



# DISTRICT NEWS BRIEF & UPDATES

March 27, 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.*

Superintendent's Desk, David Alexander, Ed.D.

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

We miss our students and staff! Our students' learning, health and well-being, as well as your families are on all of our hearts and minds. Very few of us would ever believe we would be part of a pandemic. I am truly impressed by the response in our district and county. I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation to everyone for your support to each other and the community.

As we continue down this bumpy road, we will continue to learn from each other. This is messy and so we can expect bumps in the road and at the same time we will expect success as we learn and grow together. We recognize there are many pieces to this puzzle; possibly many children to help, financial situations, health issues, frustration with helping children learn, etc... We will be here to support our students with the resources we have and that are being developed.

Try not to stress over the distance learning either work packets or device-oriented distance learning. These unique circumstances are creating stress for everyone and we do not want to add to these levels of frustration for our students and/or families. We will do our best to create a quality distance learning program. At the same time we recognize, more than ever, we do need your support as a parent to provide a learning environment at home while adjusting accordingly to your home life.

In the not so distant future, your child's teacher will be calling to reconnect. Please feel free to reach out to your child's teacher via email as well. We thank you for your patience and understanding during these difficult times. I am appreciative of an incredible team of teachers, principals, and support staff that are working long hours, some at home, some at schools and sometimes both to navigate this situation.

### **North Bay County Schools Plan for Distance Learning Through May 1**

Please click [HERE](#) for the press release that was distributed March 25th. In summary, Sonoma, Marin, Solano and Napa counties have agreed to officially plan for continued distance learning through May 1. This decision was based on consultation with the Sonoma County Public Health Officer.

Governor Newsom has remarked that while there is no end date to his stay-at-home order, he anticipates maintaining the current efforts statewide through the end of April. This is not an official policy, however Sonoma County is also operating under this assumption. Should the Governor's order end before the end of April school districts will be flexible and consider resuming classes earlier.

I just want to close, by saying how much we miss you and want the very best for your children and your families. Please continue to practice social distancing and hygiene best practices. We have gone through tough recent times and we will get through this as well. At the end of day, hug your loved ones and perhaps this experience gives us a greater sense of appreciation of our blessings.

Please stay healthy!

I hope you may find the following information and resources helpful!

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

The students lunch/breakfast program, "Grab and Go Meal" services are available at Taylor Mountain Elementary, Monday-Friday from 11am-1pm. Remember, the student meals are free to all students, regardless of income. We have served 782 meals so far.

### **Distant Learning and Chromebooks**

We appreciate everyone's support and patience as we transition from work packets to device distance learning. Our intent is to provide a chromebook to students grade 1-6 for distance learning. Each school will be reaching out to you with specific information on how we will distribute Chromebooks and creating a distance learning program for your child. When parents/students pick up devices we will be asking each parent to sign a Chromebook Agreement and ask if you have internet access. If you do not have internet access, we will provide you resources/support so you are able to gain access.

As we begin distant learning your child's teacher will be making contact with you soon. We want to reach out to you to find out how you are doing and learn about your needs when it comes to "distance learning." Spanish speaking households may be contacted by our parent liaisons or translators. These are the initial steps for our district to ensure that everyone has access to learning materials. Once we have a better understanding of this, classroom teachers will provide more information about your child's distance learning activities. We are hoping to begin device distance learning the week of April 6th. Please hold on to your student's work packets for now.

### **Internet Options**

- AT&T is offering two free months of internet access for new customers. For more details and contact info: [AT&T Access](#)
- Comcast is offering free access to the internet and WiFi for 60-days for new accounts based on income. More details and contact information: [Comcast Internet Essentials](#)
- Spectrum is offering free access to internet and WiFi for 60-days for new Pre-K to 12, college student, and teacher households who don't currently have internet or WiFi service. More details and contact information: [Spectrum.net](#).
- Sonic Internet is offering three months of free internet for new Pre-K to 12, college student, and senior accounts. More details and contact information: [Sonic](#)

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

Office Hours: Tuesday, March 31 & Wednesday, April 1 8:00-4:00

First - Sixth grade Chromebook Distribution: Tuesday, March 31 & Wednesday, April 1 8:00-4:00

Food Pantry: Tuesday, March 31 2:45pm, front bus loop

Student Work Packets (issued March 24) are available outside of front office doors daily

### **Kawana Springs: Denise McCullough, Principal**

Office Hours: Tuesday, March 31 8:00-4:00

Food Pantry @ KS: Tuesday, March 31 12:00-1:30

Any family that has not picked up their Student Work Packet (issued March 24) may pick it up at KS on Tuesday, March 31, during office hours, or download it from the BUSD website.

