

# Rhino Roar



*News for the Washington community*

Published weekly (mostly)

April 22, 2021

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

**2021 Black History Oratorical Fest:** Please join us in celebrating our phenomenal student talent at the [2021 Black History Oratorical Fest](#). This year's theme: Black Women Triumph.

Middle School Competition Date: **Thursday, April 22, 2021** Time: 5:00 pm

**Attend at this Zoom link:** [tinyurl.com/BHOF-MIDDLESCHOOL](https://tinyurl.com/BHOF-MIDDLESCHOOL)

Elementary School Competition Date: **Thursday, April 29, 2021** Time: 5:00 pm

**Attend at this Zoom link:** [tinyurl.com/BHOF-](https://tinyurl.com/BHOF-)

**Coming home today:** "Return of the Rhino" t-shirts, courtesy of your Washington PTA! Students who are in Distance Learning will pick their t-shirts

up on DL photo day: May 5th from 1:30 to 3 pm. Go Rhinos!

**Update on reading and math intervention:** As at other BUSD elementary schools, all of Washington's reading and math intervention teachers have been reassigned to be full time Distance Learning teachers for the rest of the year. This means if your child was receiving extra reading or math support outside of the classroom, these services won't be provided for the rest of the year. We're currently trying to recruit staff to conduct 6 week intervention small groups after school. Students with IEPs (Individualized Education Plans, a service of Special Education) will continue to receive services as per their IEP. It is currently the expectation that intervention will resume in the fall. This was discussed at the April 14 School Board meeting and can be viewed on the BUSD YouTube channel.

**Let's celebrate Berkeley Superheroes!** [The Schools Fund Spring Luncheon](#) will honor everyday people who showed up in EXTRAORDINARY ways this year for BUSD students & families.

Join the Schools Fund at their free, short (30 mins), uplifting, online event on May 7th at noon and Celebrate your extraordinary friends and neighbors! [Make a donation of \\$100+ in honor of your Berkeley Superhero](#), and their name and your shout-out will be included in the Hall of Heroes as the finale to the Spring Luncheon.

[Learn more about the Berkeley Public Schools Fund](#)

**Q:** My child stayed home from school because they are sick. Do I have to test my child for COVID-19 before they can go back to school?

**A:** Thank you for keeping your child home when they have symptoms of illness.

Children should be kept at home if they have fever/chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle/body aches, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting and diarrhea. If your child is at school and develops symptoms of illness, you will be contacted to pick them up from school.

Testing is recommended if you want your child to return once they are feeling better, before the 10 day waiting period. You can get free testing from your child's doctor or from the City of Berkeley link [COVID-19: Get tested](#)

You can also present a note from your child's doctor clearing them to return to school.

If you choose not to test or visit the doctor, your child can come back to school from an illness-related absence when:

- At least 10 days have passed since symptoms started
- The child has no fever for at least 24 hours without the help of medicine and the child's symptoms have improved.

Thank you for helping us keep Washington open!

### **STUDENT COVID TESTING AT SCHOOL ON TUESDAY APRIL 27**

For your student to be eligible to be tested for COVID on Tuesday 4/27, the following steps are required. There is no cost for the testing. Please read all **FOUR** steps carefully.

**All of the forms can be filled out and submitted online. No printing or wet signatures are required.**

**STEP 1: ONE TIME Registration with PMH laboratories-** Please click link below to register:

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/>

Fill out all areas of form that have an \*. Washington's Client # is 1542

For the two answers below that, please enter “PCR” which is the mouth swab test.

**STEP 2: ONLY NEEDED IF UNINSURED**

The District is committed to making testing available to all students. When registering with PMH in the previous step you will be asked for your insurance information. If you do not currently have health insurance, please fill out the form at the link below so the cost can be covered. This form will be required on a monthly basis.

[HRSA COVID-19 Uninsured Program](#)

**STEP 3: ONE TIME Parent Consent Form**

All families who wish to have their students participate need to fill out the form below. The form says you are consenting to have your child tested through June of 2021 and covers all testing dates until school is out. Please click the link below. [PARENT/GUARDIAN CONSENT FORM FOR WEEKLY STUDENT](#)

[COVID TESTING](#)

**STEP 4: EVERY TEST DAY**

The form at the link below needs to be filled out before your child takes a test each time as it asks for any underlying conditions and possible Covid-19 symptoms or exposure.

[COVID-19 Patient Test Request Form](#)

For complete information on student testing: <https://www.berkeleyschools>.

There’s an update on the English Learner Master Plan for Berkeley Unified [Linked](#) [Linked Spanish Version](#)

**School Photos** will be taken on May 4 and 6 for all Washington students,

including those in distance learning. We'll be outside, distanced and (very briefly) unmasked! Stay tuned for more details!

**Reminder: [Daily Health Survey](#) must be completed for every student, every day. Thank you so much!**

The office reconciles daily attendance with responses from the survey - students who haven't completed

Calendar Reminders:

- April 27 COVID Testing
- April 29 Black History Oratorical Festival for Elementary
- May 4 and 6 - School Photos
- May 5 DL School Photos 1:30 - 3 pm
- May 7 Berkeley Public Schools Fund Spring Luncheon
- May 11 COVID Testing
- May 13 Open House (online)
- May 21 PTA Student English Learner Award Ceremony and Dance Party (online) more info soon!
- May 25 COVID Testing

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)