



# DISTRICT NEWS BRIEF & UPDATES

April 10, 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,**

We miss you. We trust your family is well during the shelter in place. Our team has put together a few important items to share with you:

## **Distance Learning**

“School” from home is no easy task, especially understanding each of our families will experience the COVID-19 shelter in place in so many different ways. We recognize distance learning is going to be different learning from home rather than a school classroom, especially considering our students will be learning from home for the remainder of the school year.

Please note we will do our best to help facilitate learning through a regular weekly schedule that includes teaching and student support through a variety of distance learning strategies including online instruction, printed materials, and video and/or teleconferencing to name a few. This flexibility will allow our teachers to do their best while helping our students continue to learn and support our families. Students are expected to engage in the learning instruction provided and to stay in touch with their teachers through the end of the school year. Each school district is required to take attendance. Attendance is considered to be students engaged in the work for each class or with their teacher at least once a week. Attendance will be noted by the student’s participation. The California Department of Education (CDE) has determined that students will be held harmless for grades in the 3rd trimester (for elementary students). Student grades can only improve (not go down) during this time.

*TIPS FOR DISTANCE LEARNING (shared from Santa Rosa City Schools -Thank you!)*

- *Set your own pace. A teacher has 24 or more students in class while parents have only their own children to manage. What may take a teacher an hour to cover in the classroom may take parents working with younger students less time at home. The same is true for older students who are working on their own. Trying to match hour-to-hour your students’ distance learning to the classroom is not advised.*
- *Alternate subjects. To maintain maximum engagement with the distance learning process, it is best practice to alternate subject areas so that not all 6 subject areas (English, math, science, etc.) or classes are on the same day.*
- *Be social. At school, students have the opportunity to socialize, play, have meals, and interact with many different people. At home, although you can’t interact “in person” with many people, you can include time for activities, and being social with the family or on the phone.*
- *Limit screen time. Chromebooks and computers are wonderful tools for teachers and students, but limiting the amount of time on these devices is highly recommended. We are in an isolated environment already. Be sure your student isn’t further isolating themselves by being on technology for several hours per day.*
- *Expand the idea of learning. We have a rare opportunity to be together with our children and the day should include activities that must be completed as a part of being home together. There is learning in*

*cooking, yard work, exercising, singing, drawing, and just about anything, that your students can do together with the family besides focusing solely on school work. Think of this as a chance to “learn to learn.”*

Due to the recent distance learning needs, we are going to be activating Youtube for our students starting 4/13/2020. Youtube will be used as an educational platform by the staff at Bellevue Union School District. Google provides information about the information it collects, as well as how it uses and discloses the information it collects from G Suite for Education accounts in its G Suite for Education Privacy Notice. You can read that notice online at [https://gsuite.google.com/terms/education\\_privacy.html](https://gsuite.google.com/terms/education_privacy.html) If you have questions or concerns please contact [ithelp@busd.org](mailto:ithelp@busd.org)

### Internet Options

- Looking for internet hotspots? Go to <https://hotspots.wifi.xfinity.com> and type in zip code
- 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](#)

### Resources

[Skunk Works](#) and Distance Learning have a common denominator... “...move quickly to develop solutions in core capability areas needed for our future success.” With that said, educators across the district, county, state and nation are scrambling to put together a quality distance learning program in as little time as possible. This building the [airplane in the sky](#) work is happening everywhere. We went from perplexing individuals scratching our heads to now a flood of resources coming in from all directions. The challenge now and will be in the coming months is sorting through all these parts and creating our own airplane. We have already begun creating our own [Parent Resources](#) webpage and a Teacher Resource page is currently being designed. Our intention is to collect all the great resources our teachers have found and place them in a centralized place for all our teachers and parents. Teachers, please send us (email the Supt) your best resources to help your colleagues and parents across the district. We will be opening up this webpage this week and will continue to build it! Thank you in advance for your collaboration and support for each other!

Our teachers are providing distance learning activities and assignments for each student. Lessons are focused on grade level standards and are activities and assignments that students are familiar with and build off where students left off prior to the Shelter in Place. Please contact your child's teacher if you have any questions.

If you are interested in additional or supplemental materials and resources, please explore our 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. We are asking our teachers to share their favorite supplemental resources to be added to these shared resources so everyone can benefit from their experiences.

### **Notice from Santa Rosa Police Department 4/8/2020**

*Listen up, Santa Rosa! For the health and safety of our community, it is imperative that we stay home to prevent the spread of COVID-19. SRPD continues to see some community members who are not complying with the Shelter-in-Place and Park Closure orders set forth by the Public Health Officer. To protect our vulnerable populations and our essential, front-line workers, SRPD may have to take enforcement action if non-compliance to the orders continue to occur within our community.*

*Public Health Order Reminders:*

- *Anytime you leave your house practice social distancing and wear a face cover*

- Only leave your house for essential needs
- Exercise (walk, jog, bike) within your neighborhood
- Do not congregate in parks, use playground equipment, benches, picnic areas or barbecues – these areas are CLOSED
- The following activities are prohibited: soccer, football, basketball, baseball, tag, tennis, or any other group activity that can lead to large gatherings outside.
- All non-essential business should be CLOSED
- Essential businesses must practice social distancing and other operational protocols as outlined in the Public Health Officers orders

Please remember, staying home is essential to saving lives and flattening the curve. Together, we can prevent the spread!

Please stay healthy!

