



Rhino Roar

News for the Washington community

Published weekly (mostly)

March 11, 2022

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

Don't Forget!

**Daylight Saving Begins
Sunday, March 13, 2022**

Berkeley
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Set Your Clocks Forward!

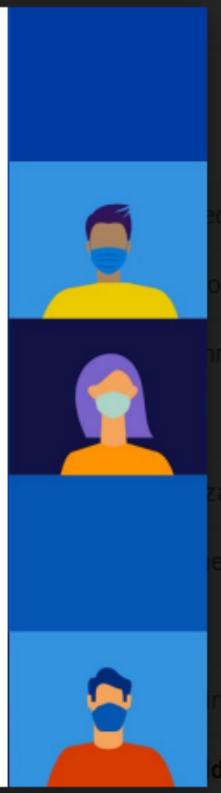
Starting on Monday 3/14, students and staff in BUSD are not required to mask indoors or out. As masking is still strongly recommended, it is expected that many will continue to wear masks, especially inside. Mitigation measures such as increased ventilation, air filtration, eating outside, weekly COVID testing, contact tracing, restricting access to campus and supplying free surgical masks will continue.

Please note that school staff cannot enforce parent preference for their student wearing or not wearing masks. Please have this conversation at home. Kindness, courtesy, and respect for each other will be important as we get used to this new normal.

PROPOSED masking guidance in California

	REQUIRED	STRONGLY RECOMMENDED	RECOMMENDED	OPTIONAL
Vaccinated & Unvaccinated	Public Indoor (Effective end of day February 28)	→	☑	
	Schools & Childcare (Effective end of day March 11)	→	☑	
	Health Care	☑		
	Long-Term Care	☑		
	Jails & Prisons	☑		

NOTE: Locals may have additional requirements beyond the state requirements based on local conditions including community vaccine rates or vaccination rates in schools and childcare facilities.



Volunteers wanted! We're dedicating the entire next week to resetting expectations of good sportsmanship on the playground, as we have noted a need for students to brush up on these skills. Parent/guardians are invited to [sign up to volunteer](#) and donate bubbles and playground chalk.

Alameda County Safe Routes to School Pedestrian Rodeo! On March 24 and 25, Washington will host an interactive outdoor assembly designed to teach children how to be safer pedestrians. There will be spaces for 10 classes to attend and the priority will be given to younger grades.

Complete a Brief BUSD Budget Survey Your thoughts are an important part of this process. [Please click here to complete a brief survey.](#)

Attend the March 15 Budget Town Hall Meeting

We hope to see you at a special Budget Town Hall where you can learn more about the district's budgeting process and priorities.

Tuesday, March 15, 2022 5:00 – 6:00 pm [Zoom Link](#)

Ethnic Studies in BUSD: *Listening Circle for Parents & Caregivers of Children of Arab American, Asian American, and Pacific Islander American Heritage*

Purpose of the listening circle: For family members and caregivers/parents of children of Arab American, Asian American, and Pacific Islander American heritage to share their ideas about how their children should learn about their history and their heritages in our schools as we expand Ethnic Studies throughout all the grade levels.

This event is co-hosted by BUSD AAPI's. **Arabic interpretation will be provided**

When: Tuesday, March 29th from 7-8 PM. **Where:** zoom link [HERE](#).

Flier in English is [HERE](#). Flier in Arabic is [HERE](#).

The [Berkeley Public Schools Fund](#) provides grants and volunteer programs to support all Berkeley schools, and they are inviting you to the first Community Block Party, in the heart of Downtown Berkeley at Center and Shattuck, on Saturday, May 21 from 12-3:00. At the event, a vibrant mural at the intersection of Center and Shattuck commissioned by the Schools Fund, created by Berkeley High alums and dedicated with love to our devoted educators through the pandemic will be unveiled.

You can be a sponsor of this community event as an individual, a family, group of families, a business, a club - get creative! The sponsorship benefits can be found [here](#), purchase a sponsorship [here](#) or make a donation [here](#) now. The event is free and BPSF is relying on your sponsorship for fundraising.

Lost and Found will be cleaned out and all items donated today.

Berkeley Youth Alternative's (BYA) Pacific Heritage Afterschool Enrichment Program *BE THE RIPPLE!* As a Pacific Community Coalition, Legacies of the Pacific's interest in performing arts sparked their desire to give back through dance, which led to a wonderful after school enrichment program that perpetuates healthy activity with cultural education. CALL: 510-845-9010 <http://www.byaonline.org/programs/afterschool-center>
1255 Allston Way Berkeley, CA 94702

- Once a week COVID testing of all students and staff who are registered for testing. [Sign up your child here.](#)
- Email vax@berkeley.net to register your child's vaccination status.

Please email washingtonattendance@berkeley.net

- if your child tests positive for COVID while at home. We will reply with information on return dates.
- with negative COVID tests to return to school
- with other absence information

Calendar Reminders:

- ★ Mar 11 Lost and Found items donated
- ★ Mar 15 School Site Committee (SSC) Meeting, 6 pm via [zoom](#)
- ★ Mar 17 Report Cards sent home
- ★ Mar 22 Earthquake and Fire drill 12:45 pm
- ★ Mar 29 Ethnic Studies Listening Circle
- ★ April 4-8 Spring Break No School
- ★ May 21 Berkeley Public Schools Fund Block Party Center @ Shattuck 12 - 3 pm
- ★ June 3 **Last day of school** - School dismissed at 1:30 pm (minimum day schedule)

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

Questions or concerns? Please email Principal Katia Hazen at katiahazen@berkeley.net