



Rhino Roar

News for the Washington community

Published weekly (mostly)

Feb 9, 2021

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

### 6 pm Thursday: PTA Parent Meeting Supporting Your Child Through Distance Learning

Washington counselor Michelle Tirella Ventura will lead a discussion for parents/guardians on how to support your kids (and yourself!) to address stressors of distance learning. If you have a specific question you'd like to see addressed, please submit it [here](#).

<https://zoom.us/j/5923706620?>

### 7 pm Thursday, Superintendent's Town Hall on School Reopening, February 11 at 7:00 pm

We hope you can [join via Zoom](#) or watch on the [BUSD YouTube](#) channel. Since we expect we may have very high turnout, it would be helpful to share your concerns, and suggestions in advance of the event. We're opening up a [ThoughtExchange platform](#) which will allow you to share your thoughts with others so that we can address some of the high priority questions and suggestions.

Reminder that there is **no school this Friday and Monday** due to Lincoln's birthday and President's day

Washington's **African American Unity Group** (AAUG) is sponsoring a Black Heritage Writing Contest for students in 3rd - 5th grades. The contest will highlight Black women who have fought and sacrificed for equality, and justice and provide an opportunity for our students to express their admiration for these courageous women. Entries are due by 5 pm on Feb 26 must be submitted [via this form](#). 1st prize \$100, 2nd prize \$75 3rd prize \$50. For more information, please see [here](#).

Free Sonic internet for BUSD families! More information [here](#).

**Mock Newbery Nights - Evening Literacy Events for 4th & 5th Graders** The Mock Newbery clubs continue in the virtual environment celebrating the prestigious children's literature award given out yearly. Our students love to read and talk about the books that have been nominated and the winner!

Our first event is **Thursday, February 11 at 6:00pm and will feature Jessica Kim, author of *Stand Up, Yumi Chung!*** All families are invited to join on this website: [bit.ly/newberynights](http://bit.ly/newberynights)

#### Future events:

2/25 6:00pm Ernesto Cisneros, author of *Efrén Divided*

3/18 6:00pm Amy Timberlake, author of *Skunk and Badger*

4/15 6:00pm Final Meeting

\* Additional events may be added as authors confirm availability

Each year, the American Library Association awards the [The Newbery Medal](#) to the author of the most "distinguished contribution to American children's literature."

In BUSD, 4th and 5th graders form their own Mock Newbery Committees. In years past, the students met regularly to discuss and read a BUSD librarians to reflect the diversity of our community and spark joy and a love of reading. Students then vote on their choice to receive. Which book will the students pick this year? Join us and find out!

This year we'll be meeting on Zoom for several evening events for students and families. We'll have special guests, prizes and, of course. Families are encouraged to join us and read along with your children! Questions in the meantime? Contact Ms. Jackie: [jackieoverlid@berk](mailto:jackieoverlid@berk)

Feb 25: Black History Month: **Black Music Through the Ages** with Ms. Faye Carol: @ 1pm live-streamed program at this link: <https://w>

The [Frontline Workers Counseling Project](#), is a clinician-led nonprofit that **connects frontline and essential workers with free individual groups**. Please see links to a digital [flyer](#) and a quick ["How To" Guide](#) that explains the simple process of seeking support. Questions? Please

A former Washington student, Amaya Polanco Zimmerman, now a Junior at Berkeley High, would like to hear from Washington students about climate change:

*I am a former student of Washington, now a junior at Berkeley High School. I am currently involved with [The Changemaker Project](#), an initiative that help students create positive change within their communities. My team is aiming to get the youth of BUSD more involved in climate action, gauge what their climate education was like in elementary school, as well as what resources they are given to talk about it at home, so that we can educate and further prepare them for a world in which climate change is an increasingly prominent and impactful issue. Essentially, we want to see how climate education has been, so that we can give them the tools they need to talk about it and live more sustainably starting at a young age. If you would like to be contacted.*

*Share your experience*

# **Your Voice Matters**

We are a group of high school students looking to get the **youth of BUSD** involved in **climate action**.



**How can we improve your climate ed**



**Fill out the attached  
with your info  
to be inte**

**Ed Hub NEW HOURS: Starting Nov. 29 the Ed Hub will be open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3-5pm.**

Hot spots are now in!

Calendar Reminders:

- Feb 11 Supporting Your Child Through Distance Learning 6 - 7 pm
- Feb 11 Superintendent's Town Hall on School Reopening 7 - 8 pm
- Feb 11 4th & 5th grade students & families Mock Newberry author
- Feb 12 & Feb 15 NO SCHOOL Lincoln's Birthday and President's Day
- Feb 16 Parent/Principal Learning Circle #3, 6 - 8 pm
- Feb 25 : Live Stream of Black Music Through the Ages with Ms. Faye Carol

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

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