



## *DISTRICT NEWS BRIEF & UPDATES*

*December 6, 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)



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*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,**

By now, you have most likely heard on December 3, 2020, Governor Newsom announced a Regional Stay Home Order that will take effect within 48 hours after a region's intensive care unit (ICU) capacity falls under 15% and to remain in effect for three weeks. The state has identified five regions and their current ICU capacity, as well as projected dates to fall under the 15% threshold, including the Bay Area counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Monterey, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano, **Sonoma** (Projected date: mid-late December).

Although there has been some confusion about what this means, this order does not impact or modify the state's guidance on the school reopening process. A local educational agency that is preparing to open and is in a county that is in the Substantial (Red) Tier for at least two weeks, can proceed with their plans.

For now, due to Sonoma County's current COVID-19 status (purple tier), our schools must remain in distance learning and we cannot return to in-person school until at least February and possibly later. Our schools will continue to offer our distance learning program.

As we have experienced, so much can change in a short period of time. In the meanwhile our teachers will continue to teach from their schools or other remote locations in a distance learning model. Our school staffs will continue to work from their sites as directed by their supervisors. Please note our campuses are closed to the public with a few exceptions.

We will continue to monitor our local COVID-19 status as we prepare for the day we are able to return to school for an in-person learning experience. It is hopeful that one day we will be able to get our students back to an in-person learning model and therefore we will continue to plan and prepare for that day.

This coming Tuesday, our BUSD School Board will consider for approval a resolution for our school district to continue with distance learning until February 8, 2020 or if conditions improved. We continue to be doubtful that we will be moving to the red tier in January and hopeful, but not certain, we may move to the red tier sometime in February or soon after.

Tracy Whitaker, our Students Services Director has been doing an incredible job acting as our district's COVID-19 Coordinator. She will be presenting a brief COVID-19 health and safety update at each of our monthly regular scheduled board meetings. We greatly appreciate all your due diligence in this very important work Tracy! (A link to last month's board presentation is included below)

Here are a few updates and links to help you understand the possibility of returning to an in-person educational model:

- NEW: SCOE Video: [Preparing for When Schools Can Reopen](#)
- SCOE Video: [Understanding When Schools Can Reopen](#)
- Document: [2020-21 Return to School Plans](#)
- Presentation Slides: [District Strategic Planning Team 2.1 Monday, November 2, 2020 1:00pm -3:00pm - Health/Safety.](#)
- New: Presentation Slides: [District Strategic Planning Team 2.1 Wednesday, November 18, 2020 9:00am to noon Teaching/Learning](#)
- New: Presentation Slides: [BUSD 2020/21 Return to School Plan Health/Safety Updates Presentation to Bellevue Union School District Board of Trustees by Tracy Whitaker, Director of Student Services & BUSD COVID-19 Coordinator & David Alexander, Ed..D Superintendent 11/17/2020](#)

The following timeline is tentative, based on the ever changing variables surrendering us. Thank you for your patience and understanding. We appreciate your input and assistance in creating the plans to ensure a successful in-person re-entry.

**Next steps for in-person planning and opening (tentative: Revised after DSPT 2.1 Meeting 11/18/20):**

- DSPT 2.1 Education Program Sub-committee Meeting December 8, 2020 (Identify challenges/solutions of the model)
- Teaching/Learning Update Presentation to School Board 12/8/2020 to 1/19/21
- Survey to parents and staff: Enrollment Model Preferences ~~12/02/2020~~ after 12/08/20
- DSPT 2.1 Education Program Sub-committee Nuts and Bolts Meeting January 7th (work out details) *may change in content*
- TBA: Continue to work with our collective bargaining groups to discuss working conditions

**Board Meetings:**

- December 8, 2020 (Presentation & Recommendations)
- December 15, 2020 (Governance Workshop Training)
- January 19, 2021 Regular Board Meeting
- TBA: Town Hall meetings for job alike

We are appreciative of all of our community's support as we work together to serve our students.

