



## DISTRICT NEWS BRIEF & UPDATES

November 8, 2020

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.*

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

Confused about when schools can reopen for in-person learning? Sonoma County Office of Education created a video that may help you understand our current status in the purple tier and when schools will have the option to resume regular on-campus classes once we are in the red tier. [Understanding When Schools Can Reopen](#).

What's next? We are well into the school year under a distance learning model with the hopes of one day returning to an in-person learning model. Last June, our District Strategic Planning Team (DSPT) 2.0 helped us inform our stakeholders and gather input. From this process we put it all together to create our [2020-21 Return to School Plans](#).

In order to be prepared for the possibility of coming back to an in-person model we are doing the following: The first DSPT 2.1 meeting (representation from all stakeholders groups have been invited) was held on November 2, 2020. The second meeting is scheduled for 11/18 from 9 to noon. All slides presentations will be available on our website. Slide presentation from the first meeting: [District Strategic Planning Team 2.1 Monday, November 2, 2020 1:00pm -3:00pm - Health/Safety](#). The purpose of the DSPT 2.1 team is to provide a forum for sharing information and receiving input on the BUSD 2020/21 Return to School Plan since board approval on 8/4/2020. I would encourage you to review the slides with the important information links in each presentation. We also sent out a survey to gather input from our entire school community.

#### *Next steps for in-person planning and opening (tentative):*

Health/Safety Update Presentation to School Board 11/17/2020

District Strategic Planning Team (DSPT) 2.1 Meeting: Teaching/Learning 11/18/2020

Survey to parents and staff: Enrollment Model Preferences 12/02/2020

DSPT 2.1 Education Program Sub-committee Meeting December 8, 2020 (Identify challenges of the models)

Teaching/Learning Update Presentation to School Board 12/8/2020

DSPT 2.1 Education Program Sub-committee Nuts and Bolts Meeting January 7th (work our details)

TBA: Continue to work with our collective bargaining groups to discuss working conditions

#### *So when do we go back to in-person learning?*

With all our great planning no one can say specifically when we will go back to in-person learning. There are so many variables, it is challenging to say exactly when this will occur. The good news... we will be prepared when public health allows us to go back to make a decision based on our school district's local perimeters and needs. As always, thank you for your patience and understanding as we all work together to support our students and community.

#### **Resources:**

COVID: [Pop up testing sites](#)

## SCHOOL SITE SUPPORT:

### **Bellevue: Nina Craig, Principal**

Thank you Sonoma County Library and Muelrath Ranches for your generous donations of books and pumpkins for every student! There is still time to pick yours up if you haven't already.

Congratulations to our October Student of the Months! Check out our video

here: <https://www.facebook.com/Bellevue-Elementary-School-111524173728506>

Upcoming Meetings & Events:

Teacher/Parent Conferences by request. Call the office or email your child's teacher.

Nov. 11 - No School, Veteran's Day

Nov. 13 - Mr. Science Zooms; Teachers have the times and the zoom links

Nov. 13 - Parent and Principal Zoom Chat 9:00am - Zoom link to be texted

Nov. 16 - Report Cards Mailed Home

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00am-4pm Please respect social distancing protocols.

Weekly free meal pick up Mondays 11:00-1:00

Food Pantry Tuesdays 12:00-1:00

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**

What an incredible turnout for our Halloween drive-thru parade! It was so wonderful to see all of you! Thank you to Muelrath Farms for their generous donation of pumpkins to our community!

Upcoming Meetings/Events:

Food Pantry- Wednesdays 10:30-11:30 a.m. (No Food Pantry on Nov 11)

Office hours: 8:00-4:00 p.m. Monday-Friday

Grab-and-Go lunches: Mondays from 10:00-12:00 p.m.

You may email or call 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**

Thank you families for all your continued support and flexibility while we endure distance learning.

Much appreciation to the Muelrath farms for donating pumpkins to our community. Can't wait to see all the amazing jack-o-lanterns and decorated pumpkins!

Upcoming Meetings & Events:

Teacher/Parent Conferences by request. Call the office or email your child's teacher.

Nov. 11 - No School, Veteran's Day

Nov. 16 - Report Cards Mailed Home

Nov 18- ELAC meeting

Grab n Go meals every Monday 11:30-1:30

Food Pantry Every Tuesday 2:00-3:00

If you have any questions please call or stop by during our office hours (8:00-4:00). Masks and social distancing required for the safety of all.

Please call the office or if you have questions email; Principal Walker [jwalker@busd.org](mailto:jwalker@busd.org), Office Manager Ana Peoples, [apeoples@busd.org](mailto:apeoples@busd.org), Office Assistant- Isabel Luna, [imluna@busd.org](mailto:imluna@busd.org), or Parent Liaison Natali Ramirez, [qramirez@busd.org](mailto:qramirez@busd.org).

### **Taylor Mountain: Margaret Jacobson, Principal**

We loved seeing our students and families at the Halloween Neighborhood Parade last week! Thank you for joining our fun, community-building event!

Upcoming Meetings/Events:

October Super Students: Please stop by the office for your certificate and prize!

