



# Rhino Roar

*News for the Washington community*  
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[Links to calendar and past newsletters on PTA website](#)

## **School will be closed until at least May 1, possibly until the end of the year**

These words still shock me, that school is closed. We miss you all, and we're excited to be getting back to the new "normal" with online learning scheduled to begin Monday.

I want to share a few thoughts about what the parent/guardian role is in supporting children during this period.

- 1. If all you do is take care of your child(ren) and keep them safe and reasonably happy over the next few months, that will be enough.**
2. The Parental Stress Helpline is anonymous, 24/7, and free: 1-800-829-3777
3. No student will be held back or penalized because they don't do online work.
4. Adults can support student learning by:
  - Setting up technology and monitoring appropriate use
  - Providing a quiet space for class meetings and office hours
  - Helping manage emotions of social isolation
5. If you have questions about the learning or technology, start by asking your child's teacher. You can also send a message to [distancelearning@berkeley.net](mailto:distancelearning@berkeley.net) if you have problems with signing in to a student's account or any other issues with access to online tools, or fill out [this form](#).
6. If a k-12 BUSD student needs a chromebook to access online learning, please email [chromebook@berkeley.net](mailto:chromebook@berkeley.net) or call 510-644-8931. Each student should have their own device due to potential conflicting times of online learning events.

The Berkeley Public Schools Fund continues to raise money to support Berkeley families. They have received \$100,000 with a 1-1 matching gift challenge from Mary and Stan Friedman for every [donation](#) they receive between now and Sunday, April 5 at midnight! Please support if you can.

Zaretta Hammond webinar for parents: **Parents as First Teachers: Supporting Reading Development at Home in Culturally Responsive Ways, Monday, April 6, 1pm – 2pm**

During this 60-minute webinar, we'll cover ways to create a home routine that makes literacy learning fun for students and painless for parents. We'll look at worksheets toward the goals of building students' background knowledge as a way to continue working toward equity.

Be sure to [register](#) even if you can't attend live. We will send you the replay.



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**Go Washington Rhinos!**