### **Meadow View: Jean Walker, Principal**

Office Hours: Tuesday, March 31 8:00-4:00 & Wednesday, April 1, 8:00-4:00

First - Sixth grade Chromebook Distribution: Tuesday, March 31st & Wednesday, April 1st 8:00-4:00

Food Pantry: Tuesday, March 31 2:15pm, Parking lot loop

Student Work Packets (issued March 24) are available on Tuesday, March 31st and Wednesday, April 1st during office hours or on the BUSD website

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

School Pantry: Tuesday, March 31, 12:30 - 1:30 pm outside of Main Office

Office Hours: Tuesday, March 31 8:00-4:00

Any family that has not picked up their Student Work Packet (issued March 24) may pick it up at TM on Tuesday, March 31, or download it from the BUSD website.

**Grab-and-Go Student Lunch/Breakfast: daily at Taylor Mountain 11 am - 1 pm**

### **Student Services/Special Education, Tracy Whitaker, Director**

Student Services is working diligently to support our students with disabilities. Teams are in the process of determining how to best serve our students under these challenging circumstances. We are assessing how to best hold virtual or telephone IEP meetings. More information to come in regard to the delivery of specific services. A special thank you to all in our student services department for their dedication to students and their continued success. They truly have our students at the center of it all. Thank you!!!

### **Business Office: Chris Kim, EdD, Chief Business Officer**

Our district is working closely with the County Office of Education to ensure that there are no disruptions to the processing of payroll and benefits coverage during the shelter in place orders.

The District has been advised that due to the reduction in sales, income, and property tax revenue that fundamentally drive inputs into the State Budget, all previous state revenue estimates for School Districts are correspondingly “no longer valid,” and “financial projections are unclear, but not encouraging”

In regards to Federal Revenue, we do expect some trickle down funding down to the District level associated with the Federal Government’s stimulus package. These may include funds to purchase educational technology needed to support distance learning, additional funding for Child Nutrition Programs, and increases to the Child Care Development Block Grant.

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

**All paid employees, whether essential or non-essential, will continue to receive their regular pay**

During this closure, staff may be asked to come in to perform work. Please contact [sgoyer@busd.org](mailto:sgoyer@busd.org) if needed.

Please understand that every employee is a Disaster Service Worker. “In the event of natural, manmade or war-caused emergencies which result in conditions of disaster or extreme peril to life, property and resources, all district employees are subject to disaster service activities as assigned to them by their supervisors or by law. (Government Code 3100-3102)” (AR 4112.3, 4212.3, 4312.3)”

### **Information and Technology, Larry Black, Director**

Our Chromebook deployment plans and preparation is currently underway.

Our IT team is eagerly supporting our learning!

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

Kawana Springs Phase 1 of the Roof project is due to be completed 3/27/20.

Bellevue ES some fascia boards, flashing and plaster repairs/replacement performed.

Significant amounts of Groundskeeping and Maintenance Work Orders have been and are being performed during this time by Reinel Duarte, Groundskeeper and Pat Herring, Maint Tech with the supplemental help of outside vendors.

Bellevue ES is having a section of water main replaced.

Continued preparations are being made for our larger Bond Projects and are yet to be determined as to when they can start due to the uncertainty associated with campuses being presently unoccupied.

### **Superintendent's Office, Moriah Hart, Executive Assistant**

Please look for BUSD COVID updates on our Facebook page, our website, peachjar and via text, email, and our mobile app.

If you are not receiving notices or your contact information needs to be updated, please contact your school site.

Visit our Facebook page regularly to meet some of our wonderful staff members.

Stay Healthy!

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(707) 542-5197 / Fax: (707) 542-6127

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