen	150 Colchester Ave.	864-8456	864-8501
Director of Expanded Learning Opportunities	Dacia Ostlund	150 Colchester Ave.	540-0285	864-8501
Director of Engagement	Victor Prussack	150 Colchester Ave.	316-6653	864-8501

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School Board

For more info: www.bsdrv.org

Ward	Name	Home Telephone	Term Ends	Email
1	Gary Golden	735-6058	2028	ggolden@bsdrv.org
2	Polly Vanderputten	578-8653	2028	pvanderputten@bsdrv.org
3	Heather Amato	970-376-2102	2028	hamato@bsdrv.org
4	Melissa Zygmant	917-912-4711	2028	mzygmant@bsdrv.org
5	Lucia Campriello	391-0079	2028	lcampriello@bsdrv.org
6	Clare Wool	917-912-4333	2028	cwool@bsdrv.org
7	Polly Ericksen	304-8718	2028	pericksen@bsdrv.org
8	Nikki O'Toole	203-913-4897	2028	jotoole@bsdrv.org
District	Name	Telephone	Ends	Email
Central	Jean Waltz	355-7856	2027	jwaltz@bsdrv.org
South	Jeffrey Wick	917-282-5256	2027	jwick@bsdrv.org
North	Kendra Sowers	598-2346	2027	ksowers@bsdrv.org
East	Matthew Price	735-6058	2027	mprice@bsdrv.org

Note: All addresses are Burlington VT 05401 unless indicated

AUGUST '26

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2	3	4 District: Athletics ML Community Forum for MaayMaay/Somali Communities 5:30-7PM	5	6 District: Athletics ML Community Forum for Swahili/Kirundi Communities 5:30-7PM	7	1 8
9	10	11	12 BHS: Fall Sports Tryouts/ Preseason Begin	13	14	15
16	17	18 District: New Teacher Inservice	19 District: New Teacher Inservice	20	21 District: Teacher Inservice	22 District: BHS/BTC Grand Opening and Block Party 11AM-2PM
23	24 District: Teacher Inservice C.P. Smith: Kindergarten Welcome & Open House 12-1PM HMS: 6th Grade Ice Cream Social 2:30-3:30PM SA: Back-to-School Popsicle Party 2:30-3:30PM District: Teacher Inservice Flynn: Meet and Greet 2:30-3:30PM	25 District: Teacher Inservice C.P. Smith: Kindergarten Welcome & Open House 12-1PM HMS: 6th Grade Ice Cream Social 2:30-3:30PM SA: Back-to-School Popsicle Party 2:30-3:30PM	26  District: First Day of School! First Day K-5 Afterschool Grades 1-5 BHS: 10th-12th Grade Orientation EBA: Family/Home Conferences EES: Welcome Coffee 8:15-9AM Flynn: First Day Coffee 8AM SA: First Day Community Coffee Event 8:10AM	27 BHS: 9th Grade Orientation BTC: First Day of School EBA: Family/Home Conferences EMS: Meet the Coaches/ Fall Sports Meeting 3:15PM	28 BHS: First Day of Fall Sports Regular Season C.P. Smith: Welcome Back Popsicle Party 5:30PM HMS: Meet the Coaches/ Fall Sports Meeting 3:15PM	29
30	31 BHS: Add/Drop Week EMS/HMS: Fall Sports Evaluations/Practices Begin 3:15PM					

SEPTEMBER '26

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
		BHS: Add/Drop Week Champlain: Picture Day	BHS: Add/Drop Week	BHS: Open House 6-8:30PM BHS: Add/Drop Week EES: PTO Meeting 8:15AM EMS: Family Advisory Group 5:15-6:15PM Flynn: PTO Meeting 6:30PM Flynn: Very Merry Theater Family Info Meeting 7:30PM SA: Picture Day	District: No School	
	6	8	9	10	11	12
	District: Labor Day (No School)	District: First Day of K-5 Afterschool for Kindergarten District: First Day for PreK EMS: EngageEMS PTO Meeting 6:30-7:30PM Champlain: Vision and Hearing Screening	BHS: Picture Day HMS: Vision and Hearing Screening HMS: Panthers PTO Meeting 6:30-7:30PM	BHS: Senior Info Parent Night 6-7PM BHS: Picture Day Champlain: Vision and Hearing Screening Flynn: Picture Day	District: Rosh Hashanah-No Evening Events Champlain: PTO Meeting 8:15AM SA: Community Meeting 8:10-8:20AM	District: Rosh Hashanah-No Athletic Events
	13	15	16	17	18	19
	C.P. Smith: PTO Meeting 5:30-7PM Flynn: Vision and Hearing Screening SA: PTO Meeting 6-7PM	District: Playing Fields and Cookout 6PM C.P. Smith: Picture Day Flynn: Vision and Hearing Screening Flynn: Back to School Open House 5PM	C.P. Smith: Vision and Hearing Screening IAA: Open House	C.P. Smith: Vision and Hearing Screening EMS: Fall Open House 6:30-7:30PM SA: Community Dinner/ Open House 5-7PM	Champlain: Harvest Fest 5-7PM EES: PTO Welcome Back BBQ 5:30-7:00PM HMS: Picture Day IAA: Vision and Hearing Screening	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	District: Yom Kippur/ Dashain - No School, No Athletic Events	BTC: Open House at BTC/BHS Location- Current Families 6-7PM EES: Picture Day IAA: Vision and Hearing Screening	BTC: Open House at 200 Davinci Dr.-Current Families 6-7PM SA: Vision and Hearing Screening	BTC: Education and Training Leadership Open House, EES 5:30PM Champlain: Open House 5:30-6:30PM EES: Open House 5:30-6:30PM HMS: Parent/Guardian Open House 6-7:30PM SA: Vision and Hearing Screening	Champlain: Rescreen Vision and Hearing	
27	28	29	30			
	EES/EMS: Vision and Hearing Screening	EES/EMS: Vision and Hearing Screening	EES/EMS: Vision and Hearing Screening			



OCTOBER '26

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <i>2026 State Champions!</i>				1	2	3
				EES/EMS: Vision and Hearing Screening EES: PTO Meeting 8:15AM EMS: Family Advisory Group 5:15-6:15PM Flynn: PTO Meeting 6:30PM	EBA: Vision and Hearing Screening	BHS: Jazz Girls Day Vermont (Montpelier HS)
	4	5	6	7	8	9
	BHS: Vision and Hearing Screening SA: PTO Meeting 6-7PM	BHS: Vision and Hearing Screening	BHS: Vision and Hearing Screening	BHS: Vision and Hearing Screening	Champlain: PTO Meeting 8:15AM Flynn: Rescreen Vision and Hearing HMS: Picture Retake Day SA: Community Meeting 8:10-8:30AM	10
	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Flynn: Rescreen Vision and Hearing	C.P. Smith: Rescreen Vision and Hearing EMS: EngageEMS PTO Meeting 6:30-7:30PM IAA: Picture Day	BHS: PSAT HMS: Rescreen Vision and Hearing HMS: Panthers PTO Meeting 6:30-7:30PM	Flynn: Fall Bookfair and Pancake Breakfast 5-7PM IAA: Rescreen Vision and Hearing IAA: Arts Integration Night 5:30-7PM	SA: Rescreen Vision and Hearing	17
	18	19	20	21	22	23
SA: Harvest Run 9:15AM	C.P. Smith: PTO Meeting 5:30-7PM EBA: Rescreen Vision and Hearing	BHS: Fall Sports Postseason Begins EES/EMS: Rescreen Vision and Hearing	BHS: Picture Retake Day EES/EMS: Rescreen Vision and Hearing	District: No School - PreK-5 Professional Learning; 6-12 Parent Conferences	District: No School	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	BHS: Rescreen Vision and Hearing	BHS: Rescreen Vision and Hearing	Champlain: 2nd Rescreen Vision and Hearing	BHS: Large Ensemble Concert (BHS Auditorium) 7-8:30PM EBA: Student Exhibition Flynn: 2nd Rescreen Vision and Hearing	C.P. Smith: PTO Harvest Costume Dance 5:30-7PM C.P. Smith/HMS: 2nd Rescreen Vision and Hearing HMS: Panthers Movie Night 6:15-7:30PM IAA: Fall Fest 5:30-7PM	

