

Rhino Roar



News for the Washington community

Published weekly (mostly)

May 6, 2021

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

On behalf of the entire staff, **THANK YOU** for all the food, signs and appreciations during Teacher Appreciation Week!

The Washington Community stands against anti Asian hate. Your attendance at the online event this evening will make a difference, so please view if you can or watch the recording later. BUSD Asian-American Community Forum "Hear Us Now: Speaking Out Against Anti-Asian Racism"--Thurs. May 6, 7pm

tinyurl.com/Anti-Asian-Racism-

Brief video clips of the 2 student-led rallies on anti-Asian hate will be shown.

Speakers Panel includes: a BHS & a Willard student, parents, Berkeley staff, & a

UC Berkeley Asian-American Studies professor, followed by Q & A.

The Washington Read-a-Thon starts Saturday!!! Get ready for NINE EPIC DAYS of reading: **Saturday May 8 - Sunday, May 16.**

This school-wide event—whether students are in-person or in distance learning—puts a spotlight on the power of reading by providing an opportunity for students and their families to focus on books and reading together. The Read-a-Thon is our final fundraiser for Washington this school year. Money raised will go to support teachers and the PTA general fund, which will help pay for school-wide needs like physical education with Coach Don, enrichment classes (like poetry and movement), Restorative Justice, and counseling services. More information is also available on the PTA's [Read-a-Thon page](#).

STUDENT COVID TESTING AT SCHOOL ON TUESDAY May 11

For your student to be eligible to be tested for COVID on Tuesday 5/11, 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>.

Girls Leadership has conducted groundbreaking new research on personal, societal, and structural factors that deeply impact Black and Latinx girls' leadership identity, aspiration, and skill development. See the whole report [here](#), and read for a summary below.

With girls of color making up over 50% of the U.S. girl population, it is imperative that research focusing on the experiences of girls and girl-serving organizations shift its lens to one that is intersectional and centers the needs of girls of color. Our research study seeks to fill this gap in the research by examining factors that drive both leadership cultivation and opportunities for Black and Latinx girls. Our panelists shared their personal stories of the daunting

task of parenting Black and Latinx girls in a White world. They talked about their pain in witnessing the way their daughters' leadership has been minimized and diminished by the education system, and they vulnerably expressed that there have been times when they have also bought into the myth that their daughters are "less capable" than their White peers.

We couldn't take notes fast enough. See the whole report [here](#)

May 25 PTA meeting 6 - 7:30 pm: Learn more about supports available at Washington, such as lunchtime social skills support groups, Restorative Justice and the Office of Family and Engagement and Equity. We'll also be voting on the PTA budget, which supports several of these programs and the Executive Board slate. The vote will be taken live by voice ("yay" or "nay") and anyone who attends can vote.

This is the preliminary budget for next year, and is subject to change. The official budget will be voted on again at Back To School night in the fall.

The PTA needs to approve a preliminary budget every spring because there are positions that the PTA funds (Coach Don, Restorative Justice, Counseling) that are paid out via BUSD, and they require a lump sum for all of those positions BEFORE the school year begins.

Questions? Comments? Email your PTA at washington-pta-officers@



[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

ID: 89459934285

Passcode: 519977

Family Engagement Seminar Series 2021-2022
Berkeley Unified School District

May 13, 2020: 6:00-8:00 pm Zoom Link:
<https://berkeley-net.zoom.us/>

Who/What?

- Specifically designed for African American/Black Families; all are welcome
- Engages participants on a journey of self-exploration and introspection that will prepare families to work more effectively as authentic partners with educators to advocate on behalf of their children.
- Although the first session is designed for African American/Black families as the primary audience, this series is appropriate for any family or all families that desire to improve their skills in negotiating the educational system and for educators who want to become more



knowledgeable

Series Overview

Series Title: Every Shut Eye Ain't Sleep: African American Families as Equal Status Partners in the Educational Process

Presenter: Mary Montle Bacon, Ph.D. Educational Consultant, *Images of a Culture* This initial series of sessions will focus on a variety of topics related to the goals of BUSD's CCEIS Plan (Comprehensive Coordinated Early Intervening Services) that are designed to empower families in general and African American/Black families specifically to become more knowledgeable about the educational system and

more effective advocates for their children.

Series Themes: “Listen...Educate...Advocate” will be consistent throughout all sessions.

**Session One “Every Shut Eye Ain’t Sleep”:
Celebrating the Historical and Contemporary Cultural
Capital of African American Families**

Proposed Upcoming Topics Fall, 2021

- First and Forever: Families as Partners in the Educational Process.
- Negotiating the Educational System: Participation in School Meetings
- Navigating the Journey to Special Education
- Alternatives to Special Education? Accommodations Through 504 Plans
- Culturally Relevant Behavior Management at School and Home

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.

Calendar Reminders:

- May 11 COVID Testing
- May 19 SSC Meeting 7 - 8 pm
- May 21 Whole School Celebration on Zoom and Dance Party
- May 25 COVID Testing
- May 25 PTA Family meeting on Zoom 6 - 7:30 pm: Learn more about Restorative Justice, Counseling and Family Support at Washington and vote on PTA budget for next year
- June 2 5th grade promotions - need to RSVP (contact your teacher)
- June 4 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL!

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

Katia Hazen

Principal

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