



## DISTRICT NEWS BRIEF & UPDATES

March 4, 2022

From the Office of Superintendent David Alexander, Ed.D.  
3150 Education Drive Santa Rosa, CA 95407 (707) 542-5197  
[www.busd.org](http://www.busd.org)



*Mission: Inspire learning*

*Vision: Engaging and  (valuing/caring) for our families, students and staff to empower our community.*

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**Dear Bellevue Union School District Families and Staff,**

As you are no doubt aware, the State has changed its indoor masking requirement (see below the press release from Sonoma County Office of Education - SCOE). Effective March 14th, indoor masking will move from "required" to "recommended," regardless of vaccination status.

Local school boards are tasked with setting their own masking policies moving forward. Local masking policies can be more restrictive, but not less, than the CDPH guidelines.

The Board will consider the future of the District's indoor mask mandate at their March 8th meeting. Please take a moment to share with them your thoughts about this topic. Please respond by March 8th by noon. Thank you!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QKZKNLP>



**Feb. 28, 2022**

**CA mask mandate for schools expires end of the day on March 11**

**For Immediate Release**

**Contact: [communications@scoe.org](mailto:communications@scoe.org)**

*Governor Newsom announced the lifting of the state's mask mandate for public and private schools, as well as childcare centers, to take effect at the end of day on Friday, March 11. Children and school staff, regardless of vaccination status, will no longer be required to wear masks at school starting Monday,*

March 14.

*Even though California will no longer require masks to be worn in classrooms, masks will be strongly recommended. Most importantly, all students will be treated equally regardless of vaccination status. Local health departments and school boards will be able to require their own masking policies in schools which are appropriate for their communities.*

*The Sonoma County Office of Education will work with the county's 40 school districts to explain and ensure compliance with the new masking guidance.*

*"As we move toward easing masking requirements, it's important to remember that vaccines remain an important tool in limiting the spread and severity of COVID-19," said Dr. Steven Herrington, Sonoma County's superintendent of schools. "Right now, only about half of children ages 5 to 11 have received a shot, and improving on that number will be essential in keeping future case surges and mandates at bay."*

*Vaccines have been proven to save lives and reduce transmissions. Current Sonoma County vaccination rates as of last week are:*

- *80% of the general population has been fully vaccinated*
- *46% of the pediatric population age 5 to 11 have been fully or partially vaccinated*
- *77% of the juvenile population age 12 to 17 have been fully or partially vaccinated*

*Safe in-person instruction is essential for healthy school communities. The state will continue to provide schools with mitigation resources, testing, and the procurement of masks. Vulnerable school populations such as children not eligible for vaccination, students with compromised immune systems, and students with chronic conditions are encouraged to continue wearing masks at school.*

## **COVID-19 Updates - Tracy Whitaker, Covid-19 Coordinator**

### **Vaccines**

- Sonoma County - COVID-19 Vaccines for Kids: Frequently Asked Questions [Flyer](#)
- Click here for more Sonoma County Vaccine Clinic Information: [in English](#) | [in Spanish](#)

### **SCHOOL SITE SUPPORT:**

**Bellevue: Nina Craig, Principal**

Upcoming Meetings/Events:

March 9th - Report Cards go Home

March 11th - ELAC 9am

March 14th - School Site Council 4pm

March 18-25 - Spring Break

Food Pantry Tuesdays; 2:45

Move over Mozart Mondays after school

Violin Wednesdays after school

Chorus Fridays after school

4th-6th Grade Basketball Practices and Games as notified

Office hours: Monday-Friday 8:00-4:30

Please call with questions: 707-542-5195; Email Principal Craig [ncraig@busd.org](mailto:ncraig@busd.org) Office Manager, Karina [kmartinez@busd.org](mailto:kmartinez@busd.org) Parent Liaison, Amy [aflorescasares@busd.org](mailto:aflorescasares@busd.org) with any questions.