NOVEMBER '26

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 IAA/SA: 2nd Rescreen Vision and Hearing SA: PTO Meeting 6-7PM	3 EBA: 2nd Rescreen Vision and Hearing SA: Election Day Bake Sale 7AM-7PM	4	5 EES/EMS: 2nd Rescreen Vision and Hearing EES: PTO Meeting 8:15AM EMS: Family Advisory Group 5:15-6:15PM Flynn: PTO Meeting 6:30PM	6 EES: Community Traditions Night 5-8PM	7 SA: Fall Work Day (Tentative)
8	9 BHS: 2nd Rescreen Vision and Hearing HMS: Meet the Coaches / Winter Sports Meeting 3:15PM	10 District: No School - Diwali	11 HMS: Magic Math Night 5:30-6:30PM HMS: Family Advisory Group: Title I Meeting 6:30-7:30PM	12 C.P. Smith: Book Fair 5:30-6:30PM SA: Math Night 5-7PM	13 Champlain: PTO Meeting 8:15AM EMS: Fall Dance 6-7:45PM Flynn: School Play 6:30PM HMS: Ruby Bridges Walk 1PM HMS: Harvest Event 4-5:30PM SA: Community Meeting 8:10-8:30AM	14 Flynn: School Play 2:00PM
15	16 C.P. Smith: Annual Title I Meeting 5:30-6PM C.P. Smith: PTO Meeting 6-7PM	17 EMS: Annual Title I Meeting 5:30-6:30PM EMS: EngageEMS PTO Meeting 6:30-7:30PM	18 SA: Winter Warm Up 8AM	19 BHS: Drama Fall Musical 7-10PM	20 BHS: Drama Fall Musical 7-10PM	21 BHS: Drama Fall Musical 2-5PM, 7-10PM
22	23 District: No School - K-8 Parent Conferences; 9-12 Professional Learning	24 District: No School - K-8 Parent Conferences; 9-12 Professional Learning	25 District: Thanksgiving Recess	26 District: Thanksgiving Recess	27 District: Thanksgiving Recess	28
29	30 BHS/EMS/HMS: Winter Sports Tryouts/Preseason Begins					



DECEMBER '26

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3 EES: PTO Meeting 8:15AM EMS: Family Advisory Group 5:15-6:15PM Flynn: PTO Meeting 6:30PM	4 HMS: Winter Dance 6-7:30PM Chanukah begins (sunset)	5
6	7 C.P. Smith: PTO Meeting 5:30-7PM EMS: Meet the Coaches SA: PTO Meeting 6-7PM	8 EMS: EngageEMS PTO Meeting 6:30-7:30PM	9 HMS: 7th/8th Grade Ensemble Concert 6PM	10 EMS: Winter Orchestra Concert 7-8PM HMS: Panthers PTO Meeting 6:30-7:30PM	11 BHS: Madrigal Festival BHS/EMS/HMS: First Day of Winter Sports Regular Season Champlain: PTO Meeting 8:15AM SA: Community Meeting 8:10-8:30AM	12 Chanukah ends (sunset)
13	14	15 EMS: Winter Chorus Concert 7-8:30PM	16 District: Early Release - Professional Learning (No K-5 Afterschool)(No PreK) HMS: 6th Grade Ensemble Concert 6PM	17 BHS: Small Ensemble Concert (BHS Auditorium) 7PM	18 C.P. Smith: Winter Concert & Art Show 1:30PM	19
20	21 Yule begins	22 BHS: Alumni Panel	23 Champlain: Holiday Singalong 1:30PM	24 District: Winter Break (No School) Christmas Eve	25 District: Winter Break (No School) Christmas Day	26
27	28 District: Winter Break (No School)	29 District: Winter Break (No School) Tamu Loshar (Gurung New Year) begins	30 District: Winter Break (No School)	31 District: Winter Break (No School) New Year's Eve		

JANUARY '27

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 District: Winter Break (No School) <i>New Year's Day</i> <i>Tamu Loshar</i> <i>(Gurung New Year) ends</i>	2
	3	4	5 EMS: EngageEMS PTO Meeting 6:30-7:30PM	6 EES: PTO Meeting 8:15AM EMS: Family Advisory Group 5:15-6:15PM Flynn: PTO Meeting 6:30 PM	8 SA: Community Meeting + Celebration of Learning 8:10-8:30AM	9
10	11 C.P. Smith: PTO Meeting 5:30-7PM HMS: Spring Play auditions begin 3:15PM SA: PTO Meeting 6-7PM	12 EMS: Winter Band Concert 7-8:30PM	13 HMS: Panthers PTO Meeting 6:30-7:30PM	14 BHS: Junior College Info Night 6-7PM Flynn: Reading Celebration 6-7PM	15 District: Sankofa Event: Sharing our Stories 1-3PM Champlain: PTO Meeting 8:15AM	16 BHS: All-State Auditions (Spaulding HS)
17	18 District: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day (No School)	19 District: No School - PreK-12 Inservice	20	21 EBA: Student Exhibition	22	23 <i>Laylat al Baraat begins (sunset)</i>
24 <i>Laylat al Baraat ends (sunset)</i>	25	26	27	28	29 BTC: Prospective Student Visit Day 9AM-2:30PM Flynn: Family Traditions Dinner 5:30PM	30 District: WIDA Testing Begins EES: Math Night 5-7PM
31		BHS: Rising 9th Grade Parent Info Night 6-7PM		SA: Community Dinner 5-7PM		

FEBRUARY '27

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 SA: PTO Meeting 6-7PM <i>Imbolic</i>	2	3	4 BHS: 9th & 10th Grade Parent Info Night 6-7PM EES: PTO Meeting 8:15AM EMS: Family Advisory Group 5:15-6:15PM Flynn: PTO Meeting 6:30PM	5 Champlain: School Play 6:00PM HMS: Love is Love Dance 6-7:30PM	6 BHS: Winter Ball 8-11PM <i>Chinese New Year</i>
7 <i>Sonam Loshar (Tamang New Year)</i>	8 BTC: Evening Info Sessions: BTC/BHS Location 5-6 and 6-7PM <i>Ramadan Begins</i>	9 BTC: Evening Info Sessions: 200 Davinci Dr. 5-6 and 6-7PM EMS: EngageEMS PTO Meeting 6:30-7:30PM	10 District: Early Release - Professional Learning (No K-5 Afterschool)(No PreK) BTC: Evening Info Session ETL at EES 5:30-6:30PM HMS: Family Advisory Group 6-7:30PM <i>Ash Wednesday</i> <i>Vietnamese New Year ends</i>	11 BHS: Chorus Pops Concert 7PM	12 Champlain: PTO Meeting 8:15AM C.P. Smith: School Play 6PM Flynn: Talent Show 6-9PM SA: Community Meeting 8:10-8:30AM	13 BHS: Last Day of Winter Sports Regular Season BTC: Post-Secondary Aviation Information Session 1-2PM BTC: Weekend Info Session 10-11AM and 11-12PM C.P. Smith: School Play 2PM
14 C.P. Smith: PTO Meeting 5:30-7PM HMS: Meet the Coaches/ Spring Sports Meeting 3:15PM <i>Presidents' Day</i>	15	16 BHS: Band Concert 7PM	17 District: Sankofa Event: Legacy & Light 5-7PM	18 BHS: Drama One-Acts 7PM	19 BHS: Winter Fest BHS: Drama One-Acts 7PM	20 BHS: Drama One-Acts 2PM, 7PM
21	22 District: Winter Break (No School)	23 District: Winter Break (No School) BHS: Winter Sports Postseason Begins	24 District: Winter Break (No School)	25 District: Winter Break (No School)	26 District: Winter Break (No School)	27
28						

MARCH '27

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 District: Winter Break (No School)	2 SA: Town Meeting Election Day Bake Sale 7AM-7PM	3	4 EES: PTO Meeting 8:15AM EMS: Family Advisory Group 5:15-6:15PM Flynn: PTO Meeting 6:30PM	5	6
7	8 SA: PTO Meeting 6-7PM	9 BHS: Orchestra Night 7PM EMS: EngageEMS PTO Meeting 6:30-7:30PM <i>Eid-UI-Fitr starts</i> <i>Ramadan ends</i>	10 District: Eid - No School, No Athletic Events <i>Eid- UI- Fitr ends</i>	11 BHS: New England Music Festival (Worcester MA) 6-7:30PM Flynn: Math Night 6-7PM	12 District: Last Day for WIDA Testing BHS: New England Music Festival (Worcester MA) 6-7:30PM Champlain: PTO Meeting 8:45AM SA: Community Meeting 8:10-8:30AM	13 BHS: New England Music Festival (Worcester MA) 6-7:30PM
14	15 C.P. Smith: PTO Meeting 5:30-7PM	16	17 HMS: Panthers PTO Meeting 6:30-7:30PM <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	18 EES: Fine Arts Night (Grades 3-5) 5:30-7PM IAA: Science/Invention Fair	19	20
21 <i>Holi begins (sunset)</i>	22 BHS: Preseason for Pitchers & Catchers (Baseball/Softball) Begins <i>Purim begins</i> <i>Holi ends (sunset)</i>	23 <i>Purim ends</i>	24	25 C.P. Smith: Science & Maker Fair 5:30-7PM EES: Fine Arts Night (Grades 3-5) - Snow Date 5:30-7PM HMS: Spring Play Performance 4PM <i>Holy Thursday</i>	26 District: No School - PreK-12 Parent Conferences HMS: Spring Play Performance 6:30PM <i>Good Friday</i>	27 HMS: Spring Play Performance 2PM
28 <i>Easter</i>	29 BHS: Spring Sports Tryouts/Preseason Begins for all sports	30	31			



