



DISTRICT NEWS BRIEF & UPDATES

April 3, 2020

From the Office of Superintendent David Alexander, Ed.D.

3150 Education Drive Santa Rosa, CA 95407 (707) 542-5197
www.busd.org



Mission: Inspire learning

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

"It is always wise to look ahead, but difficult to look further than you can see." Winston Churchill

Dear Bellevue Union School District Families and Staff,

The current COVID-19 pandemic situation is perplexing and stressful for everyone. Your health and safety are our first priority. I trust we will all learn together how best to navigate this new normal of education for our students, called, Distance Learning.

By now you are probably aware Governor Gavin Newsom and state Superintendent of Schools Tony Thurmond has urged all superintendents to "proceed as if we can only educate our kids through distance learning for the remainder of the school year."; and therefore, Bellevue Union School District students will not be returning to school campuses this school year.

Educators across the country acknowledge there are many unanswered questions about exactly how this remote type of learning will occur. Our education team of teachers, principals and support staff are to be highly commended for all their outstanding efforts in this new model of education. We thank you for your patience as we work with staff to develop our new instructional plans and support systems. Our dedicated team of educators and support staff are remarkable!

By now most of our teachers have connected with our students and families and the majority of Chromebooks for grades 1-6 have been distributed. Each teacher is developing ways to deliver a quality teacher facilitated distance learning program for your children. The creative energy of our teaching staff is truly amazing. We are working to identify which families are having difficulty getting internet services in order to access online assignments and resources. We will be reaching out to those we know do not. Please reach out to our schools with any questions.

In addition, we have developed a new exciting [Parent Resources](#) page on our website which includes a variety of helpful parent resources, grades TK-6 resources, Just for Fun, Movement, and English & Spanish Learners activities. We will be adding to this wonderful resource weekly. A big shout out to Moriah Hart, our Executive Assistant for the time and energy putting this together for our district's students and families! We are asking our teachers to share their favorites supplemental resources to be added to these shared resources so everyone can benefit from their experiences.

I would encourage our families to stay connected to our incredible teaching staff and our resources in this new learning situation.

For our staff members, check out the new Learning Center webpage regularly. Our awesome IT department continues to build and share tools you can use to assist you in Distance Learning in a 21st century classroom. Teachers, if you have some training tools you have created or discovered, we would encourage you to share these with the IT team to be included in these shared online resources.

Please continue to keep open lines of communication as this will be very important as we move to distance learning. Expect your child's teacher(s) to connect regularly with you and your child. Expect your child's principal to send you regular communication via email, social media, school messenger, etc. about your specific school.

Distance Learning is unique and unfamiliar to us all. A colleague shared with me, "We are not working from home, we are at home during a crisis trying to work." I am sure it is challenging for our families to facilitate learning while at home. Let's do our best to reduce our stress by not sweating over the little stuff. We will all learn together on how best to educate students with our parents as remote co-educators.

My encouragement to everyone is that we continue to connect through sharing and learning. From a famous quote, by John Donne, No man is an island – A selection from the prose “No man is an island, entire of itself, every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main.” Let us stay connected through our Distance Learning for our students and staff.

Thank you for your patience and support as we work together to educate students and support your families.

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.

Distant Learning and Chromebooks

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, April 7, 8:00-4:00

Work Packet and continued Chromebook Distribution: Tuesday, April 7, 8:00-4:00

Food Pantry: Tuesday, April 7; 2:45pm, front bus loop

Kawana Springs: Denise McCullough, Principal

Office Hours: Tuesday, April 7, 12:00-4:00

Any family that has not picked up a Chromebook may do so during office hours.

You may also email Principal McCullough dmccullough@busd.org or Office Manager Susy Bradley sbradley@busd.org with any questions.

Food Pantry @ KS: Tuesday, April 7, 12:00-1:00 If you have transportation, drive thru is preferable for safety reasons. Your child's teacher will be reaching out this next week regarding remote learning. Please contact your child's teacher with any questions regarding lessons or assignments.

Meadow View: Jean Walker, Principal

Office Hours: Tuesday, April 7, 2020 8:00-4:00

Work packet and continued Chromebooks Distribution: Tuesday, April 7, 8:00-4:00

Food Pantry: Tuesday, April 7 2:15pm, Parking lot loop

Taylor Mountain: Margaret Jacobson, Principal

ChromeBook Disbursement: Tuesday, April 7 - Wednesday, April 8, 8:30 am - 3:00 pm

School Pantry: Tuesday, April 7, 12:30 - 1:30 pm Curbside drive-up only in front of main office

Office Hours: Tuesday, April 7, 8:00 am -3:00 pm

Kindergarten April Work Packet pick-up: Tuesday, April 7 in the main office

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

Student Services/Special Education, Tracy Whitaker, Director

Student Services has successfully held IEP meetings via Zoom and telephone conferencing. Thank you to parents for your flexibility and willingness. IEP services: RSP teachers are continuing to serve students by offering support with core instruction and small group video conferencing where indicated in IEPs for student success. SDC classes are offering video circles, small group instruction, and consultation as appropriate for each student. Our department has worked diligently to create a meaningful program for all of our students who have IEPs and require additional support. In addition, our speech

and language, OT, and behavioral services are ready to roll out through virtual instruction and consultation. We are still working on counseling services and hope to have them available to students soon. Thank you for your patience.

Student Services will continue to review programming and services. We will make adjustments as needed to ensure the most effective programming possible during this unique and challenging situation. Thank you again to the educators in the Student Services department for your work and commitment to students! You are amazing!

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 if needed.

The District 2020-2021 Calendar will be available soon.

DI Teachers and SDC Teachers have accepted jobs with our District for next school year. The on-boarding process for these individuals are on hold for the time being for the safety of everyone.

The Director of Curriculum/English Learners position has been posted for a couple weeks with a closing date of April 14th.

Maintenance and Operations, Roger Farrell, Director

Please use the Social Distancing Symptom Screening Questionnaire to help increase health awareness and environment at our school sites for our staff and vendors.

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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