



Rhino Roar

News for the Washington community

Published weekly (mostly)

March 10, 2023

Links to [calendar](#) and past [newsletters](#) on [PTA website](#)



Don't Forget!

**Daylight Saving Begins
Sunday, March 12, 2023**

Berkeley
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Set Your Clocks Forward!



¡No lo Olvide!

**Comienza el Horario de Verano
Domingo 12 de Marzo, 2023**

Berkeley
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Adelante sus Relojos

After 33 years teaching (23 years at Washington), **Washington Kindergarten teacher Denisia Wash** will be retiring at the end of the school year. It's hard to overestimate her impact on generations of students and families. We wish her a very happy retirement!

Did you know that there's a lot of research that shows that the more that parents are involved in their child's school, the better that child does in school? Your Washington PTA is in need of volunteers for upcoming events. There is always a role you can play, 2 to 3 hours a month can make a real difference for your child. Please email Jenafir House jenafirh@gmail.com if you can help.

Mentors at Washington We have 2 mentoring programs at Washington:

BUILD is a reading support program run at all BUSD elementary schools, with guidelines that are set by BUILD. Here are the parameters:

Students must be enrolled in either LEARNS or BEARS (this is so the mentors, who are Cal students, have direct supervision).

BUILD prioritizes students who are socioeconomically disadvantaged, speak English as a second language (without an adult who reads English at home), and/or are below grade-level in reading.

BUILD enrollment is dependent on how many mentors the program has to bring to our site, Right now we have 34 students enrolled, and 20 on our wait list.

Parents can contact the director of the after-school program the child is in (LEARNS or BEARS), or Liz Scarboro (Response To Intervention teacher) if they are interested in BUILD elizabethscarboro@berkeley.net

SAGE mentors work with students one-on-one, once a week in their classrooms, and offer socioemotional support. Parents can reach out to their child's teacher if they are interested in SAGE. Teachers recommend students directly for SAGE, and if there are more recommendations than spots, the Coordination Of Services Team (COST) looks at the overall list to prioritize with the help of teachers and counselors. Right now we have 33 students with SAGE mentors, and 20 on the wait list.

The **Golden Sneaker Contest** ends today! This is a classroom contest to encourage students to walk, roll, carpool or bus to school. The class winner will be announced at a whole school assembly on Thursday, March 16th at 8:30 am in the cafeteria.

The **Read-a-thon** begins TOMORROW! This is a major fundraiser for PTA and supports programs like Coach Don's class game time, classroom activities and field trips.

- March 6th, 7th or 8th envelopes go home
- March 11 - 19th 9 Epic Days of Reading
- March 27- Deadline to turn in envelopes

The top 3 readers from each grade will get gift certificates from Pegasus!!

March 23rd 6-7:30 pm will be **Math Night!** A super fun event with math games for all levels. Pizza and refreshments will be provided, families and kids welcomed. We need volunteers! <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0A48ACA92EABF49-math>

The **Washington Security and Transportation Safety Committee** is surveying all current Washington parents to understand their opinions regarding these issues. We would appreciate your help by filling out [this short survey](#). Here's the url in case the link doesn't work : <https://tinyurl.com/washingtonsecurity>

Note that this survey is being distributed both electronically and on paper; you only need to fill it out once per family. Please complete the survey by March 17.

Sunday March 26th from 1-3 pm there will be a **PTA association meeting and Bike Mobile event**. The BikeMobile and its bicycle mechanic staff will deliver no-cost hands-on bicycle repair and bicycle safety training to promote riding bikes to school. Bring your kids and bikes and have fun on the playground!

<https://www.alamedactc.org/programs-projects/bicycle-and-pedestrian/bikemobile>

COVID tests: Positive results should be reported to the [BUSD Student COVID-19 Case Reporting form](#)

Calendar Reminders:

- ★ Mar 16 Whole School Assembly @ 8:30 am in the cafeteria
- ★ Mar 20th BUSD Oratorical Festival New Date!
- ★ Mar 23 6 pm Math Night in the cafeteria
- ★ Mar 25 PTA Meeting and BikeMobile on playground 1 - 3 pm
- ★ Mar 28 School Site Committee 6 pm via [Zoom](#)
- ★

If your child is absent for any reason, please email washingtonattendance@berkeley.net and copy your child's teacher. Thank you!

If you need to change your address, [please use this link for information](#) on how to notify the school and district.