APRIL '27

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 EBA: Student Exhibition EES: PTO Meeting 8:15AM EMS: Family Advisory Group 5:15-6:15PM Flynn: PTO Meeting 6:30PM SA: Skate Night 6-7:30PM	2 Flynn: Family Skate Night HMS: Panthers Rollerskate & Disco Night 6:30-8PM	3
4	5 C.P. Smith: PTO Meeting 5:30-7PM EMS/HMS: Spring Sports Evaluations/Practices Begin SA: PTO Meeting 6-7PM	6 BHS: Testapalooza & PLP Presentations	7 BHS: Testapalooza & PLP Presentations	8 C.P. Smith: International Dinner 5:30-7PM Flynn: Visual Arts Night 5:30-7PM	9 BHS: First Day of Spring Sports Regular Season Champlain: PTO Meeting 8:15AM EES: Skate Night 5-7PM SA: Community Meeting + Celebration of Learning 8:10-8:45AM	10 C.P. Smith: Fun Run 9-11AM SA: Silent Auction & Pancake Breakfast 8:30-11:30AM
11	12	13 EMS: EngageEMS PTO Meeting 6:30-7:30PM <i>Thingyan (Water Festival) begins</i>	14 HMS: Panthers PTO Meeting 6:30-7:30PM	15 BHS: Health and Wellness Fair BHS: Large Ensemble Concert & Fine Arts Night 6:30PM	16 <i>Thingyan (Water Festival) ends</i>	17
18	19 District: Spring Break (No School)	20 District: Spring Break (No School)	21 District: Spring Break (No School) <i>Passover begins (sunset)</i>	22 District: Spring Break (No School)	23 District: Spring Break (No School)	24
25	26	27	28	29 Flynn: Spring Bookfair and Hot Dog Dinner 5-7PM <i>Passover ends (sunset)</i>	30	



JUNE '27

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
		BHS: Spring Sports Postseason Begins		EES: PTO Meeting 8:15AM EMS: Family Advisory Group 5:15-6:15PM EMS: Gallery Walk 4-5PM Flynn: Field Days Flynn: PTO Meeting 6:30PM	C.P. Smith: PTO End of Year Picnic 5:30-7PM EMS: 8th Grade Dance 6-7:45PM	
	6	7	8	9	10	11
	BHS: ACE (Athletic) Awards 6:30-8PM SA: PTO Meeting 6-7PM	BTC: Recognition Night 6-8PM EMS: EngageEMS PTO Meeting 6:30-7:30PM	HMS: Panthers PTO Meeting 6:30-7:30PM	EBA: Student Exhibition <i>Shavuot begins (sunset)</i>	District: Last Day for PreK EMS: 8th Grade Awards Assembly 8:15-9:15AM HMS: 8th Grade Dinner Dance 6-7:30PM SA: Community Meeting 8:10-8:30AM	12
	13	14	15	16	17	18
			District: Earliest Last Day for Students (Subject to Change Based on Weather Closures) - Early Release Flynn: Last Day of School Parade and Popsicles (Subject to Change Based on Weather Closures) 11:30PM	District: Earliest Last Day for Teachers (Subject to Change Based on Weather Closures) BHS: Graduation		19
	20	21	22	23	24	25
	District: Juneteenth - District Closed					26
27	28	29	30			



JULY '27

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Independence Day						
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31





Annual Returning Student Registration

Most of the District's back-to-school paperwork is completed through an online system called PowerSchool. Using this system, you will update the information we have on file for you and your student(s). Each summer, families receive communication from the school with instructions on how to log in to complete this update process.

The online form gathers contact information, permission slips, etc. These forms are required for all students.

Students may not be allowed to attend school and may have their electronic device (iPad/Chromebook) withheld if the following information is not up to date: Medical, Emergency Contact, Immunizations, and Lunch Forms (if applicable).

Thank you for your help in completing these forms.



Child Nutrition and Food Service

In 2026-27, all meals in all schools will be provided at no charge to all students.

The Burlington School Food Project (BSFP) is committed to providing access to quality meals for all students in BSD. Our team is dedicated to supporting academic success and healthy eating habits that lead to lifelong positive nutrition practices. Breakfast and lunch are served in all schools, afterschool meals are provided at most schools.

School meals are served to students under the National School Lunch and Breakfast Program and follow the nutritional guidelines prescribed by the Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010. This law was designed to reduce the incidence of childhood obesity by providing healthier choices to students. All meals, foods and beverages are prepared and served by qualified child nutrition professionals.

(Continued on next page.)

BURLINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

2026-27 FAMILY HANDBOOK



Our Mission is to graduate students who:

- Value different cultures
- Engage with the community
- Communicate effectively
- Think creatively
- Skillfully solve problems
- Achieve at their highest academic, intellectual and personal potential

Our Vision:

Cultivating Caring, Creative, and Courageous People — Join the Journey!

Our Core Beliefs:

- Every child can succeed
- Families and community are partners in educating our children
- Diversity and inclusion promote strong schools and communities
- A welcoming, supportive climate fosters learning
- Self-reflection and accountability improve our practices

Our North Star:

Every learner is challenged, empowered, and engaged.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Burlington School District is committed to providing equal access to all District-sponsored functions. People with disabilities who require additional accommodations to participate in School District-sponsored events should notify the school principal or administrator responsible for the program or activity sufficiently in advance to allow for appropriate preparation.

ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT

The Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) 40 CFR 763.93 [g] [4] requires that written notification be given that the following schools/buildings have Asbestos Management Plans for the safe control and maintenance of asbestos containing materials found in their buildings. These Management Plans are available and accessible to the public at the administrative office of each facility listed below and at the District's main office at 150 Colchester Ave.

Early Education

150 Colchester Avenue, Burlington, VT 05401

Champlain Elementary School

800 Pine Street, Burlington, VT 05401

Edmunds Elementary and Middle School

275 Main Street, Burlington, VT 05401

Flynn Elementary School

1645 North Avenue, Burlington, VT 05408

Integrated Arts Academy

150 Colchester Avenue, Burlington, VT 05401

C.P. Smith Elementary School

332 Ethan Allen Parkway, Burlington, VT 05408

Sustainability Academy

123 North Street, Burlington, VT 05401

Hunt Middle School

1364 North Avenue, Burlington, VT 05408

BHS

110 Seahorse Street, Burlington, VT 05408

BTC

110 Seahorse Street, Burlington, VT 05408

Eagle Bay Academy

20 Rock Point Road, Burlington, VT 05408

Contact Property Services with any questions at (802) 864-8453.

ATTENDANCE / ABSENCES / TARDINESS

School attendance is essential for children. The City of Burlington and the State of Vermont are continuing their efforts to ensure students attend school for a full school day. Students are required by State Law to attend school unless excused for illness, family emergency, religious observance, or pre-approved educational activity.

When students are absent or tardy, the school documents the cumulative incidences of tardiness and/or absence of each student, which may be used for truancy proceedings. Support services are offered as needed.

Attendance and truancy procedures fall under the responsibility of the Office of Engagement. The Office of Engagement has revised truancy procedures to be more restorative and equitable, with a goal of taking a more needs-based approach and less of a punitive approach. Please see below for our current procedures.

Truancy Procedures and Truancy Letter:

Every student deserves the opportunity to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally, and consistent school attendance is foundational to this success. District Attendance Procedures are aligned with our attendance policy and VT State Statutes.

New this year, all schools will have attendance teams that meet regularly to review student attendance and create individualized plans to improve attendance. In some cases, these plans will include sending home a restorative re-engagement letter (Chronic Absenteeism Letter) after five, 10, or 15 cumulative days. In most cases, however, plans will involve direct communication with students and their families from the classroom teacher, school counselor, or other school staff.