Nov. 9: Monday Coffee with the Principal 9:00 am

Nov. 11: No School; Veteran's Day

Grab n Go meals every Monday 10:30 am-1:30 pm

Food Pantry Every Tuesday 12:00-1:00 pm

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00am-4pm. Masks and social distancing required for the safety of all.

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), or Parent Liaison Juana Solis [jsolis@busd.org](mailto:jsolis@busd.org)

## **DISTRICT SUPPORT:**

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

The District is scheduled to have its annual audit of its financials by Christy White and Associates on November 12th and 13th. This is an annual requirement by the State of California Legislature to encourage sound fiscal management practices for the most efficient and effective use of public funds for the education of children by strengthening fiscal accountability. Following this audit, the Business Services Office will turn its attention to completing the District's 1st Interim report, to be presented to the Board of Trustees in December.

### **Child Care**

[Community Distance Learning Support/Childcare Resources](#) available throughout our community found in this link.

### **Food Services, Kayla Todd, Food Program Manager**

Reminder: School lunches are FREE FOR ALL CHILDREN under 18, pick up 5 days worth of breakfast and lunch every Monday at the following sites:

- 10am-12pm Kawana Elementary
- 10:30am-1:30pm Taylor Mountain Elementary
- 11am-1pm Bellevue Elementary
- 11:30am-1:30pm Meadow View Elementary

### **Students Services, Tracy Whitaker, Director**

The Early Learning Center (ELC) held their first Family Connection last Friday. Our next Family Connection for the ELC is scheduled for Friday, November 20 at 9:00 via Zoom. The topic will be Healthy Choices with our School Nurse and Nurse Assistant.

A giant thank you to all of our Special Education Staff for their continued efforts to reach out to families and for their collaborative work with families. They are working tirelessly to support all of our students with exceptional needs. Your diligent work is appreciated and does not go unnoticed.

Mental Health Support: As COVID persists we are seeing the stress in our students and families. Again, listed below, are resources for mental health support in the county.

[211.org](http://211.org)

[Mental Health & Wellness in Covid-19](#) website through the County of Sonoma. **Sonoma County Warmline:** Call **(707) 565-2652** for free and private support if you or someone you know is experiencing emotional stress and anxiety during COVID-19. **Seven days a week 10:00 a.m to 7:00 p.m.**

Our MTSS Committee met on November 4. The committee continues to explore social emotional needs and supports for students and the district as a whole. The committee will elicit input from their sites to bring back to the next MTSS meeting.

### **Educational Services, Aracely Romo-Flores**

Teachers are working hard to assess student learning in preparation for reporting out student progress for our first trimester report cards. It is extremely important that your child attend all learning opportunities provided by the teacher. Our first trimester ends Friday, November 6, 2020 and report cards will be mailed home on Monday, November 16, 2020.

The Sonoma County Office of Education is hosting events for parents and caregivers. The upcoming event will focus on facilitating math learning at home. Translation will be provided for all sessions. A Spanish only series

will also be offered. Please see the [Supporting Student Math Learning at Home](#) flyer for more information on how to register for these great learning opportunities.

### **Maintenance and Operations, Roger Farrell, Director**

With a generous contribution from the Graton Rancheria Resort & Casino and their partnership with Sonoma County Office of Education we are in the process of acquiring 157 [Alen BreatheSmart 75i HEPA Air Purifiers](#) that will be distributed throughout the BUSD student & staff occupied spaces.

We welcome you to please spend some time reviewing our [BUSD Maintenance & Operations Webpage](#) where you can see the BUSD Facility Improvements Accomplishments and Plans to gain an understanding of what lies ahead to make our District Facilities more wonderful for our school community.

Please send any questions or maintenance requests you may have about our facilities to [mohelp@busd.org](mailto:mohelp@busd.org). Thank you!

### **Information Technology, Lawrence Black, Director**

We have moved! Office hours will be from 8:00 am - 4:00 pm at the Learning Center. 2641 Dutton Meadow Ave. Santa Rosa 95407. Spanish Language support available at all times. If travel is an issue, please contact us at the provided options below and we will schedule to meet you at a convenient location.

- Email - [ithelp@busd.org](mailto:ithelp@busd.org)
- Call - 1-707-544-8164

If you are experiencing issues with Zoom or Google Meet connectivity, be sure to run a [speedof.me](https://speedof.me) test at home and let us know your results so we can best help you. We recommend at least **2Mbps up and down per person** who will be needing to use video conferencing when you are at home.

### **Executive Assistance, Moriah Hart**

Although our school campuses remain physically closed, critical instruction is in progress. Regular participation in distance learning is important to your student's success in school. Our goal is to ensure your child is safe, healthy and engaged in learning. If anything is interfering with your child's ability to participate, please reach out to us so we can get you the support you need.

We understand there are a wide variety of reasons that students may not participate in distance learning on a daily basis. We also know that absences add up quickly and together we can meet the challenges of distance learning. Attendance letters will start in the next two weeks.

Please reach out to your school any time your student is unable to participate in distance learning.

If you are not receiving communication from your school or the District Office please complete your [online data confirmation](#) or the paper opening packet mailed to you to update your contact information.

In partnership with you,

Dr. David Alexander  
Superintendent  
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