



DISTRICT NEWS BRIEF & UPDATES

July 11, 2020

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

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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,

For over a month BUSD has been actively engaged in planning for the reopening of school for the 2020-2021 school year. We recognize school will need to function much differently due to the ongoing health concerns related to the COVID-19 pandemic. We would like you to know we have incredible teams who are keeping the health and safety of our students, staff and community as our first priority.

Our draft of the BUSD Reopening Schools Plan is progressing well incorporating the input from our staff and community. Our latest [District Strategic Planning Team 2.0 Meeting was held on Tuesday, July 7, 2020](#). About 50 individuals joined us for the meeting. I have included the slide presentation [DSPT 2.0 7/7/2020](#), which I believe provides valuable information, resources and a general timeline. Valuable links are embedded in the presentation. In addition, we are currently meeting with our employees' associations.

Our BUSD Governance Team had the opportunity to discuss progress toward our goals including our current return to school plan's progress. In addition to the Combo model, the Split Week Cohort: (For example: 2 days per week Socially-Distanced In-Person learning and 3 days per week Distance Learning), a distance learning option, we are also exploring the possibility of our entire school district going to a distance learning model at the start of the school year due to the desire to keep our school community healthy. There are some prescriptive measures that need to be examined; however, we are currently investigating this concept to determine if this is possible. I would like to express our appreciation to our school board for their true understanding of our school community, especially on behalf of our Latino community. *Latinos already represented 55% of confirmed cases and now that number has soared to 75%. Latinos in the county are nine times more likely to have COVID-19 than non-Latino - Press Democrat June 12, 2020.* Considering 87% of our student ethnicity is Hispanic (School Census Day October 2019) this has possible significant implications for our district. Our school board's deep concern and pure intentions for keeping our staff, students and families healthy is to be highly commended.

- *CDE Guidelines for Opening Schools: [Stronger Together: A Guidebook for the Safe Reopening of California Public Schools](#)*
- *[Sonoma County 2020-21 Roadmap to a Safe Reopening: Key Considerations for Sonoma County Schools to Address the Challenges of Covid-19](#)*

I would like to invite members of our community to join us for a ZOOM - Parent Conversation regarding Reopening BUSD Schools for 2020-21 on Monday, July 13, 2020 from 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM.

This is a good opportunity for us to hear your thoughts as we plan for the reopening of our schools.

We are hopeful that we can share a plan to reopen with our Board on July 21, 2020, if not sooner. After the plans are approved, we will share the plan with our parents and provide a questionnaire to ask them to commit to the model(s) to start the school year.

In partnership with you,

Dr. David Alexander
Superintendent

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