Absenteeism is a complex, multi-layered issue that requires a compassionate and holistic approach. It also requires collaboration and shared responsibility across teachers, staff, students, families, and the community. We are committed to understanding the challenges and working together to seek solutions at all levels. Our work is student-centered, recognizing that each student's journey is unique and influenced by various personal, familial, and community factors. This new approach is grounded in the researched best practices of the national nonprofit organization, Attendance Works.

Excused Absences:

From the AOE Website, an absence is considered excusable when it is the result of:

- Personal illness;
- Appointments with health professionals that cannot be made outside of the regular school day;

- Observance of recognized religious holidays when the observance is required during a regular school day;
- Emergency family situations such as a death in the family;
- Planned absences for personal or educational purposes which have been approved.
- Absences due to suspension or expulsion.

All other absences will be marked as Absence Unexcused. This includes absences such as those that occur when a student needs more sleep, family is in town for a visit, the student is attending a non-AOE approved alternative programming, there is an event that the family wishes to attend with the student, and participating in programs such as Crow's Path, Teresa Davis Art Studios, etc.

Planned Absences:

In cases of planned absences, families must submit a Planned Absence Request Form alerting us to planned absences of three to nine days. If a planned absence will extend beyond nine consecutive days, a 10+ Days Planned Absence Request Form must be filled out by the family and signed by the principal and teachers. Unless a planned absence of three to nine days falls under one of the six types of excusable absences listed above or is otherwise approved by the Superintendent, it will be considered an unexcused absence.

Truancy:

We are moving to a more restorative approach focused on understanding why a student has been absent, the impacts on their schooling, and how the school can work with the family to have improved engagement with school. A truancy notification letter will be sent to any student who has five or more absences from school whether they are excused (such as illness) or unexcused. All families will receive the truancy letter regardless of the reason for the absences. Missing multiple days of school can impact a student's academic progress including meeting State Standards and/or their IEP goals. In circumstances where a student attends outside programming one day per week, this constitutes them missing 20% of the year's curriculum and families should be aware that such absences can impact learning.

Our intent — and the intent of Vermont State Law — is to ensure students are in school and learning. Help us help your student by supporting their attendance.

HAZING, HARASSMENT, AND BULLYING (HHB)

Burlington School District strives to foster a safe learning environment where all students and school staff display respectful behavior towards each other. Bullying in any form is

Child Nutrition and Food Service *(continued)*

Meals Provided:

- FREE Breakfast for all students.
- FREE fruits and vegetables for K-5 students at eligible schools.
- Lunch will include fresh fruit, vegetable bar, and milk — *every day*.
- Ala Carte options and vending machines with healthy snacks for high school students.

The BSFP is also proud to provide access to meals all summer through the Summer Food Service Program.

We continue to increase the amount of local products served in our cafeterias. We are proud to say that all of the beef we serve is Vermont Beef!

Our Farm to School program connects students and their families with whole, fresh, and local food as well as many Vermont farmers to strengthen the health of our community.

Buying local helps to boost BSFP programs, connecting children to their food system and creating opportunities for local farmers to provide their harvest to schools in their communities.

Please visit our website to find out more about Farm to School and other initiatives, as well as our payment procedures for ala carte and vending machine purchases: <http://burlingtonschoolfoodproject.org>.



Commitment to Diversity and Equity

The diversity of our students is an asset to the Burlington community. BSD believes all students and staff deserve a safe, inclusive learning and work environment where differences are valued and celebrated. We also believe that every student has a right to learn at their highest and greatest potential.

The District has committed itself to close the opportunity gap in student outcomes based on racial, ethnic, socioeconomic, linguistic, ability, or any other real or perceived disparities that may limit any student's opportunity to be fully included and successful in school.

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Commitment to Diversity and Equity (continued)

BSD firmly believes that racism and white supremacy culture negatively impact our entire District and is fully committed to eradicating them. In SY '24, BSD's entire leadership team worked with Truss Leadership, The Leadership Collaborative, and Starling Collaborative to engage in anti-racist leadership training rooted in Restorative Practices.

We are also committed to transforming BSD into a national model for holistic wellness for LGBTQ+ people, youth, and adults. We stand in solidarity with LGBTQ+ students, staff, and community members and believe that schools can truly be safe only when every student is assured access to an education without fear. We stand behind our BSD staff who pursue a safe and supportive environment for all students. We also stand behind our educators who teach an inclusive curriculum that features LGBTQ+ people, history, and events and raises awareness to counter discrimination, stereotypes, bias and harassment. To further this work, the District created an LGBTQ+ Task Force in FY22; that group's report and recommendations (including this statement of advocacy) can be found at www.bsddvt.org/district/superintendent/school-assessments-data

The Burlington Board of School Commissioners continues its support and commitment to the District's diversity, equity, and inclusion work. The Office of Equity provides District leadership around issues of equity and access, including fully implementing Restorative Practices and providing resources, support, and advocacy towards just, equitable, and inclusive solutions.

Vermont Agency of Education Best Practices for Schools Regarding Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Students

Visit <https://education.vermont.gov/documents/best-practices-for-schools-regarding-transgender-and-gender-nonconforming-students>

not tolerated. BSD strongly encourages our entire community to report any known incidents of Hazing, Harassment, and Bullying to any adult in any of our buildings.

Specifically, **bullying** refers to behavior, including electronic, directed at a student from another student or group of students that is repeated over time, is intended to ridicule, humiliate, and/or intimidate the student and occurs during the school day on school property, on a school bus, before or after the school day, and/or at a school-sponsored activity. Procedures are in place at each school for handling bullying behavior, and parents are encouraged to talk with building administrators when they are concerned about bullying incidents. See Student Harassment section below for information on school-based Designated Employees and other resources available in the District.

Hazing refers to any act committed by a person (individually or with a group), on or off school property, against another student in connection with pledging, being initiated into, affiliating with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in any organization that is affiliated with Burlington School District. Hazing activities are intended to humiliate, intimidate, and/or demean another student and will not be tolerated in the School District.

Consent or acquiescence by the victim of the hazing does not excuse those who participated in the hazing. Hazing, soliciting, directing, aiding or attempting to aid in or assist another person in hazing or failing to take reasonable measures to prevent hazing is unlawful and a student may be subject to prosecution under the law and under the District's Policy and a penalty up to \$5,000. Hazing incidents may also be reported to law enforcement agencies.

Examples of hazing include:

1. Any type of physical brutality such as whipping, beating, striking, branding, electrical shocks, placing a harmful substance on or in the body, or other similar activity.
2. Any type of physical activity such as sleep deprivation, exposure to the elements, confinement in a small space, or other activity that creates or results in an unreasonable risk of harm or that adversely affects the mental or physical health or safety of the student.
3. Any activity involving consumption of food, liquid, alcoholic beverage, liquor, drug, or other substance that subjects a student to risk of harm.
4. Any activity that induces, causes, or requires a student to perform a duty or task, which involves the commission of a crime or an act of hazing.

Complaints of suspected hazing should be reported to the Designated Employees or Building Administrator at any school, who will investigate such complaints.

Harassment is a form of unlawful discrimination that will not be tolerated by Burlington School District. The District will address all complaints of harassment promptly and take reasonable steps to end harassing conduct.

Prohibited Harassment: Cyber-Bullying or Cyber-Harassment

There is no specific statute pertaining to cyberbullying or cyber-harassment. Rather, the Vermont statutes that define "harassment" and "bullying" each have been amended to expand their scope to include and cover behaviors that may happen off campus/online, *but only where the behavior can be shown to impact the student's ability to access education*. For example, cyber-harassment is referred to here in the underlined text:

A. Harassment: an incident or incidents of verbal, written, visual, or physical conduct, including any incident conducted by electronic means, based on or motivated by a student's or a student's family member's actual or perceived race, creed, color, national origin, marital status, disability, immigration status, citizenship, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression that has the purpose or effect of objectively and substantially undermining and detracting from or interfering with a student's educational performance or access to school resources or creating an objectively intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment.

1. **Sexual Harassment:** conduct that includes unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other verbal, written, visual or physical conduct of a sexual nature. **Title IX Sexual Harassment** prohibited under Title IX and by this Policy is conduct on the basis of sex, occurring in an education program or activity of the District, against a person in the United States, that satisfies one or more of the following: 1. A school district employee conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the District on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct; **OR** 2. Unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive, AND objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the District's education program or activity; **OR** 3. Or any conduct which would satisfy one or more of the following definitions: Sexual Assault, Dating Violence, Domestic Violence, Stalking. See Non-Discrimination on page 21 for Title IX reporting information.