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

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

***BELLEVUE UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT MEAL DISTRIBUTION CHANGE***

The BELLEVUE UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT students lunch/breakfast program, “Grab and Go Meal” services will be reduced to once a week. Starting Monday, April 13, 2020, the District will provide a **one time pick up of five days worth of meals** on every Monday of each week. The meals will continue to be available at Taylor Mountain Elementary from 11am-1pm. Remember, the student meals are free to all students, regardless of income.

***SANTA ROSA CITY SCHOOL MEAL DISTRIBUTION CHANGE***

Please remember the Bellevue Union School district is it’s own separate school district; however, we recognize many of our families have students in grades 7-12 in the Santa Rosa City School (SRSC) District and thus may be participating in the SRSC “GRAB and Go” meal program. We have included their information to help you plan your trips outside your own home. The Santa Rosa City School District free “Grab and Go” meal distribution will continue at nine locations throughout our district. Starting next week, SRSC are going to combine the meals into bigger bags that can be picked up twice a week, starting next Wednesday, 4/15. For next week, SRSC will have meals available on Monday 4/13, Tuesday 4/14 and then a bigger bag on Wednesday 4/15. After next week, meals will be available on Mondays (meals for two days) and Wednesdays (meals for three days) only. This change will allow for the same ten meals per week also increasing both social distancing and safety for staff and families. For more information: [srcschools.org/freemeals](https://srcschools.org/freemeals).

**SCHOOL SITE SUPPORT:**

**Bellevue: Nina Craig, Principal**

Office Hours: Tuesday, April 14, 11:30-4:00

Tech Support for Students and Parents Tuesday, April 14, 11:30-1:30 Help with anything from chromebooks to google classroom.

Food Pantry: Tuesday, April 14; 2:45pm, front bus loop

Please call for information regarding TK and Kinder Registration. We are still accepting registrations!

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.

Phase One roof replacement has begun on D wing and teeter totter replacement on the playground has been completed.

**Kawana Springs: Denise McCullough, Principal**

Ongoing Office Hours: Tuesdays, 12:00-4:00 p.m.

Tech support on site for parents: Tuesdays 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Please contact your child’s teacher directly with any specific questions regarding lessons or assignments.

Food Pantry @ KS: Ongoing Tuesdays, 12:00-1:00 If you have transportation, drive thru is preferable for safety reasons.

You may mail 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**

Office Hours: Tuesday, April 14, 2020 8:00-4:00

Food Pantry: Tuesday, April 14, 2:15pm, Parking lot loop

Please call for information regarding Kindergarten registration. We are accepting registration

Looking for internet hotspots? Go to <https://hotspots.wifi.xfinity.com> and type in zip code

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

School Pantry: Tuesday, April 14, 12:00 pm Curbside drive-up only in the car line: do not enter the lot until 12:00 pm

Office Hours: Tuesday, April 14, 8:00 am -3:00 pm

Looking for internet hotspots? Go to <https://hotspots.wifi.xfinity.com> and type in zip code

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

Please call for information regarding TK and Kinder Registration. We are still accepting registrations!

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

## **DISTRICT SUPPORT**

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

Student Services continues to move forward with providing IEP services to students. Students are joining their classes through video conferencing and working in small groups. Most families have picked up any materials targeted to IEP goals. Speech, OT, individual instruction, and APE direct and indirect services have started. Counseling information has been posted on the website. There has been increased participation through the week as parents and students have learned how to access distance learning. We will continue to make adjustments as needed to best support the students. BUSD is committed to providing meaningful services so our students can continue to progress under these unique and challenging circumstances.

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

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

CSEA Negotiations took place on 4/7/2020.

Vacation Notices to all 12 Month Employees were sent out on 4/9/2020.

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

Please use the Social Distancing Symptom Screening Questionnaire before entering BUSD facilities to help increase health awareness and healthy environment at all our school sites for our staff and vendors. [Social Distancing Symptom Screening Questionnaire](#)

You may be wondering, Why is there work being performed at Kawana Springs and Bellevue Elementary School? In a report dating back to 2009 it was determined that the roofs at Kawana Springs and Bellevue needed to be replaced. Over a series of patching campaigns we have arrangements in order to replace those roofs and have deemed this work as essential and are moving forward with it.

BUSD also intends to move forward with the sewer replacement at Kawana Springs to accommodate a new kitchen. We have not yet begun with this because once we start, the sewer system would be non-operational until completion, given the nature of COVID-19 and our need to continue to disinfect areas throughout our campuses we need to have an operational water & sewer system at this time.

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

Thank you!

#### **Business Operations, Chris J. Kim, Chief Business Official**

The District has initiated proceedings for the issuance of the first series of the general obligation (facilities) bonds (Election of 2020, Series A), in the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$9,000,000. The District is in the process of filing a Request for Public Assistance (RPA) with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) related to COVID-19 mitigation related expenditures.

**Information Technology, Lawrence Black, Director**

We are here for you parents! The technology team will be at all Bellevue school sites on Tuesdays. Bellevue Elementary will be from 11:30 to 1:30. Taylor Mountain will be from 8:30 to 11:30. Kawana Springs will be from 2:00 to 4:00. Meadow View from 2:00 to 4:00. Our goal is to support parent questions and troubleshoot.

Youtube is being activated for students starting 4/13. This will allow students to access quality video instruction being produced by their teachers.

**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!

Dr. David Alexander  
Superintendent

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3150 Education Drive / Santa Rosa, CA 95407  
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