



Rhino Roar

News for the Washington community

Published weekly (mostly)

April 1, 2022

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

SPRING BREAK NO SCHOOL April 4-8

At-Home Student and Staff Testing Over Spring Break

All students received a box of two at-home COVID-19 rapid antigen tests.

Please review this [guidance about how to use these tests](#).

PTA Notes:

Kindergarten Welcoming Committee-We are looking for volunteers interested in being part of the Kindergarten Welcoming Committee. This group will help welcome our incoming Kindergarten families, by sending out information about our school, organizing playground playdates over the summer, and helping to answer their questions or connecting them to the right person who can 😊. Washington enthusiast, those who may have incoming kindergartners themselves, whoever is interested, reach out to Jenni Sharma at jenni_sharma@hotmail.com

Our annual **Read-a-thon** is coming up! Fundraising Envelopes and information about how students and families can participate (and support the school) will be coming home the week after spring break. If they'd like, students can start getting pledges now, and when they get their envelope, they can fill it in. While this is an amazing opportunity to fundraise for our school, it is also a great way to build excitement for reading!

Washington Oratorical Festival!

After much memorizing, practicing and a tiny bit of nerves, almost 100 students participated in the Washington Oratorical Festival on March 29 in the cafeteria. Each student received a well deserved certificate of participation. Congratulations to all the students for their hard work! Washington will be represented by two entrants in the district finals: the 3rd grade class co-taught by Ms. Whiting and Ms. Clark-Riddell and 3rd grader Rani Jagtap!

End of Year Information

We're now at Spring Break, so let's review how the end of the year goes:

- Open House will be online this year on May 12 from 6 - 7:30 pm
- Teachers will be making up class groups for next year in late May. If you have a preference, please let your child's teacher know if you would like them grouped with or separated from another student. We cannot guarantee that all requests can be honored, but teachers will keep it in mind as they compose class groupings. Please note that we do not take requests to have or avoid a particular teacher in the next

grade.

- 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 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](#)

Free Chromebook checkout Students who don't have a dedicated device of their own at home may check out a new Chromebook from their school library and keep it at home for the entire school year.

These new Chromebooks are faster than earlier versions distributed by the district, offer a touchscreen, and can be used in a tablet mode. If your student had previously checked out a Chromebook from the Ed Hub for distance learning, we recommend that they return it to their school library and check out the more full-featured Chromebook from their school library instead.

It's easy to check out a free BUSD Chromebook for your child:

- 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.

Volunteers wanted at mid day for Ramadan (April 2 - May 2) Please contact ELD teacher Emily Hawkins if you can help emilyhawkins@berkeley.net

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:

- ★ April 4-8 Spring Break No School

- ★ April 28 BUSD Elementary Oratorical Festival
- ★ May 12 Open House 6 - 7:30 pm on zoom
- ★ 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)
5th grade promotion ceremonies in cafeteria.

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