Dental Care at the Integrated Arts Academy

The Community Health Centers of Burlington's (CHC) School-Based Dental Center was designed to ensure access to dental services for low-income Burlington students without a Dental Home. Launched in 2004 as a collaboration with BSD, students can sign up at school or be referred to CHC for dental services right at the Integrated Arts Academy. The School-Based Dental Center offers ongoing comprehensive dental care during the school day and provides transportation to and from schools for appointments at IAA. The staff also provides oral health education regarding good oral hygiene habits, the importance of eating healthy foods, how to preserve smiles for a lifetime, and more. Tooth Tutors also help with registration forms and connect students to dental care. Please call **(802) 652-1050** if your child has not seen a dentist within one year, or does not have a Dental Home. The School-Based Dental Center provides dental care to any BSD child grades K-12 who has Medicaid or is not insured. CHC offers a Sliding-fee Scale Financial Assistance Program for those who do not qualify for Medicaid.

For information regarding the Sliding-fee Scale Financial Assistance Program, call CHC Patient Support Services at (802) 264-8124.

During the 2025-2026 school year, we operated out of our South End location on Pine Street. We are expecting to be back at our clinic site within the Integrated Arts Academy for Fall 2026. Due to increased scrutiny of state Medicaid resources, many students no longer qualify for the transportation benefit of this program. While CHC is working on a plan to allow us to run the transportation aspect of this program like usual, this new obstacle may limit the program during the 2026-2027 school year. If you have any questions or concerns, please call (802) 652-1050 for further assistance.

During the 2025-2026 School Year:

- We cared for 254 students.
- Kids received over 331 cleanings with free toothbrushes, toothpaste and goodie bags.
- 43 new children came into the Dental Program for a check-up.

2. **Racial Harassment:** conduct directed at the characteristics of a student's or a student's family member's actual or perceived race or color, and includes the use of epithets, stereotypes, racial slurs, comments, insults, derogatory remarks, gestures, threats, graffiti, display, or circulation of written or visual material, and taunts on manner of speech and negative references to racial customs.
3. **Other Protected Categories of Harassment:** conduct directed at the characteristics of a student's or a student's family member's actual or perceived creed, religion, national origin, marital status, disability, immigration status, citizenship, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression; includes but is not limited to the use of epithets, stereotypes, slurs, comments, insults, derogatory remarks, gestures, threats, graffiti, display, or circulation of written or visual material, taunts on manner of speech or dress, and negative references to customs related to any of these protected categories.
 - a. **Creed or Religious Harassment** means harassment based on or motivated by a student's or a student's family member's actual or perceived creed or religious beliefs or practices, including manner of dress.
 - b. **National Origin Harassment** means harassment based on or motivated by a student's or a student's family member's actual or perceived national origin, including manner of dress.
 - c. **Marital Status Harassment** means harassment based on the status of being an unwed mother or father directed at, or motivated by, a student's or a student's family member's actual or perceived marital status.
 - d. **Sexual Orientation Harassment** means harassment based on or motivated by a student's or a student's family member's actual or perceived sexual orientation.
 - e. **Gender Identity Harassment** means harassment based on an individual's actual or perceived gender-related identity or gender-related characteristics, intrinsically related to an individual's gender or gender identity, including but not limited to appearance or behavior, regardless of the individual's assigned sex at birth.
 - f. **Gender Expression Harassment** means harassment based on or motivated by an individual's or individual's family member's actual or perceived gender expression, including, but not limited to, appearance or behavior, regardless of the individual's assigned sex at birth.
 - g. **Disability Harassment** means harassment based on manner of speech or movement, cognitive ability, receipt

of educational services outside of the general education environment, or other manifestation of a person's disability directed at, or motivated by a student's or a student's family member's actual or perceived mental or physical disability.

Reporting Harassment: All students, parents/guardians, and school community members are encouraged to report incidents of misconduct or student harassment to a school employee, the Designated Employee, or Non-discrimination Coordinator (NDC) at your school/building. All school employees are mandated reporters; any adult school employee who sees or hears, or receives a report either written or oral, of student harassment, must immediately inform a Designated Employee or NDC. A list of current Designated Employees is available on bsdvt.org.

Schools/buildings will post the names of their current Designated Employees/NDC at the beginning of each year. Contact Sparks, Director of Equity, with any questions at hsparks@bsdvt.org or (802) 865-5332.

BSD employs a District Non-discrimination Coordinator as well as School Non-discrimination Coordinators at each school. The Non-discrimination Coordinators are responsible for overseeing the investigative work of the District's Designated Employees. The District Non-discrimination Coordinator is Sparks, Director of Equity; please contact Director Sparks or your school principal for information regarding your school's Non-discrimination Coordinator.

Investigation: A Designated Employee who is not the subject of the complaint or another designated individual shall begin an investigation upon notice of the complaint. When the investigation is complete the complainant and the accused will be notified.

Consequences: If an individual is found to have engaged in misconduct or harassment, they may receive education, training, and possibly discipline (up to and including suspension, expulsion or termination, banning from school property), or other consequences that are appropriate to the offense and that are designed to prevent future harassment.

Independent Review: A complainant may make a written request to the Superintendent for an independent review of the matter if the complainant (1) believes that the school did not correctly analyze the complaint and failed to conduct an investigation of the matter because the school believed the alleged conduct was not possible harassment, (2) is dissatisfied with the final determination made after the investigation as to whether harassment occurred, or (3) believes that although a

(Continued on next page.)

Dental Care at the Integrated Arts Academy *(continued)*

- 498 sealants were completed.
- We cared for 5 children with urgent dental care needs while they were in school.
- 44 children were referred to a local specialist office for complex dental needs.



Expanded Learning Opportunities

Burlington Expanded Learning Opportunities fosters the social and academic success of more than 1,300 BSD students annually through quality afterschool and summer programming in an environment that creates lasting connections with peers, adults, and the community. The program serves K-12 students, operating every day after school until 5:30 p.m. and for five weeks in the summer.

Programs provide a range of activities from academic support and recreation, to student leadership and community service learning. Each program also works closely with more than 50 community partners to provide opportunities such as sailing, woodworking, environmental education, LEGO Robotics, art, and more. Visit www.bsdt.org/expanded-learning for registration information, or call **ELO Director Dacia Ostlund** at **(802) 540-0285, ext. 71200**.



Multilingual Programs

The Department of Multilingual Learners (ML) provides services to more than 500 students each year.

The program supports students who speak another language or grew up in a household where English was not the only language spoken. Multilingual programs also provide support for families, such as interpreting and liaison services, opportunities for adult and family learning, and more. Under federal guidelines of the Every Student Succeeds Act, students who have yet to achieve full proficiency in English are known as

(Continued on next page.)

final determination was made that harassment occurred, the school's response was inadequate to correct the problem. The independent review shall be conducted by a neutral person in accordance with the Policy.

Appeal: Any person determined to have engaged in an act(s) of hazing, harassment and/or bullying may appeal the determination and/or any related disciplinary action(s) taken, directly to the School Board. The Board shall conduct a review on the record. The standard of review by the Board shall be whether the finding that an act(s) of hazing, harassment, and/or bullying has been committed constitutes an abuse of discretion by the school-level fact finder. Appeals should be made to the School Board within ten calendar days of receiving the determination that an act(s) of hazing, harassment and/or bullying has occurred and/or any announced discipline. The Board shall set the matter for a review hearing at the next scheduled school board meeting to the extent practicable, but not later than 30 days from receipt of the appeal filing.

Retaliation: Retaliation against anyone who files a harassment complaint or cooperates in the making or the investigation of a complaint is strictly prohibited, basis for separate discipline, and illegal pursuant to 9 V.S.A. 4503(a).

Privacy: Complaints and any resulting consequences will be confidential as permitted by investigative needs, duty to act on certain results, compliance with Vermont Public Record Law, and consistent with the Family Education Rights Privacy Act.

Alternative Complaint Process: Complaints of harassment can also be filed with: Regional Director, Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education; 8th floor, 5 Post Office Square, Boston, MA 02109-3921; Email: OCR.Boston@ed.gov, (617) 289-0111 (TDD); or the Vermont Human Rights Commission, 14–16 Baldwin St., Montpelier, VT 05633-6301, Email: human.rights@state.vt.us, (800) 416-2010 (Voice) or (877) 294-9200 (TTY).

