

Rhino Roar



News for the Washington community

Published weekly (mostly)

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

Information Sessions about Health Measures in Schools

Next week the district is hosting two information sessions for families, one with UCSF partners about COVID-19 and health, and one about our facilities preparations. These sessions will be recorded so they can be watched later as well. We are also working on scheduling a second community health session in early April, as well as one in Spanish.

- Mon, March 22, 7:00 pm - COVID-19 Health Information Session [LINK](#)
- Tues, March 23, 6:30 pm - BUSD Facilities - COVID Mitigation Strategies - [LINK](#)

If you have questions you would like to see addressed by the UCSF pediatric health experts, please use this [ThoughtExchange LINK](#), and we will submit the top questions to them in advance. The health information provided on Monday will include data and best practices on risk mitigation in schools, issues related to health equity, and updates on vaccines. The UCSF presentation includes a particular focus on answering questions and concerns of the Black, Latino and AAPI communities.

More Information is on its Way

On Tuesday, March 23, TK-2 families remaining in Distance Learning will receive information about your child's teachers, and on Monday, March 29, we will send teacher information to families in Grades 3-5. Also next week, we will finalize teacher assignments for students coming to campus. Please continue to check our [BUSD Elementary School](#) webpage for ongoing updates.

Teachers will return to campus this week to prepare their classrooms for in-person instruction. Please check with your child's teacher to learn about this week's schedule.

Washington's School Reopening Informational Meeting will take place on Tuesday 3/23 at 7 pm.



[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

ID: 89966023381

Passcode: 097019

Thinking about Spring Break? Please help us keep local transmission rates low by following [Travel Advisory](#) from CDC.

A message from Berkeley Federation of Teachers: We've all experienced a lot of difficult changes in the past year, yet one thing that remains constant is parents' and educators' mutual care for our students and desire to provide the best education for them. With this principle at the center of all that we do, BFT is

proudly hosting:

Spring Forward, A Community Building Discussion
The Berkeley Federation of Teachers,
in collaboration with parents/caregivers and BUSD staff,
will host an online conversation
Thursday, March 25th from 6:00-7:30 pm.

[Register Here](#)

The purpose of this online conversation is for people connected to Berkeley elementary schools to hear from each other, learn, and better understand each other for long term unity and solidarity.

We invite all BUSD elementary parents/caregivers and educators to join together for a community-building discussion centered around supporting students, educators, and parents/caregivers. We look forward to strengthening relationships in the Berkeley school communities this spring, summer, and into the 2021-22 school year.

Preparing your child to go back to school:

- Getting your child on a sleep schedule that works with school is a good thing to start now, with the return to in-person school on the horizon for many. Start slowly, shifting the bedtime and wake up time by 10 - 15 minutes each day until you're on the schedule that is needed.

Volunteer call We have a need for volunteers in the following areas, please email Principal Hazen if you can help out. All volunteers must be masked and may not enter classrooms

1. **Daily:** Monitor the parking lot at drop off and pick up so kids from Bungalows can use the second gate by the parking lot for faster entry and exit.

2. **One time:** Put stickers on homework folders at home.

Calendar Reminders: (all meetings will be recorded)

- March 22 7 pm COVID-19 Health Information Session
- March 23 6:30pm BUSD Facilities - COVID Mitigation Strategies
- March 23 7:00pm Washington School reopening meeting
- March 24 School Board Meeting
- March 25 Community Building Discussion with Berkeley Federation of Teachers
- March 26 nothing (you deserve a break!)
- March 29 Kindergarten, First and Second grade students return to in-person instruction
- April 5 - 9 Spring Break (Please don't travel over 120 miles from home, help us keep school open!)
- April 12 Third, Fourth and Fifth grade students return to in-person instruction

If your child is absent for any reason, please email

washingtonattendance@berkeley and copy your child's teacher. Thank you!

Questions or concerns? Please email Principal Katia Hazen at

katiahazen@berkeley.net