



# HOME **Warren Bulletin** SCHOOL

*Parents & Teachers -- working together for children.*

January 19, 2010

## School Budget Report

The Warren School Board will hold its final meeting on the Budget for 2010-11 school year on Monday, January 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. At that meeting, the Board will vote on the budget it will bring to the voters for action at the School Meeting on Tuesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9:00 am. If you're interested in the future of the Warren School, we hope you'll be there to vote.

As reported last week, the current budget draft includes funding to hire an additional classroom teacher for the Intermediate Unit, and provide classroom aides to support the larger classes in the Upper Unit. The Intermediate Unit is expecting 45 students next year, and 57 students the following year – with three teachers, their classes would average 15 students next year, and 19 students in 2011-12. The Upper Unit expects 49 students next year; with two teachers and two aides, their classes will average 24-25 students – larger than usual for our school -- but the student:adult ratio will be 12.5:1. The following year, Upper Unit expects only 37 students.

	Grade 3-4	Class sizes 3 teachers	Grade 5-6	Class sizes 2 teachers
2010-11	45	15	49	24.5
2011-12	56	19	37	18.5

Thanks to a 14% increase in "equalized pupil" enrollment and a significant increase in expected revenues, the cost per pupil in this budget will drop from \$12,335 to \$11,561, and the elementary tax rate will go down from \$1.23 to \$1.19.

The Harwood budget will be voted by Australian budget on Town Meeting day. While their spending is expected to decrease, their per-pupil costs would increase because of lower enrollments. When you factor in the expected Harwood tax request, if the budgets are approved, the tax rate Warren residents pay on their homesteads increases by 1.3%, from \$1.17 to \$1.18

<b>Proposed Budget</b>	FY 2010	FY 2011
EP Enrollment increase		14%
% local ed spending increase	4.61%	6.7%
Per pupil \$	\$12,335	\$11,561
Est. elementary tax rate	\$1.23	\$1.19
Est. Homestead P-12 Tax rate, adjusted for CLA	\$1.17	\$1.18



Keegan, Drew and Enzo review the photos they took on Wednesday, January 13<sup>th</sup> for the "Day in the Life of an Upper Unit Student" project Heidi's class has started. They're editing the photos in iPhoto on the new computer lab iMacs, and will eventually put together a Ken Burns-like video. We plan to give more kids opportunities for digital story-telling.

## Tuesday Bulletin

Starting this week, for the rest of this school year we'll be publishing the *Warren Bulletin* (aka *Monday Bulletin*) on Tuesdays. A change in the WWSU administrative meeting schedule has made this necessary. We hope you'll be looking for the envelope when your child brings it home on Tuesdays from now on!

## Ski Program Request

Please make sure your child's skis and poles are clearly marked with their name (masking tape & a Sharpie should do it) to avoid confusion at Sugarbush. Many kids have identical equipment and any way to differentiate will serve to help.

Thanks again to Clay Mays for generously volunteering to transporting the equipment up to the mountain and back again on Fridays!

As a reminder, if you plan to pick up your child at the mountain please be sure to let Laurie know by 11 am Friday morning. You can specify it's for one time or the entire season.

If you have questions or concerns about the program, you can call Patty Weston – her home number is 496 5785.

## 2010 PTO Kick-off

Please plan to attend our 2010 kick-off PTO meeting, Wednesday, January 27th at 5pm in the school library. 2009 saw some awesome events that put the PTO over 75% towards our fundraising goal. At this meeting, we'll be finalizing our plans to raise the remaining \$2000+ to fund this year's student activities. We'll also discuss other activities that the PTO has planned for the spring. All parents and school staff are invited to this meeting and encouraged to attend. Hope to see you there!

## Everyone is Different *Fran Blair writes,*

We come in all sizes and shapes, and some of us have special health issues. In our school we have children with allergies to pollen, food (shellfish, nuts, gluten), and bee stings; asthma; diabetes; attention deficit -- to name a few. Our goal is to make the children safe while they are at school. Here are some of the provisions that we make:

- For those with nut allergies we make the classrooms and kitchen nut free and provide a table for them to sit at with other children that don't have nuts in their lunches. We keep epipens in convenient places just in case they are needed -- we even take one out to recess there is one in case of stings.
- For those with asthma we make sure that their inhalers are available to them when they need them, especially before PE and any extra physical activity that may cause them to have difficulty breathing.
- For children with diabetes, we make sure that everyone knows what to do if they should have a reaction to too much sugar or too much insulin.
- For attention deficit we make sure that they get their medicine at the appropriate times so they can stay focused and do their work.

The important thing is for everyone, child and adult, to be aware of certain limitations and be able to help a student when they are in need. None of us want to be different but circumstances make it that we are and we need to take precautions that will keep us safe, even if this means discussing with others what our concerns and limitations may be.

We don't want to "hide our light under a bush".

We can help everyone by staying informed and letting people know when we need help.

## Important Dates for your calendars:

1/22	<i>Fri</i>	Ski Program 12:30-3:00
1/25	<i>Mon</i>	School Board, 6:00 pm
1/29	<i>Fri</i>	Ski Program 12:30-3:00
2/5	<i>Fri</i>	Ski Program 12:30-3:00
2/8	<i>Mon</i>	School Board, 6:00 pm
2/12	<i>Fri</i>	Ski Program 12:30-3:00
2/16	<i>Tues</i>	Primary Unit Play 6:00 pm
2/20-3/2		February Vacation
3/2	<i>Tues</i>	Annual School Meeting 9:00 am
3/3	<i>Weds</i>	Classes resume

## REPEAT ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Frostbite *Fran Blair writes,*

Frostbite is damage to the skin or extremities that has been exposed to the cold for a length of time. Any part of the body can be affected by frostbite; but hands, feet, cheeks, nose and ears are the most common. Watch for white spots on face and nose. If you notice anyone with white spots on their cheeks or nose they need to go in where it is warm.

**First Aid:** Immerse the affected area in warm NOT hot water or repeatedly apply warm cloths to affected ears, nose or cheeks for 20-30 minutes. Warming is complete when skin is soft and sensation returns. For severe frostbite of the fingers and toes place a dressing between the toes and fingers to keep them separated.

### Do Not:

- Use direct heat to thaw out frostbitten areas.
- Rub or massage the affected area
- Disturb blisters on frostbitten skin

### Physical Education Notes *Leigh Clark writes,*

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday and vacation.

A couple of notes:

- We started the basketball unit just before vacation. Depending on their grade, students are being introduced to basic balls skills, and/or practicing basketball skills and games.
- Fifth and sixth graders' December *Fitness and Activity Log* is due this week, signed by a parent. They will receive January's log sheet this week to be completed during the month and handed in the first week of February. This is part of their physical fitness grade.
- In celebration of the 2010 Winter Olympics, we will be having our own Winter Olympics during PE classes February 8-9-10 and 15-16-17. I am looking for parent help in making the medals for all the events for each class. It's a fairly pleasant crafts project you can do at home. Please let me know if you'd be willing to help with this.
- Please continue to keep the notes coming for the Mileage Club. Remember it is based on distance, not time. Students may bring in a note from you to get credit on their Mileage Club Card for running, hiking, biking walking, cross-country skiing or snowshoeing outside of the school time may.

Also, just as a reminder, for safety reasons students are expected to wear sneakers that are tied securely during PE classes. Please help your child remember to bring sneakers to school on P. E. days. Here are some examples of footwear that is not appropriate for PE: boots, crocks, slippers, and shoes with leather bottoms or high heels.