**Kawana Springs: Denise McCullough, Principal**

Upcoming Meetings/Events:

Report Cards Sent Home- March 9

ELAC- March 14, 2:45 pm

Spring Break- March 18-25

6th grade Outdoor Ed- March 28 & 29

School Site Council- March 31, 2:45 pm

Spring Picture Day- March 31

Student of the Month assemblies- April 1, Times vary by Grade Level

Move over Mozart- Weds ongoing, 12:30pm

Chorus- Thursdays ongoing, 2:40pm

Girls on the Run- ongoing, 2:40pm

Office hours- Monday-Friday, 8:00-4:00 pm

You may call 707-545-4283 or email Principal McCullough [dmccullough@busd.org](mailto:dmccullough@busd.org), Office Manager Susy Bradley [sbradley@busd.org](mailto:sbradley@busd.org), or Parent Liaison Erika Corrales [ecorrales@busd.org](mailto:ecorrales@busd.org) with any questions.

**Meadow View: Jean Walker, Principal**

Upcoming Meetings & Events:

Boys basketball games- see schedule

Girls basketball try-outs 4th-6th grade March 8th @ 2:45

Report Cards go home March 9, 2022

Coffee with the Principal: Friday March 11 @ 8:15

Spring Break- No school, March 18-March 25th

Food Pantry every Tuesday 2:00

Chorus- ongoing every Tuesday

Move over Mozart- ongoing every Wednesday

Office hours: Monday- Friday 8:00-4:00 pm

School Food Pantry, Tuesday, 2:00-3:00- please bring bags- walk up only. Please call the office at 707-541-3715 or if you have questions email; Principal Walker [jwalker@busd.org](mailto:jwalker@busd.org), Office Manager Natali Ramirez [ramirez@busd.org](mailto:ramirez@busd.org), Office Assistant- Isabel Luna, [imluna@busd.org](mailto:imluna@busd.org), or Parent Liaison Paula Hernandez [phernandez@busd.org](mailto:phernandez@busd.org).

**Taylor Mountain: Margaret Jacobson, Principal**

Kindness Matters at Taylor Mountain! This month's deliberate acts of kindness are:

- Feb. 14- 25: Draw a picture and give it to someone to brighten their day!

Upcoming Meetings & Events:

ELAC Meeting via Zoom Friday, Feb. 25, 8:00 am

School Site Council Meeting via Zoom, Monday, Feb. 28, 3:00 pm

Super Hero Day! Friday, Feb. 25

School Food Pantry every Tuesday, 2:00 - 3:00 pm

Office hours: Monday - Friday 8:00am-4pm.

Please call or stop by with questions: 542-3671; Principal Margaret Jacobson [mjacobson@busd.org](mailto:mjacobson@busd.org); Office Manager Julie Roza [jroza@busd.org](mailto:jroza@busd.org), Office Asst. Hope Leon [hleon@busd.org](mailto:hleon@busd.org)

**Learning Center: Curriculum and English Learners, Aracely Romo-Flores, Director**

Great News! Bellevue Union School District is offering a rich summer learning opportunity for all students! Space is limited so we encourage you to **register early**. Here is some information about our **Summer Learning Academy**:

**When:** Friday, June 10, 2022 through Friday July 22, 2022 (6 week program. No program on July 4th)

**Where:** Meadow View Elementary

**Hours:** 8:00-12:00 (Language Arts & Math)

12:00-5:00 (Enrichment & Extra Curricular)

Breakfast, Lunch and Snack will be provided daily.

A plan is in the works to provide bussing to and from Meadow View Elementary to Bellevue Elementary, Kawana Springs Elementary and Taylor Mountain Elementary to get students to school by 8:00 a.m and on the bus back to original pick up locations at 5:00 p.m.

Parents may choose to have their children attend the whole day from 8:00-5:00 , or only the academic session from 8:00-12:00, or just the Enrichment & Extra Curricular portion of the day from 12:00-5:00. Spots will fill up quickly. Enroll early. Below is a link to a flier with information about the program and a link to the enrollment form.

[English & Spanish Summer Learning Academy Flier](#)

### ***Student Services, Tracy Whitaker, Director of Student Services***

Our MTSS Committee has embarked on a process to select a social emotional learning curriculum for our school district. The committee determined priorities and criteria through a collaborative process. We had input from each school site and the district's Mental Health Team, reviewed curriculum, and have recommended Character Strong to our district leadership. Our leadership will review this recommendation. We would also like input from our families. The following links include a short informational video to Character Strong. [Informational Video](#)

Thank you to the MTSS Committee for your collaborative work, input and rich discussion! We look forward to the next steps.

