



Rhino Roar

News for the Washington community

Published weekly

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

Not another Zoom meeting! Yes, but this one has your fellow Washington parents who are also in the struggle of figuring all this out, just like you! Join the Washington coffee hour next Friday at 8:30 am to vent, get pro tips and hear the latest from Principal Hazen. Watch your email for an invite in the Washington Wire.

If online learning becomes a source of conflict, try taking a break and doing something different. Talk about it when everyone's calm and choose just a few things that can be tried, and build from there. Remember, everyone is going on to the next grade, and there will be a lot of review at the beginning of next year. We will get there together!

BUSD Arts and Music Distance Learning

Students need to use their [berkeley.net](#) login to access the resources for [Arts and Music](#)

News Flash: The [Ed Hub](#) is BUSD's new, centralized distribution site for all things teaching & learning during school facilities closure due to COVID-19. The drive-through setting allows for BUSD students and their families to pull in, pick up essential learning supplies, and head back home while staying safely inside their car. If you are picking up or exchanging a chromebook, you should email chromebook@berkeley.net prior to going.

New at the Ed Hub starting Wednesday will be optional **work packets** for students. The work packet is a paper copy of 4 weeks of grade level work, similar to a workbook. Work packets won't be supported by any teacher instruction and they won't be turned in for grading or feedback.

Children who receive work packets should also continue to access the online instruction offered by their teacher, as this is of a much higher quality than the learning offered in the packets. Completing a work packet does not "count" as participation in distance learning.

If you'd like to request a work packet for your child, please email Principal Hazen at

katiehazen@berkeley.net with your child's grade and teacher.

BERKELEY COVID HOUSING ASSISTANCE GRANTS

The EDC Eviction Defence Center is also working with the City of Berkeley to help families to apply for Covid Housing Assistance grants. Please APPLY NOW if you need help!

Call the EDC at 510-452-4541.

The application can be found on the EBCLC website: <https://ebclc.org/need-services/>

Then just scroll down to Berkeley Housing Retention Program where there is a link to a fillable App:

http://ebclc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/2019-20-BHRP-App_FILLABLE-for-Tenants.pdf.

Got chromebook issues? Check out this FAQ first.

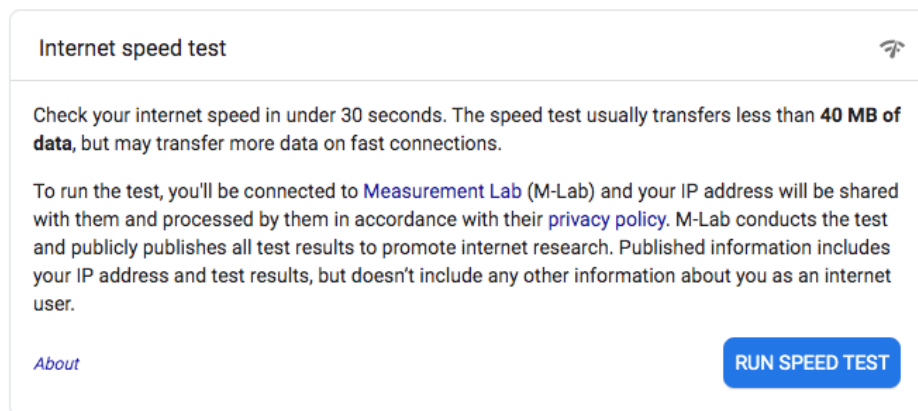
1. My Chromebook isn't working or won't connect to my Wifi. Can I exchange it?
 - a. Yes, families can go to the EdHub at Addison and Browning street here **Open every Monday & Friday from 12 noon to 2pm, Wednesday from 3:30-5:30pm. Please bring the broken Chromebook and you can exchange it for a new one.**
2. I don't have Wifi in my place of residence and can't set-up an account with Sonic or Comcast. What should I do?
 - a. Please contact chromebook@berkeley.net and we'll get you in contact to help come up with a solution.
3. My child can't sign on to their account.
 - a. Elementary - Contact your teacher. They know your student's log-in information.
 - b. Middle & High School - contact distancelearning@berkeley.net
4. My power cord is not charging my Chromebook. Can I get a new one?
 - a. Yes, families can go to the EdHub at Addison and Browning street here **Open every Monday & Friday from 12 noon to 2pm, Wednesday from 3:30-5:30pm. Please bring the broken Chromebook and you can exchange it for a new one.**
5. If I'm not on the free and reduced lunch list, can I still get a Chromebook?
 - a. Yes, families can go to the EdHub at Addison and Browning street here **Open every Monday & Friday from 12 noon to 2pm, Wednesday from 3:30-5:30pm to get a Chromebook.**
6. Can families apply for more than one Chromebook if they have multiple children at home?
 - a. Yes, families can go to the EdHub at Addison and Browning street here **Open every Monday & Friday from 12 noon to 2pm, Wednesday from 3:30-5:30pm to get a Chromebook.**
7. Where can I find resources for online learning recommendations for each grade level?
 - a. <https://www.berkeleyschools.net/home-learning/>
 - b. BUSD resources through CLEVER for safety- <https://www.berkeleyschools.net/home-learning/>
8. When are the food distribution times, locations?
 - a. <https://www.berkeleyschools.net/2020/03/revised-breakfast-and-lunch-distribution-schedule-horario-modificado-acerca-de-la-distribucion-de-desayuno-y-almuerzo/>
9. I am struggling with audio dropping out or video freezing when video conferencing. What should I do?
 - a. Here are some suggestions for making sure you are getting the best signal from your home wireless. Some things that can make a difference in terms of location of your device and your wireless access point:
 - distance from the wireless access point

- the height of your wireless access point. There are more obstacles down low, better coverage if you raise the access point above the furniture.
- human bodies between your computer and the wireless access point (water absorbs signal).
- appliances between your computer and the wireless access point (metal absorbs signal).
- cabinets full of jars and cans between your computer and the wireless access point (water in wood and food, and metal).
- walls, doors, and bookshelves between your computer and wireless access point (water in wood and food, and metal).

b. Speed Test

If you have a broadband connection in your home, for example through Comcast or Sonic, consider using a speed test. *Using Speed Tests on a computer connected to a phone or a "mobile hot spot" can be detrimental in the long run, and should be used sparingly, if at all. Hotspots often have data limits and you don't want to waste data on the speed test.*

1. On your laptop, google "speed test". The search results should look like the first picture below.



2. Click "Run Speed Test"

Your results should include both download and upload speeds measured in Megabits per second (Mbps). If the video feed of you that others see freezes a lot, and the audio regularly drops out, this is likely related to that second number, upload speed.

3. Try this in different locations in your home to find where the best signal is.

If you do not plan to return to Washington in the fall, please email washingtonattendance@berkeley.net or call (510) 644-6310. Thank you!

Questions or concerns? Please email Principal Katia Hazen at

katiahazen@berkeley.net

Go Rhinos!

Open every Monday & Friday from 12 noon to 2:00 pm, Wednesday from 3:30-5:30pm, the Ed Hub is located in the parking lot at 2120 Browning Street, near the West Campus pool and the BUSD Performing Arts building (around the corner from the BUSD Board Room and District Offices). Delivery available for families that can't get to the Hub during scheduled hours. Check out the [website](#) for more information!