Prohibition of Discrimination and/or Harassment

of Employees and Others: In summary, discrimination and/or harassment of an employee or other person protected by the laws listed below and Board Policies, on the basis of any of the following characteristics of their race, national origin, color, creed, religion, age, sex (including but not limited to sexual harassment, pregnancy, parental status), disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, ancestry, marital status, place of birth, or political affiliation is a form of unlawful discrimination and is prohibited by School District Policies and as provided for in Title

V, Section B, 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. § 794, et seq.; Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. § 2000d, et seq.; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. § 2000e, et seq.; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. § 1681, et seq.; The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, 29 U.S.C. § 623, et seq.; The Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. § 12101, et seq.; and Fair Employment Practices, 21 V.S.A. Chpt. 5, subchpt. 6; Public Accommodations, 9 V.S.A. §§ 4500 et seq. all as they may be amended.

CHILD FIND

In accordance with Federal Regulations, Burlington School District aims to locate, identify, and evaluate children from birth to 21 years of age who may be eligible and in need of special education and related services.

If you suspect that your child has a disability and is between the ages of birth–5 years of age, please call the Early Education Program at **(802) 864-8463**. If your child is between the ages of 5–21 years, please call Student Support Services at **(802) 864-8456**.

CONDUCT

Over the past few years, BSD has been working to co-construct a code of conduct with a restorative foundation. In alignment with our Strategic Plan (Priority Area 5: Relationship-based Community through Restorative Practices) and with State statute that requires districts to have clear processes for addressing student conduct, we have created and begun to utilize a Restorative Code of Conduct, which can be found on the “Students and Families” section of our website www.bsdt.org.

Students, families, and staff are expected to follow the District's Restorative Code of Conduct. In addition, all BSD students are required to follow reasonable expectations regarding conduct and behavior during the school day, on school buses, on public buses regularly used to attend school, and at school activities. Staff are responsible for establishing and maintaining an atmosphere that fosters such behavior. Families and staff share the responsibility for fostering positive behavior among everyone in the District. However, the ultimate responsibility rests with the students and their parents/guardians. Parents/guardians will be informed if their child's behavior becomes concerning or unsafe.

Appropriate conduct measures are designed to teach students to accept responsibility for their behavior. Inappropriate

conduct shall be addressed through a restorative process and students will be held accountable for their behavior. Any consequence imposed shall be done with regard for the due process rights of the student being disciplined to the extent required by law.

Suspension / Long Term Suspension / Expulsion: Students may be suspended or expelled for violating school rules or School Board Policies, or otherwise engaging in misconduct on or off of school property. Suspensions longer than 10 days and expulsion are imposed only by recommendation of the Superintendent and a School Board Hearing. The School Board may expel a student through the end of the current school year or 90 school days, whichever is longer.

Disciplinary Measures: Disciplinary measures shall be imposed with regard for the due process rights of the student being disciplined to the extent required by law.

Restorative Practices: Restorative Practices are rooted in relationship-building and rebuilding to create a culture of equity and belonging that results in healing and learning. BSD embraces Restorative Practices ensuring that all, including those who have been harmed, will have their needs and experiences recognized and acted upon, thus creating a supportive climate of empowerment for all. In some cases, students may be separated from their assigned school building, but never completely separated from their education.

Drugs / Alcohol: As required by Vermont State Law (Title 16, Section 1165, 909), Burlington schools have a comprehensive K-12 Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention curriculum. Additionally, teacher training programs, support and referral systems, a cooperative referral agreement with an approved treatment agency, an approved School Board Policy, and District-wide awareness of the issue exist.

Tobacco: Any tobacco use in any shape or form on any school campus (including cigarettes, cigars, chew, vaping, or any others) is prohibited by law. Vaping and forms of vaping are considered cigarette/tobacco products and are also prohibited.

EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT SYSTEM

The goal of Burlington School District's Educational Support System is to provide students with additional assistance needed for access in school or to overcome challenges in the general education environment. Each school in our District has developed an Educational Support Team (EST), which accepts referrals for students who have academic and/or

behavioral concerns. This team assists teachers in planning for students who need extra assistance in the classroom or during unstructured school activities. This team also compiles data from its work, which is considered by the school's Action Plan when building the overall capacity of the Educational Support System.

If you would like to learn more about the Educational Support System, please contact your principal or school psychologist.

RESPONSIBLE COMPUTER, NETWORK and INTERNET USE

Burlington School District recognizes that information technology (IT) is integral to learning and educating today's children for success in the global community and fully supports the access of these electronic resources by students and staff. The purpose of this policy is to:

1. Create an environment that fosters the use of IT in a manner that supports and enriches the curriculum, provides opportunities for collaboration, and enhances staff professional development.
2. Ensure the District takes appropriate measures to maintain the safety of everyone that accesses the District's IT devices, network and web resources.
3. Comply with the requirements of applicable federal and state laws that regulate the provision of access to the internet and other electronic resources by school districts.

Burlington School District provides students and staff access to a multitude of IT resources including the Internet. These resources provide opportunities to enhance learning and improve communication within our community and with the global community beyond. However, with the privilege of access comes the responsibility of students, teachers, staff, and the public to exercise responsible use of these resources. The use by students, staff, or others of District IT resources is a privilege, not a right. The same rules and expectations governing student use of IT resources apply to other student conduct and communications, including but not limited to the District's harassment and bullying procedures.

The District's computer and network resources are the property of the District. Users shall have no expectation of privacy in anything they create, store, send, receive or display on or over the District's computers or network resources, including personal files and electronic communications.

Multilingual Programs *(continued)*

English Learners (EL). These students are a subset of a larger group of students who speak a language other than English, with the more inclusive description of Multilingual Learners (ML).

The goal of our programs is to provide multilingual students with equitable access to academic success and all educational and extracurricular opportunities while they acquire English. We do this through a comprehensive continuum of programs, including, but not limited to, sheltered classroom programs which offer additional support to newly arrived students with lower proficiency in English, instruction and support by credentialed EL specialists in every school, co-teaching models, Multilingual Liaisons, a Parent University, and more. For more information on our programs, please visit www.bsdrv.org/multicultural-support

Multilingual Liaison Program

The Multilingual Liaison (ML) Program is a unique asset of BSD that serves multilingual students and families. It includes 11 full-time Multilingual Liaisons who work to connect families and communities with schools and provide support to students with 10 different home languages. The ML program also works with 20+ on-call or contract interpreters for additional languages who facilitate communication between home and school. Liaisons and interpreters work to meet the needs of approximately 900 Burlington School District students, Pre-K-12, who have home languages other than English, as well as their families. Contact Coordinator **Nijaza Semic** at (802) 288-6048 or nsemic@bsdrv.org with any questions.

Parent University

Parent University fosters a sense of belonging and connection among families in our schools while strengthening collaboration between BSD and the greater Burlington community. The program partners with a growing number of community organizations, as well as City and State departments, to provide learning opportunities to parents, grandparents, and guardians in several 6-10-week sessions and many family-friendly special events that enrich, engage, and empower parents and guardians as equal partners in

(Continued on next page.)

Multilingual Programs *(continued)*

the education and well-being of their children. Any BSD parent or grandparent is welcome and encouraged to enroll in this FREE PROGRAM; interpretation services are provided. For more information about the program, please visit: www.bsdt.org/our-schools/parent-university/ or contact **Denise Torrey** at dtorrey@bsdt.org or (978) 821-7179.



Parent/Family Involvement

Burlington is committed to providing parents/guardians the opportunity to be involved in their child's education and school community. Principals and teachers work to build strong relationships with families, and families are always welcome to contact them to set up one-on-one meetings to support their student(s).

Each elementary and middle school has a Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO) and the high school has Seahorse Pride, a Boosters Club. These groups provide many opportunities for families to get involved, from creating community-building events to hosting workshops to fundraising. To get involved in your child's PTO, please contact your child's school. Each school also has two advisory groups, one for families and the other for students; please contact your principal for more information on these.

In addition, the Superintendent hosts four Advisory Groups, one each at EMS, HMS, and BHS for students, and one for teachers. Each group has at least 12 members, including at least one school representative from each of our schools, with a goal of having a diverse and inclusive representation from students and teachers that make up the BSD community. Learn more about the Advisory Groups at www.bsdt.org/superintendent-advisory-groups/. The superintendent also holds regular informal public meetings such as events held over coffee.

Last but not least, volunteers are welcome in our schools. Please contact your school directly to learn more about opportunities to volunteer. For the District Volunteer Procedure and other information visit <https://www.bsdt.org/district/operational-procedures/>.