### ***Food Services: Rita Kesler, Interim Manager***

All students continue to be provided free meals. Meal menus and additional information into our Food Service Program may be found on our website at: [www.busd.org/cafe](http://www.busd.org/cafe)

### ***Human Resources, Michael Kellison, HR Director***

Are you someone who is interested in making a difference in the lives of children? If you are interested in learning more about our open positions, contact Michael Kellison, Director of Human Resources, at [mkellison@busd.org](mailto:mkellison@busd.org) or call (707) 542-5197 ext. 5.

Join the BUSD team! Applications for job opportunities and more at Bellevue Union School District can be found at [Edjoin.org](http://Edjoin.org).

### ***Business Services, Chris Kim, CBO***

On January 10, 2022 the Governor released his proposed State Budget for the upcoming 2022-23 fiscal year. Some of the key proposed budget components include: (1) a 5.33% statutory COLA applied to the Base Grant; (2) a modified extension to the "Hold Harmless" provision of the ADA; (3) additional funding to ensure universal access to subsidized school meals; and (4) continued funding for the expanded learning opportunity program. For additional information into how these budget proposals impact the District's financial projections, please look for the District's 2nd Interim Financial Report which is scheduled to be presented to the Board of Trustees on March 8, 2022.

Assembly Bill 84 was also recently passed by the CA State Assembly which requires employers to provide additional supplemental leave for COVID related circumstances. Please contact the District's Payroll and Benefits Office at [payroll@busd.org](mailto:payroll@busd.org) if you have any questions regarding the application.

Lastly, the District continues its effort to solicit membership on its Bond Oversight Committee; for additional information and an application, please visit our website at <https://www.busd.org/Page/161>.

**Technology Department: Ryan Green, Director of Technology**

The Learning Center walk-in support for technology needs is moving to "by appointment" only. To schedule an in-person appointment with an IT member at the Learning Center, please email [ithelp@busd.org](mailto:ithelp@busd.org) or call 707-544-8164. This change will go into effect on Monday March, 7 2022 and will allow us to better serve the needs of our staff, students, and families.

**Maintenance & Operations, Roger Farrell, M&O Director**

A new electronic marquee sign is being planned to be installed at Meadow View Elementary as early as our upcoming Spring Break.

TLCD Architectural firm submitted our [Kawana Springs Modernization plan set](#) to [DSA](#) 12/24/21.

Planning continues for the Landscape retrofitting to refresh our site's presentation, minimize maintenance requirements and to make our sites more drought tolerant.

**Executive Assistance, Moriah Hart**

**[Want to volunteer at school?](#)**

1. Bring a negative TB test, COVID Vaccine Card & Photo ID to the District Office
2. Exchange TB test, COVID Vaccine Card, and ID for fingerprint form (we will make copies)
3. Make appointment to get fingerprints by calling number on fingerprint form
4. Go to your appointment. Take fingerprint form
5. Wait to be cleared (1 day to 3 months)
6. The District Office will notify your school when everything is cleared

## TK/K Registration is now open



## El registro de TK/K ya está abierto

Do you have a child who has just turned five years old, or turns five next year? Perhaps a neighbor or friend does and you can share this information! Registration for next year's (2022-23) kindergarten class is now open. Register [online](#) or in person today!

We have the traditional one-year kindergarten, and also a two-year transitional kindergarten (TK), sometimes called kinder academy or kinder bridge. The state of California has defined transitional kindergarten for those students turning 5 on or after September 2 through February 2nd, but we at Bellevue Union School District want to support and teach all of our students who are ready for TK with birthdays Sept. 2, 2017-June 30, 2018. For more information and school tour dates contact your school or follow us on facebook.



***Visual and Performing Arts Update***

March is Arts in Education month in the Bellevue Union School District! Join us as we celebrate the creative work being done by our teachers and students as we post on [Facebook](#). We will also feature our chorus and violin programs.

Our newsletters are always available on our [website](#) on facebook: [www.facebook.com/busd.org](http://www.facebook.com/busd.org) and via our mobile phone app available here: [www.busd.org/app](http://www.busd.org/app)

In partnership with you,

**Dr. David Alexander**

Superintendent

BELLEVUE UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

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