



# PANTHER PRESS

**December 2017**

**Director's Message**

Dear EVCS Families,

On November 30<sup>th</sup>, our entire EVCS community gathered at our Hertel campus for our first annual Family Heritage Night event. Together, we celebrated our rich diversity through food, cultural traditions, music, and dance.

Days Park students performed on traditional West African drums with guest artist Ringo Brill of Diaspora Drum Ensemble. Mr. Brill has been in residence at EVCS thanks to Ms. Cathy Skora's efforts in securing an arts-in-education grant from the Arts Services Initiative of Western New York.

Family Heritage Night was made possible by our incredibly dedicated teachers – Ms. Zendano (ENL Teacher at Days), Mrs. Bak (AIS Teacher), Ms. Allaire (ENL Teacher at Hertel), Ms. Brown (Music Teacher), and Ms. Skora (Dance Teacher) – and parent volunteers. Thank you to everyone who supported and participated in this wonderful evening of fellowship and fun.

In celebrating our rich diversity, you may be interested to know that our EVCS families at Days Park and Hertel represent **5 continents**, **12 countries**, and **9 world languages**. How fortunate are we to be a part of a school community in which our *diversity* contributes to our *unity*.

Warmly,  
Danielle Bruno  
Director  
Days Park Campus

**Important Reminders**

Early Dismissal on Friday, December 8

Friday, December 8 is a 12:30 dismissal. Please communicate any dismissal changes to Ms. Norlen ([knorlen@elmwoodvillageschool.org](mailto:knorlen@elmwoodvillageschool.org)) by Thursday, December 7. Your cooperation is appreciated!

Welcome, Mrs. Bond!

This week, we welcome Mrs. Stefanie Bond to our faculty as our new Spanish teacher. Ms. Bond has over a decade of experience teaching Spanish in charter and public schools in Buffalo. She holds certifications in both Spanish and Elementary Education and has a Master's degree in Spanish Education.

School Closings

Winter weather is drawing near! In the event of a school closing, an announcement will be made to all EVCS families via text message and email through our PowerSchool Alert System. Closings will also be posted on our website. You may also check the local news stations for school closings. Whenever the Buffalo Public Schools are closed, EVCS will be closed (this includes early closings or late openings). If EVCS closes due to weather, the Boys and Girls Club will also be closed.

Lost and Found

Missing something? Our Lost and Found bins are overflowing! Please note that unclaimed items in the school Lost and Found will be donated to charitable organizations during Winter Break.

**December Calendar**

Please see the attached calendar for the events and activities for the month at EVCS.