This policy applies to anyone who accesses the District's network, collaboration and communication tools, and/or student information systems either on-site or via a remote location, and anyone who uses the District's IT devices either on or off-site.

The District is not liable for unacceptable use or violations of copyright restrictions or other laws, user mistakes or negligence, and costs incurred by users. The District is not responsible for ensuring the accuracy, age appropriateness, or usability of any information found on the District's electronic resources network including the Internet. The District is not responsible for any damage experienced, including, but not limited to, loss of data or interruptions of service. The District is not responsible for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through or stored on the electronic resources system including the Internet, or for financial obligations arising through their unauthorized use.

The District reserves the right to revoke access privileges and/or administer appropriate disciplinary action for misuse of its IT resources. In the event there is an allegation that a user has violated this policy, the School District will handle the allegation consistent with the student disciplinary policy. Allegations of staff member violations of this policy will be processed in accord with contractual agreements and legal requirements.

The Superintendent is responsible for establishing procedures governing use of IT resources.

ENTRANCE AGE

Students who are residents of Burlington may enroll in Kindergarten if they are five years old on or before September 1 of the year they wish to enroll. If a student is six years old on or before September 1 they may enroll in first grade.

HEARING AND VISION SCREENINGS

Schools are required to annually screen the hearing and vision of students in their school district in PreK, K, first, third, fifth, seventh, ninth, and twelfth grades. Parents are permitted to opt their children out of such screenings by giving notice to school principals by 9/1.

MEDICATION IN SCHOOLS

A parent/guardian must annually complete a request form (available on our website) to have medications administered during school hours. A written order from the prescribing health care provider is required. The medication must be

brought to school in the original container labeled with the student's name and dosage. The medication will be kept in locked storage by the school nurse, unless it is a life-saving medication. Please contact your school nurse if you have any questions about medication or to ensure individual health plans are in place if your student has asthma, allergies, or any chronic medical condition requiring an emergency action plan.

MILITARY / POST-SECONDARY RECRUITERS

Parents may request that their child's name, address and telephone listing not be released to military or post-secondary recruiters without prior written parental consent. For more information, talk with your building principal.

NON-DISCRIMINATION

Burlington School District and its employees do not discriminate against other employees and/or applicants for employment, or students on the basis of race, gender or sex (including, but not limited to, pregnancy, parental, and marital status), color, age, creed, religion, disability, handicap, ancestry, place of birth, national origin, marital status, political affiliation, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression to the extent provided by law and Board Policies.

This Non-Discrimination Policy extends to any School District employment and education practices, policies, procedures or programs, activities, services and facilities. Additionally, the School Board will take steps to employ qualified people with disabilities in programs receiving federal assistance under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act. Employees, applicants for employment, and students are encouraged to use the District's Internal Complaint Procedures to resolve any complaints regarding School District violation of federal law with respect to discrimination. All Burlington School District employees will fully cooperate in any investigation conducted under these procedures and shall be honest and forthcoming with any relevant information. In addition to these Internal Complaint Procedures, other complaint procedures are available and accessible on the District's website or at a principal's office.

The District's Title VI Coordinator, Age Discrimination Act Coordinator, and the Americans with Disabilities Act Employee Coordinator is **Michelle Meola**, Director of Human Resources; (802) 864-2159 or (800) 253-0191 (TDD). The Americans with Disabilities Act Student Coordinator and §504 Coordinator is **Kellie Klasen**,

Executive Director of Student Support Services;
(802) 864-8456 or (800) 253-0191 (TDD).

The Title IX Coordinator for employees, students, parents, and others such as relatives, friends, guest speakers or visitors, is **Sparks**, Director of Equity; (802) 865-5332 or (800) 253-0191 (TDD).

The above-listed Coordinators can be reached at Burlington School District, 150 Colchester Avenue, Burlington, VT 05401. For greater detail and the most up-to-date information visit the District's website at www.bsdtvt.org or call **Human Resources** at (802) 864-2159 or (800) 253-0191 (TDD).

Inquiries concerning the application of non-discrimination policies may be referred to the Regional Director, U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, 5 Post Office Square 8th Floor / Suite 900, Boston, MA 02109-3921; Tel: (617) 289-0111, Fax: (617) 289-0150, or the Vermont Human Rights Commission, 135 State St., Drawer 33, Montpelier, VT 05633-6301, human.rights@hrc.state.vt.us, (800) 416-2010 (Voice/TTY); or (802) 828-2480 (Voice/TTY).

Employees or applicants for employment who believe they have been discriminated against should contact the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission; 33 Whitehall St., 5th floor; New York, NY 10004, or call them at this toll-free number: (800) 669-4000; (800) 669-6820 (TTY).

PARENT / GUARDIAN CONTACTS

Please keep the school informed of a current emergency telephone number where the person with the legal parental rights and responsibilities or the guardian for your student can be reached if you are not at home. The telephone number of a parent/guardian workplace or a neighbor's number will be used for individual emergencies only, such as illness or accident.

PROTECTION OF PUPIL RIGHTS ACT

Under the Federal Protection of Pupil Rights Act, parents/guardians have the right to be informed of any survey of their child(ren) conducted by a third party for the collection of personal information for market surveys and non-emergency, invasive physical examinations or screenings. Parents/guardians have the right to opt their child(ren) out of such surveys and also have the right to inspect any survey and/or instrument intended to be used in the survey, examination or screening. In addition, the Act provides a right to inspect any instructional materials used as part of the educational curriculum.

SCHOOL CLOSING

If it becomes necessary to close Burlington Schools for the day, announcements will be made via our automated communication system after 6:00 a.m. Local TV and radio stations, our website, and BSD's social media channels will also list closings. Automated announcements will be sent via some combination of telephone calls, emails, and text messages. It is important that the schools have accurate and up-to-date contact information for our messaging system. You can update your contact information as part of the Annual Returning Student Registration process via the PowerSchool Registration System. During the course of a school day, unexpected situations may occur that require closing one or all Burlington Schools. That decision will be made by the Superintendent's Office, in consultation with appropriate leaders such as school principals, the Property Services Director, and/or the Burlington Police Department. Notification of this decision will be made as far in advance as possible, although some situations may require the immediate dismissal of students.

SCHOOL SAFETY

Burlington School District follows the guidance of the Agency of Education and VT School Safety Center. We continually work to increase and improve security measures and overall safety, including the safety and well-being of individuals. A District All Hazards Operations Manual and a District-wide Rapid Response Crisis Team are in place to provide school staff with responses for crisis/safety situations. Additionally, each school has its own Crisis Safety Team which meets regularly and a District-wide School Safety Committee, including members of the Burlington Police and Fire Departments, meets monthly.

The District has a list of Standard Response Protocols designed to help staff react in a consistent and thoughtful way during an emergency situation. In 2019-20, an options-based response "Run, Hide, Fight" was added to these protocols as a strategy to protect the lives of students and staff in the event of a threat. Options-based response protocols are mandated by the State and give people a chance to make an informed decision based on their situational awareness as to what is the safest thing to do at the moment. This approach is discussed with students at all grade levels in age-appropriate ways. The District has also implemented a District-wide Behavioral Threat Assessment Management protocol, and first aid trainings as additional strategies to respond to threats.

Please see the District's website for a full list of Emergency



Professional Learning

Professional learning aims to promote and sustain continuous teacher development and growth. BSD uses local and federal funds to develop a balanced professional learning system that includes teacher leadership, local consultants, and regional workshops and trainings.

In 2026-27, BSD educators will take part in a series of professional learning opportunities as determined by the district and school leadership teams and aligned with our strategic plan.

In keeping with the District's North Star, that all learners are challenged, empowered, and engaged, the school level professional learning plans will be designed with a focus on one of three main themes from the strategic plan including:

1. **Antiracist teaching practices**
2. **Sense of Belonging for Inclusion and Identity Development**
3. **Deeper Learning in the Content Areas (including a District-wide focus on Math)**



School Budget Information

Town Meeting Day — the first Tuesday in March — is when voters are asked to consider school budgets. You can get information about the school budget proposal from any of these sources:

- The School District's website at: www.bsdtvt.org
- The District *Annual Report*, which is available to City residents in February
- School Board Meetings
- Neighborhood Planning Assembly Meetings
- CCTV/Channel 17 Town Meeting Television
- Media Factory TV (BT 16 & 216/Comcast 1094) and Website: mediafactory.org/bsd
- School Board Commissioners (For contact information, see the inside front cover of this publication.)



