


Vermont Spotlight Program: Edmunds Elementary After-School Enrichment

Program: Paw Print Press
Age Group: Grades 3 - 5
Program Duration: 10 weeks
Program Frequency: 1 time/ week

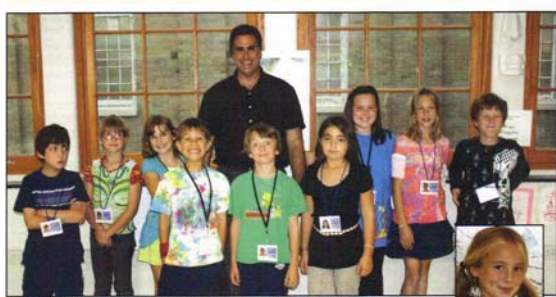
Program Director: Jeff Fournier
Site Coordinator: Nina Mazuzan
Activity Leaders: Ann Kiley and Chris Evans

Program Description

Paw Print Press is a school newspaper club run by two parents, Ann Kiley and Chris Evans. The program began in the 2009-10 school year and has put out three editions since its inception. Students involved in the program take on a variety of roles from editor and writer to photographer and graphic artist. The program is intentionally designed around finding a role for all interested students and allowing students the freedom to decide what pieces are essential to the paper and how best to create a product that incorporates those items. Student voice is a key element in the program's success and has been since the beginning when students decided upon the name, masthead, and "look" for the paper. The dedication students have shown to putting out the paper has been tremendous and is likely a response to the dedication of the activity leaders. Both Ann and Chris have backgrounds conducive to guiding a student newspaper, as a graphic artist and journalist respectively, and the enthusiasm they bring to the program is apparent.



AN EDMUNDS NEWSPAPER BY THE KIDS, FOR THE KIDS



OUR FIRST ISSUE

Welcome to the very first edition of the EES Paw Print Press. Our new newspaper, Paw Print Press, is named for the mascot of Edmunds, the timber wolf.

It is produced by Edmund student reporters and photographers. Enjoy this first issue and we hope to inspire other kids at Edmunds to get excited about writing and to possibly be a reporter for Paw Print in the future issues.

The following are contributing writers and photographers for this first Paw Print issue.

Matthew Boisvert, 5th grade
 Nicholas Boisvert, 3rd grade
 Madeline Evans, 3rd grade
 Isaac Jenemann, 3rd grade
 Mary Pat Morgan, 5th grade
 Elliott Mantroll, 3rd grade
 Anna Nigolian, 5th grade
 Lena Stier, 4th grade
 Sophie Nigolian, 4th grade
 Ruby Smith, 4th grade
 Chris Evans, Editor
 Ann Kiley, Editor

WHAT'S INSIDE!

ADVICE GALS
 PASIVITE ADVICE
 THE EDMUNDS
 BABBLER
 MADDI THE ROVING
 REPORTER
 THE SAVAGE SNAILS
 PAWPRINT PAWLERS

Edmunds Elementary School Welcomes a New Principal

DID YOU LIKE THE SCHOOLS YOU WORKED AT BEFORE EES?
 Mr. Schreiber was an assistant principal at the Crystal Lake Elementary School in Stuart, Florida, which had 600 students. He also was the principal at Sunderland Elementary School in Vermont, which had 60 students.

"Yes, I really liked both schools."

WHAT IS IT LIKE BEING A PRINCIPAL?
 "It is a lot of fun. I get to hang out with 317 kids all day and also great adults, the teachers. I love to learn. I love children, Edmunds is a great place to hang out."

HOW ARE FLORIDA SCHOOLS DIFFERENT FROM VERMONT?
 Florida is lots warmer. The sun shines all the time. Other than that, they are very similar.

WHERE DID YOU LIVE IN FLORIDA?
 Mr. Schreiber grew up in Miami, Florida. The town of Stuart is where he taught, which is two miles north of Miami.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE THING ABOUT EES?
 "I would have to say the students. So many of them have been so happy and friendly to me. They wear

a great smiles. I love seeing smiles like that," as Mr. Schreiber points at Mary Pat's big smile.

WHAT IMPROVEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE AT SCHOOL SINCE YOUR ARRIVAL?
 "Well, I don't know yet because I have not been here long enough. The lunch schedule. The lunch schedule got changed to two lunches and now it's not as rushed. The bathrooms getting painted."

"I get to hang out with 317 kids all day and also great adults, the teachers." – Mr. Schreiber

DO YOU LIKE THE CHANGES THAT YOU MADE?
 "Yes, I do. I think the bathrooms are really spiffy and the lunchroom is calmer."

WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO ASK QUESTIONS AND RIDDLES IN THE MORNING?
 "How do you like the puzzles? What inspired me is to get the kids to start thinking early in the morning. It is a way to be involved and see how smart you are."

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Key elements that led to the success seen within the Paw Print Press program:

- ◆ The program welcomes students with varying interests and flexibility within the paper's content allows for all interests to be nurtured.
- ◆ The paper is student-driven and students are active participants in all decisions that affect the paper.
- ◆ A strong enthusiasm for the project on the part of the parents who run the program.
- ◆ Clear support from the site coordinator and an effort on her part to open the after-school program to parents and community members with skills and interests to share.

At left: The first edition of the *Paw Print Press*. Three editions have been released since the group formed in September 2009.

Program Resources

For programs interested in running a school newspaper, or similar group:

Paw Print Press

<http://pawprintpress.wordpress.com>

Paw Print Press publishes both a print and online school newspaper. The online version can be accessed through the website listed above.

WordPress

<http://wordpress.org>

Word Press is a publishing platform that allows you to build a website upon which your online news publication can be hosted. See above for link to the Paw Print Press' web-based newspaper using WordPress.

Local Newspaper Offices

www.50states.com/news/vermont.htm

Students at Edmunds Elementary After-School Enrichment visited the various media centers (television, radio, and newspaper) at the University of Vermont before embarking upon the creation of their own newspaper. See link above for a listing of newspapers across Vermont that may welcome a field trip.

Newspaper Templates

Paw Print Press was produced using Adobe® InDesign®.
Templates for producing a student newspaper are available online:

Your Student News: www.yourstudentnews.com

Additional Resources

Read Write Think: 10-week lesson plans, and other resources, for producing a student newspaper.

www.readwritethink.org/classroom-resources/lesson-plans/creating-classroom-newspaper-249.html?tab=1#tabs

High School Journalism: Includes a How-To guide on starting a school newspaper, specific lesson plans, and a list of resources specifically geared to working with older students.

www.highschooljournalism.org

For more information about Edmunds Elementary After-School Enrichment or Paw Print Press, please contact:

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Edmunds Elementary After-School Enrichment is part of Burlington Kids, a collaboration between the Burlington School District and the Burlington Parks and Recreation Department

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The **Vermont Center for Afterschool Excellence** is a statewide public-private partnership dedicated to supporting and sustaining innovative learning opportunities beyond the school day for all Vermont's children and youth. The Center's activities are directed toward building the capacity and commitment of Vermont communities to increase the quality and availability of programs during non-school hours. The *Lights! Camera! Learning!* project under which the Paw Print Press program video was produced is funded through support from the C.S. Mott Foundation and the Vermont Department of Education.

For more information about the **Vermont Center for Afterschool Excellence**, the *Lights! Camera! Learning!* project, or to view winning videos, please see the Center's website: www.vermontafterschool.org.