



Rhino Roar

*News for the Washington community*

Published weekly (mostly)

April 15, 2022

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

### PTA Parent Education Night for Washington Families on Monday 4/18 6-7 PM

Ronit Matabuena-Lev, MA, youth and adult educator responsible for this year's fifth-grade puberty program at Washington, will be hosting a workshop for adults:

#### **Family Communication: Helping families talk more openly with their kids about sexuality.**

So many of us feel uncomfortable or unsure when it comes to talking with our kids about sexuality, even if we feel committed to raising them more openly than we ourselves may have been raised. The good news is that we adults can learn skills to foster more open and supportive communication with our kids, empowering us to provide the guidance that our children want and need. Together, we'll explore why it's so important (and difficult) to talk openly with our kids about sexuality, how to overcome barriers to communication, and strategies that can be used right away to begin or deepen open conversations at home. This workshop is intended for families of all elementary grades, K-5!

The workshop will be held by zoom, on Monday 4/18 at 6-7 PM:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87919490205?pwd=Q2JwaGwzM1dEZ2t4T05GNUgvdFhrUT09>

Meeting ID: 879 1949 0205

Passcode: 635991

*Ronit has been educating children, teens, and adults for more than 30 years. As a credentialed, public school teacher, Ronit witnessed first-hand the profound impact sexuality issues had on the lives of her students and their families. Her experiences inspired her to found Bird and Bee Education, which utilizes best practices in the field of sexuality education to educate and empower youth, families, and professionals around sexual health and identity. Ronit is also proud mom to an 11 year-old, who knows way more about her body than Ronit ever did at that age! You can learn more about Ronit and her work at [BirdandBee.org](http://BirdandBee.org) or email questions to [ronit@BirdandBee.org](mailto:ronit@BirdandBee.org).*

**New bulletin board needs your photos!** We are proud of the diversity represented in our community and we'd like to show it off in a new bulletin board, "**This Is Us!**" Please send in **a copy** of your favorite family photo and/or a photo of a place that is meaningful to

your family (photos are non-returnable) to school. If you don't have a copy, take a picture and send to Principal Hazen @ [katiahazen@berkeley.net](mailto:katiahazen@berkeley.net) Thank you!

**Get ready to READ:** Read-a-thon begins April 16th and goes through the 24th for **9 EPIC days of reading!** (And raising funds for your school!)

So far PTA has raised **\$876** of the **\$30K goal** just through online donations. Keep it up, Rhinos!

Fundraising envelopes will be coming home over the next couple of days and the online fundraising emails went out last night. If you did not receive an email, you can go [directly to the page](#) and search for your student's name, or reach out to [jenni\\_sharma@hotmail.com](mailto:jenni_sharma@hotmail.com). This is an amazing opportunity to fundraise for our school and a great way to build excitement for reading!

PTA will have several fun events in the coming week:

- Classes will read the ally/anti-bullying book *One* by Kathryn Otoshi
- Recess reading lounge for students to earn minutes
- Various reading activities will be taking place in the classroom and library
- **Wednesday, April 20th will be "Dress like your favorite book character day!"** This is an optional event, so feel free to let your kids interpret—anything from full costumes to pinning on a picture of a character they drew, wearing a cape or a hat that a book character wears, or even just bringing a book to school featuring a character they love.

### **Tips for safe egg handling and decorating; from BUSD Nutrition Services:**

By [News Desk](#) on April 15, 2022

The Easter holiday means more egg handling, especially for children. It is important to follow safe handling tips when preparing, storing and serving eggs to keep the holiday free of foodborne illnesses.

Eggs can cause food poisoning because salmonella is a common bacteria found in uncooked and unbroken eggs. Salmonella can be present on both the outside and the inside of eggs.

The FDA has put regulations in place to help prevent contamination of eggs on the farm and during shipping and storage, but consumers also play a key role in preventing illnesses linked to eggs.

**Here are some important food safety tips to remember during and after the Easter eggs festivities:**

#### **Inspect the eggs**

- Cracked eggs should not be consumed, as dangerous bacteria may have entered through the crack.

#### **Wash your hands, counters, and utensils**

- Everybody, including children, should wash their hands with soap and water before and after handling eggs. This includes prepping, cooking, cooling, dyeing, hiding, hunting and peeling them.
- Thoroughly wash utensils, countertops and anything else the eggs come into contact with.

### **The safest way to boil eggs**

- Place eggs in a pan of room-temperature water with the eggs covered with at least one inch of water.
- When the water is at a full boil, remove the pan from the heat source and let the eggs stay in the water for between 12-18 minutes, depending on the size of the eggs.
- After the eggs have set for the appropriate amount of time, run cold water over them.
- When the eggs are cool enough to handle, place them in the refrigerator.