State Testing

All students in grades 3-9 take the State's annual academic assessment in mathematics and English language arts, and all students in grades 5, 8, and 11 take the State's annual academic assessment in science. We anticipate a March-April 2027 assessment window.

All students identified as English learners, including those with the most significant cognitive disabilities, take the State's annual English language proficiency assessment to monitor their progress in acquiring academic English. We anticipate a January-March 2027 assessment window.

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is the only nationally representative and continuing assessment of what America's students know and can do in various subject areas. NAEP does not provide scores for individual students or schools; instead, it offers results regarding subject-matter achievement for student populations. The National Assessment of Educational Progress is administered every two years, with the next administration scheduled for spring 2027.

<https://education.vermont.gov/student-learning/assessments/state-and-local-assessments>



Student Health

Every school has a health office where services are provided by a Registered Nurse, certified as a VT School Nurse.

In case of illness, please keep any symptomatic child home from school and call your pediatrician. **Children should be free of fever, diarrhea, and vomiting for 24 hours before returning to school.** If a child has strep throat, they must take antibiotics for 24 hours prior to returning to school.

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends an annual well-child visit with your primary care provider. If your child has not had a physical in the last year, please call your doctor's office to make an appointment as soon as possible.

Immunizations

Vermont State Law requires schools to get proof of your child's immunization status. If it is not provided,

Response Procedures at <https://www.bsdvt.org/about-our-school/emergency-procedures/>

The District has adopted an Access Control and Visitor Management policy which includes many of the follow school building safety measures:

Identification: To monitor who enters school buildings, all staff must wear their photo identification badges at all times. This includes all teachers, paraeducators, administrators, maintenance and facilities staff, food services staff and other support personnel.

Visitors: Visitors to the buildings are required to sign in and out, and wear a visitor's pass during the school day. Staff are asked to watch for any adult in a building without such identification or pass and to redirect them to the office.

Doors: Schools are required to lock all doors during the school day. Doors must remain shut and may not be propped open at any time. Visitors may request access to the main office through a buzzer/video camera identification system.

Signage: Signs are posted at each building directing all visitors to the main office to sign in and get a visitor's pass.

STUDENT RECORDS / INFORMATION

Parents/guardians of a student enrolled in Burlington School District have certain rights concerning identifiable education records which the District maintains for each student. These rights are afforded by the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

Parent/guardian and eligible student rights:

- To inspect and review the student's education records within a reasonable time.
- To seek the correction of the student's education record if needed.
- To consent to disclosure of personally identifiable information from the student's education records.
- To file complaints regarding Burlington School District's alleged violation of FERPA with the U.S. Department of Education, Family Policy and Regulations Office, Washington, D.C. 20202.
- A school district/educational entity record request related to a student's transfer to a new school.

Inspection and Review of Educational Records:

The principal or other appropriate school official will make the needed arrangements for access during normal school

hours as promptly as possible and notify the parent/guardian or eligible student who is making the request of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

Requesting Amendment of Educational Records: Parents/guardians or the eligible student must request Burlington School District amend their student's records. They should identify the part of their record they want amended and specify why they believe it is inaccurate, misleading or in violation of the student's privacy or other rights.

Disclosure of Information without Consent of Parent / Guardian: Burlington School District will disclose information from a student's record without the parent/guardian's consent in accordance with the exceptions to consent permitted by FERPA, 99 CFR \$99.31.

Directory Information: The District may disclose information designated as "Directory Information" unless the parent/guardian notifies the District that the information cannot be released. The following information is Directory Information: name of parent/guardian and address, email address, student name, address, telephone number, date of birth, gender, weight and height of members of athletic teams, participation in activities recognized by the District, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, yearbook picture, class pictures, most recent previous school attended and the school to which the student transferred, if applicable. This information may be disclosed at the discretion of District administrators or the school principal.

To Limit the Disclosure of Directory Information:

If you do not wish Burlington School District to disclose information without your consent, parents/guardians or an eligible student must submit a written request to be received by the student's school principal within 10 working days of the date of the distribution of this notice or the date of the student's enrollment, whichever comes later.

Disclosure to Teachers and Other School Officials with a Legitimate Educational Interest:

In accordance with FERPA and its regulations, and with the School Board Policy and Procedure, the District will release educational records to teachers and other school officials with a legitimate educational interest. They are:

- A person performing a task that is specified in their position description or by a contract agreement.
- A person performing a task related to a student's education.
- A person performing a task related to the discipline of a student.

(Continued on next page.)

- A person providing a service or benefit relating to the student or student's family, such as health care, counseling, or job placement.
- A person performing a task related to a student's attendance at school or other matter requiring law enforcement involving students.
- A person performing a task related to ensuring the safety and security of the District, including its students.

For full procedure, visit www.bsdt.org.

TEACHER AND PARAPROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Because Burlington School District receives Title I funds, parents/guardians, upon request, have the right to obtain information regarding whether their child(ren)'s teacher has met State qualifications and licensing criteria, whether the teacher is teaching under a waiver or provisional license, and what the teacher's major is as stated in his or her baccalaureate degree or master's degree.

If the child receives services from a paraprofessional, the paraprofessional's qualifications must also be furnished. It is the District's intent that no student will be taught by a teacher for four or more consecutive weeks who is not qualified through training and experience. Parents/guardians also have the right to obtain information as to the level of achievement of their child in each of the State's academic assessments.

TUTORING / HOME-BOUND SERVICES

Students are eligible for instruction in an appropriate public setting, at home, or in the hospital whenever they are unable to attend school for a period of 10 consecutive school days or more because of a medical disability or pregnancy. For information about this service, please contact the school principal.

VIDEOTAPE / FILM / PHOTOGRAPHY

Burlington School District employs the use of video surveillance in various locations and at random times as part

of a system for safety and security. Videotaping, filming, or photographing students while participating in school activities requires proper preparation and justification and could violate the Family Educational and Privacy Act (FERPA). Burlington School District reserves the right to disapprove any filming or videotaping.

Parents/guardians may elect not to have their child(ren) videotaped, filmed or photographed through the use of a parent/guardian media release form which is completed annually through the Returning Student Registration process. Events such as awards assemblies, plays, graduations, concerts, athletic contests or similar events that have newsworthy aspects are open to the public and, therefore, the media are not intended to be part of this Policy. In the event of fire, accident or unusual circumstance, the Superintendent or their designee will determine if the public and/or media may be permitted access to the school.

This Policy is not applicable to videotaping, filming and photography that will only be used by school officials with a legitimate educational interest or where the work meets other exceptions to FERPA's disclosure rules. Videotaping, filming or photography of any student without the explicit knowledge and permission of the student is expressly prohibited, except where it is done as a direct consequence of security procedures implemented with the express knowledge and approval of the Superintendent. Anyone who violates this Policy may be subject to disciplinary measures.

WEAPON POSSESSION

A student found by the School Board, after a hearing, to have brought a weapon to school, including a school activity, can be expelled for up to one calendar year. A weapon includes but is not limited to a firearm, an explosive device, or a potentially dangerous device such as a sharp-edged item that can inflict bodily harm.

For all Operational Procedures, please visit the District website www.bsdt.org/district/operational-procedures

Student Health (continued)

your child cannot attend school. No person may enroll as a student in a Burlington school without an age-appropriate or up-to-date (whichever one is clearer) record or certificate of immunization, or documentation proving religious or medical exemption.

To Comply:

- Submit proof of required immunizations to your student's school nurse.
- If your student is missing any required immunizations, make an appointment to have your student immunized with their health care provider and contact the school nurse to verify.
- Submit appropriate documentation regarding the student's exemption.

Required Immunizations Include the Full Series of:

- For PreK only: Hib and PCV.
- For PreK-6 students: DTaP (diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis); polio; MMR (measles, mumps, rubella); hepatitis B; and varicella (chickenpox).
- For 7th grade students: TDaP.

Proof of immunization must be provided **for all students**. Exemption paperwork must be filed annually.

Head Lice

Parents/guardians should check their young children's heads once a week, and especially before returning to school after vacations. The best way to do this is to use a lice comb to go through your child(ren)'s damp hair. If you find lice, your school nurse or health care practitioner can give you good advice about getting rid of them.

If your child is found to have head lice at school, you will be notified. Consistent and frequent combing is the most effective way to treat head lice.

BSD follows the guidelines of the VT Dept. of Health and the Centers for Disease Control. For more information refer to: <https://identify.us.com/idmybug/head-lice/head-lice-FAQS/index.html> and/or <https://www.consumerreports.org/medical-conditions/preventing-and-treating-head-lice/>