**Resources:**

COVID: [Pop up testing sites](#)

**SCHOOL SITE SUPPORT:**

**Bellevue: Nina Craig, Principal**

A huge shout out to First grade teacher, Mrs. Boyce, for arranging Holiday Crafts for every Bellevue student to do at home! Happy Holidays! Be well and safe!

Upcoming Meetings & Events:

Dec. 11 - Parent Coffee

Dec. 14-18 Holiday Spirit Week

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**

I hope you all had a nice break! We still miss seeing our students and families in person so much.

Upcoming Meetings/Events:

ELAC meeting- Thurs, Dec 10 5:30 p.m.

School Site Council- Thurs, Dec 17, 2:30 p.m.

Food Pantry- Wednesdays 10:30-11:30 a.m. (No Food Pantry on Nov 25)

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**

Upcoming Meetings & Events:

December 17th- Winter Wonderland Drive thru 5:30 pm

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, [nramirez@busd.org](mailto:nramirez@busd.org).

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

Upcoming Meetings/Events:

Dec. 14, 9am : Coffee Zoom with the Principal

Dec. 18: Pajama 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:**

#### **Child Care**

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

#### **COOL School**

COOL School staff were excited to return from the holiday break and happy to see the students back in action. At Taylor Mountain, the COOL School team raffled off 10 turkeys right before break. :) Stay tuned for another holiday giveaway before the winter break!

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

Although Sonoma County is still in the purple tier and we have no way of knowing when we will be able to return to providing some in-person instruction, it is important to begin our planning for this.

On *Tuesday, December 8th from 12:30-3:30* via Zoom, our DSPT 2.1 Education Sub-Committee will be meeting to explore the possibilities of what our Hybrid Instructional Model (which may include in-person instruction as well as distance learning) could look like. It is exciting to imagine the possibility of having students return to school at some point when it is deemed safe to do so. In the meantime, a BIG THANKS to all of our teachers and parents for working so hard to create strong learning opportunities for our students!

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

Hotspots have arrived! If you are on the waiting list for your school you will be hearing from us soon.

Headphones and mice are available in every school front office free of charge.

You can always reach us direct at

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

#### **Human Resources: Siara Goyer, Director**

Join the BUSD team!

*We currently have the following opportunities:*

Temp Position: 8 hour/ day Computer Resource Technician (end date is 6/30/2021)

3 hour/ day Dishwasher at Taylor Mountain

Several Special Education Instructional Assistant Positions

Several Student Supervisor Positions

Applications for these exciting job opportunities and more at Bellevue Union School District can be found at

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

**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

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

Monday, 11/30 BUSD received 157 Air Purifiers were distributed to each of our sites. These are going to help wonderfully to significantly improve the air quality within occupied spaces throughout our campuses. Here is a link to the Air Purifiers that we received so you can learn more about them [Aren-for-schools](#). As you may have heard the [Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria](#) provided us with a generous gift to acquire 64 of the 157 units that we received.

We are meeting with our architectural firm TLCD and RGM Kramer Construction Consultants to discuss our Kawana Springs ES Modernization project. We continue to make progress on the planning required to perform YEAR 2 projects from our [BUSD Facility 5 Year Plan](#).

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

The District will be presenting its 1st Interim Report at a Special Board Meeting scheduled for Monday, December 14, 2020. At this time, the key fiscal indicators that were presented with the District's budget revision dated September 29, 2020 still hold true. Critical factors include upcoming cash deferrals projected at \$2.9 million which will greatly stress the District's ability to maintain a positive cash balance at the end of the fiscal year, and a total current District enrollment of 1530 students, which is 69 students less than the prior year. On the flip side, the District is on track to utilize in total the \$1.8 million grant from the coronavirus relief act by December 30, 2020 (as required by the State); the funding has been and is being utilized to mitigate learning loss and is largely funding devices, instructional materials, and personal protective equipment.

In partnership with you,

Dr. David Alexander

Superintendent

BELLEVUE UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

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