



# FLYNN FLYER

J.J. Flynn Elementary 864-8478 [www.bsdtv.org](http://www.bsdtv.org)

## PRE-K AND KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION



Registration for the current 2015-16 school year is on a rolling basis. Enrollment for the next school year (2016-17) opens on January 4, 2016 and closes on February 19, 2016. School placement notification will be sent out the week of April 4, 2016. If you have a child turning five on or before September 1, 2016, you need to register them for kindergarten now.

If there are more first-choice registrations than there are spots, we will look at families' second choices. When a student doesn't receive their first-choice school, a District employee will contact the family to discuss their options for attending other schools. Applications received after February 19, 2016 will be considered based upon available space.

Beginning January 4, all forms can be found at our District website ([www.bsdtv.org](http://www.bsdtv.org)), in any of our schools, or at our District office at 150 Colchester Ave. Families completing registration forms should bring a copy of their child's birth certificate or other proof of age, a copy of their immunization records, and proof of residency.

Pre-K registration will also open on January 4, 2016. Visit [www.bsdtv.org](http://www.bsdtv.org) or call (802) 864-8463 for more information.

Feel free to contact any schools if you would like to arrange a visit.

**The January enrollment window for SES (Supplemental Education Services) is now open.** There are a limited number of spaces available, but new students are encouraged to apply. Students do not need to reapply if an application was completed in the fall. All new applications should be returned to the main office of your school by Monday, January 25, 2016. You can find the application at [www.bsdtv.org](http://www.bsdtv.org). A form has also been attached to the hard copy version of this newsletter.

No School  
Martin Luther King  
Day  
Monday, January 18

Flynn Family Traditions  
Dinner  
Thursday,  
January 21  
5:30-7:30 pm

Flynn Annual Title 1  
Meeting  
Thursday, February 4  
5:30 pm

Flynn Talent Show  
Friday, February 12  
6:00 pm

Winter Break  
No School  
February 22-March 1

## Project Explore is Starting....Full STEAM Ahead!



My name is Joy Cohen, and I am thrilled to join the J.J. Flynn educational community as your new Project Explore Teacher. As I hit the ground... skipping, and probably tripping a bit, I look forward to working with faculty, staff, and students together as we explore how to:

- \* Transform our problem-solving processes
- \* Develop a new language of questioning
- \* Gain comfort with trial and error—lots of error
- \* Meld the creative processes with the scientific and engineering methods
- \* Find inspiration in everything from the way the morning light hits the chalkboard to the “vintage” Main Office sound system!

For the first session of Project Explore beginning January 22, second-grade and third-grade students will be exploring the art of making hand-made books, with an emphasis on pop-up engineering. Fourth graders will be focused on a variety of STEAM activities as we create experiential creation stations for Flynn’s Maker Faire on March 28.

For those of you who don’t know me, I was the Visual Arts Teacher at Hunt Middle for many years, and I co-developed and taught their interdisciplinary, alternative Kaleidoscope program. I am certified K-12 in both Art and Science, and I have a strong background in theater and video production. I’m a writer and a part-time adjunct at UVM, where I teach graduate education courses including *The Creative Process*, *Art-Driven Interdisciplinary Curriculum*, and *Teaching for Social Justice and Equity*. Most importantly, I love collaborating with adults and kids to solve problems, deconstructing things and ideas, generating creative solutions, making mistakes, and playing! -Joy Cohen

Family Traditions Dinner  
January 21, 2016 5:30-7:30 pm  
JJ Flynn Cafeteria



Please bring a dish to share that represents your family and enjoy food from around the world. If you are willing to share a talent or performance,

please contact [heathers@lundvt.org](mailto:heathers@lundvt.org)

### What is the Vermont Online Library?

Hi, Flynn Families! We have a new online tool to help our learners with research and inquiry. The Vermont Online Library (VOL) offers a wide array of electronic information databases on a variety of topics geared to a variety of age levels. The information is produced by known and trusted publishers and includes

- \* Gale Cengage Learning databases (via Vermont academic, school, and public member libraries)
- \* HeritageQuest genealogical research tools
- \* Universal Class online learning (via all Vermont public libraries)

These resources are available to you 24 hours a day from not only your participating local library but also your home, your office - or anywhere Internet access is available. To access these resources, go to our Flynn homepage, click on the **Library** link, and then click **Gale Resource Databases**. The home password is **theme**.

## Principal's Letter

Thank you to the Assembly Committee and all of the teachers and staff who helped to make the afternoon of December 22 such a cheerful, community event! We hope to have a huge crowd at next Thursday's Flynn Family Traditions Dinner. On January 21 starting at 5:30, Flynn families can enjoy dishes from around the world. This is a great time to reconnect with old friends and meet new people who are part of the Flynn community.

People's United Community Foundation delivered an incredibly unexpected present in late December when they fully funded every Flynn School project that was posted on Donors Choose--totaling more than \$19,000. We received 11 LCD ceiling mounts, two 3D printers for the STEAM and Art room, soccer goals, and many other items. On behalf of the entire staff, I would like to thank Nick Mack, Allison Tinson, and Courtney Asaro for taking the time to write these proposals, which will benefit every Flynn student. For more information on this generous donation, please see the attached press release.

Our students are so fortunate to have had Flynn parent Joanna Elliott create, develop, and sustain Project Explore during the past seven years. This integrated arts-science enrichment program is privately funded and will start next week serving 24 grade 2, 3, and 4 students. There will be a second 8-week session (with a different group of students) in the spring. You can read more about Project Explore and its new teacher, Joy Cohen, in this week's Flyer.

Superintendent Obeng recently provided a budget update: "This Tuesday the School Board voted to adopt the proposed FY17 Budget. One Commissioner abstained in protest of Act 46. [...] We now move from the development phase to the approval phase of the budget, culminating on Town Meeting Day on March 1st. Once the community has approved the budget, the implementation phase will involve work by principals and supervisors to determine where adjustments and reductions will occur. There may be situations where we are able to provide more clarity prior to Town Meeting Day."

At Flynn, we won't know what implications the budget has for us until it is passed by voters. Once that happens and the district administrators meet with Superintendent Obeng, we will begin to make decisions regarding next year. So, in a best case scenario, late-March is the earliest we may have new information.

Best,  
Graham Clarke