### **Refrigerate eggs at 40 degrees F or below**

- Store eggs inside the fridge, not the fridge door.
- Hard-cooked, refrigerated eggs can be stored for up to one week and safely consumed.
- Boiled eggs — and foods containing boiled eggs — can be out of refrigeration for two hours (when it's under 90 degrees F) and still be safe to eat.
- Even though eggs can show signs of spoilage when they're past the best-by date, it's important to remember that before those dates eggs that harbor Salmonella taste, smell, and appear exactly the same as safe eggs.

### **Egg Hunting**

- The total time for hiding and hunting eggs should not exceed two hours. If the hidden eggs were out longer than two hours they should be discarded.
- Make sure hidden eggs did not come in contact with pets, wild animals, birds or lawn chemicals. Eating eggs that have been on the ground is not recommended.
- If you are planning to use colored eggs as decorations for centerpieces, etc., and the eggs will be out of refrigeration for many hours or several days, discard them after they have served their decorative purpose.
- reaches the appropriate temperature.

### **Come out and support the Washington PTA and Washington Parent David Keyes** on

Thursday, April 24 at school pickup! He'll be selling his new children's book [What If My Nana Was A Banana?](#), inspiring kids to ask silly questions and write their own silly stories. \$5 from every book sale will be donated to the Washington PTA!

### **This Year's Black History Oratorical Festival Theme: Get Up! Speak Up! Demonstrate Black Resilience and Joy!**

This year's theme encourages our students to present original or published speeches focused on voicing the beauty and power of Black resilience and joy. The audience will enjoy a variety of spoken word, speeches, and poetry performances by our talented students. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners from each division are selected by a panel of judges and will receive awards.

**How to Attend :** Middle School & High School Black History Oratorical Fest April 21 @ 5:00 pm

[Attend at this Zoom link.](#)

Elementary School Black History Oratorical Fest April 28 @ 5:00 pm

[Attend at this Zoom link.](#)

**Open House** will be online this year on May 12 from 6 - 7:30 pm [Zoom Link](#)

**5th grade promotions** are on Friday, June 3 in the cafeteria

Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) and District English Learner Advisory Committee (DELAC) Representatives are needed for Washington. Please contact Principal Hazen at [katiahazen@berkeley.net](mailto:katiahazen@berkeley.net) if you can help out.

Future PAC Meeting Dates: Meetings are 6:30-8:00pm

[4/18/2022](#)

[5/23/2022](#)

Future DELAC Meeting Dates: Meetings are 6:00-7:30pm

[4/19/2022](#)

[5/24/2022](#)

BUSD is updating the Middle School Assignment process: [Middle School Student Assignment](#) website. April-June, 2022 Community Engagement Events:

Board of Education Meetings	Community Town Halls	Community Survey in English and Spanish
April 27 Update	English Town Hall: May 25th from 5:30 - 6:30 <a href="#">Webinar Link</a>	Survey opens Friday, May 13th and closes May 27th
June 15, Possible Action by the Board of Education to Select a Single "Finalist" Model for 23-24 School Year	Spanish Town Hall: May 25th at 7:00 - 8:00 <a href="#">Webinar Link</a>	

New Chromebooks are available for checkout:

- Print out, complete, and sign [this form](#).
- Have your child bring the form to their school library.
- If you previously checked out an older chromebook, your student can return it to the library while picking up their new chromebook.

If you have any questions about the Chromebook checkout process, please contact [chromebookhelp@berkeley.net](mailto:chromebookhelp@berkeley.net).

**Please email [washingtonattendance@berkeley.net](mailto: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:

- ★ April 21 [School Site Committee Meeting](#) (SSC) 6 pm via Zoom
- ★ April 27 Fire Drill 10:50 am
- ★ April 28 BUSD Elementary Oratorical Festival
- ★ May 12 Open House 6 - 7:30 pm on zoom
- ★ May 16 NO SCHOOL Malcolm X Birthday
- ★ May 21 Berkeley Public Schools Fund Block Party Center @ Shattuck 12 - 3 pm

★ May 30 NO SCHOOL Memorial Day

★ June 3 **Last day of school - School dismissed at 1:30 pm (minimum day schedule)**

★ June 3 5th grade promotion ceremonies in cafeteria.

**If your child is absent for any reason**, please email [washingtonattendance@berkeley.net](mailto:washingtonattendance@berkeley.net) and copy your child's teacher. Thank you!

Questions or concerns? Please email Principal Katia Hazen at [katiahazen@berkeley.net](mailto:katiahazen@berkeley.net)