

# Rhino Roar



*News for the Washington community*

Published weekly (mostly)

September 17, 2021

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

**We are at 88% school wide** of students signed up for weekly COVID testing in the classroom and 4 classes have already reached 100%. This high participation helps us keep school open by making surveillance testing more accurate. Thank you to all families who have helped us achieve this! [One-Time Student Testing Registration here.](#)

Washington School Drop off and Pick up Procedure

School begins at 8:10am and ends at 1:30pm for kindergarten and 2:25pm for all other grades. Families and caregivers must wait outside the gate for their child to enter or exit the campus. Due to COVID restrictions, families and caregivers are not currently allowed to enter campus without advance permission from the principal.

*If your child comes to school after 8:45 am*

If your child arrives after 8:45, call the office (510) 644-6310 and tell the reason why the child is late (overslept, traffic, appointment, etc). The child should go directly to the office to get a late pass.

*If you need to pick your child up early:*

Let the office know by email ([washingtonattendance@](mailto:washingtonattendance@)) or call (510) 644-6310 ahead of time if you can.

When you arrive at the orange gate on McKinley, call the office at (510) 644-6310 or tell our Safety Officer Mr. Alves why you are there. Your child will be sent to the orange gate to meet you. Remember, due to COVID restrictions, families and caregivers are not currently allowed to enter campus without advance permission from the principal.

If you have any questions, please contact the office by email ([washingtonattendance@](mailto:washingtonattendance@)) or call (510) 644-6310

**KNOW YOUR RHINO** Each week, we'll shine the spotlight on a different Rhino so we can all get to know each better.

This week answering the **4 Questions: Coach Don Arreola Burl!**

**Q: Where did you grow up?**

A: I grew up in San Francisco, in Duboce Triangle. I was raised by my grandparents, Charlie and Louise Nelson. They owned a flat just around the corner from my elementary school. On the first day of kindergarten, my grandmother walked me to school, but every day after that, I was on my own! It was a great place to grow up, as we were surrounded by parks. I played outside all day in the summer, until my grandmother called for me to come in at night. My grandfather made what we called "coasters" - plywood slabs with wheels on them; we rode them down

the steepest streets we could find!

**Q: How did you start out in education?**

A: When I was in high school, I was asked to coach a basketball team of younger students, which I really enjoyed because I included character development as well as ball handling. I went to City College and studied Recreation while working for the Parks & Rec Department. When Prop. 13 wiped out all the Rec programs, I was working for the YMCA. A Science teacher at Washington recruited me to come be a PE Specialist here.

**Q: Anything else we should know about you?**

A: I have four kids. Three boys and a girl. They are all college graduates and two of them have or will have masters degrees. I have an amazing wife that does it all. (She makes all my costumes). I am also a grandpa. They refer to me as Papa Don.

**Q: What do you like to do for fun?**

A: For fun I love hanging out in my Mancave. It's filled with many treasures that remind me of my childhood and my present day life along with about 750 DVDs and Blu Ray disc. I also still play basketball once a week with a group of guys my age. We have been playing for over 20 years together.

**Parent/Guardians can now volunteer at Washington!** There are 2 options:

**I. BSV Classroom Volunteers:** Parents and community members who want to support *learning* in classrooms *regularly/weekly*.

- Commitment: An hour a week (or more, if desired) for the school year
- Process: Thoughtful matching by BSV to a Host Teacher
- Site Limitations: May serve in one classroom at one site only
- Requirements: Upload proof of COVID vax & complete BSV orientation. Community members must also be

fingerprinted (not parents, if working in own child's class)

- Official Clearance: BSV sends match introduction email to Volunteer & Host Teacher. Volunteer's name automatically added to "BSV Screened Volunteers by Site" spreadsheet
- Identification on Campus: '21-22 BSV Name Badge, sent via mail to Volunteer. Volunteers still sign in/out in the Main Office every time (for contact tracing)
- **BSV Contact: Jissel Poblete:** [jisselpoblete@berkeley.net](mailto:jisselpoblete@berkeley.net)
- **Sign Up Here:** [New Classroom Volunteer Application](#)

**II. BSV School Support Volunteers: Parents and/or community members who want to support various school-related tasks on a *one-time or sporadic basis*.**

- **Commitment: one-time or a series of visits**
- **Example Roles:** Playground Supervision (@ site), 1x Classroom Project (@ site), BSV Task Runner, BSV Ed Hub, BSV Supplies Assembly, etc.
- **Site Limitations:** Role limited to one school (and one classroom) only. Often, though not exclusively, outdoors.
- **Requirements:** Upload proof of COVID vax
- **Official Clearance:** BSV confirms clearance via email to Volunteer and School Contact (listed in application), if applicable. Volunteer's name automatically added to "BSV Screened Volunteers by Site" spreadsheet to Principals & BUSD Leadership.
- **Identification on Campus:** Volunteers sign in/out in the courtyard and email

[washingtonattendance@berkeley](mailto:washingtonattendance@berkeley). every time (for contact tracing) & get *BSV Volunteer* sticker to wear

- **BSV Contact:** Valerie Kratzer: [valeriekratzer@berkeley.net](mailto:valeriekratzer@berkeley.net)
- **SIGN UP HERE:** [BSV School Support Volunteers Application](#) (shorter)
- After that, **Sign Up for** [Washington's Playground Supervision](#)

***Please allow 1 full week between new volunteer application & final clearance.***

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**ESPAÑOL**

**Actualización de voluntarios de Berkeley Schools Volunteers (BSV)**

**Voluntarios de BSV en el Salon de Clase/ BSV Classroom Volunteers:** Padres y miembros de la comunidad que desean apoyar el aprendizaje en el aula de manera regular / semanal

- Compromiso: Una hora a la semana (o más, si se desea) durante el año escolar
- Proceso: Emparejamiento cuidadoso por BSV con un maestro anfitrión
- Limitaciones del sitio: Puede servir en un salón de clases en un solo sitio
- Requisitos: Cargar prueba de COVID vax y orientación completa de BSV. Los miembros de la comunidad también deben tomar las huellas digitales (no los padres, si trabajan en la clase de su hijo)
- Autorización oficial: BSV envía un correo electrónico de presentación de coincidencia al maestro voluntario y anfitrión. El nombre del voluntario se agrega automáticamente a la hoja de cálculo "Voluntarios seleccionados por BSV por sitio". Los voluntarios siguen registrando su entrada / salida en la oficina principal

cada vez (para rastreo de contactos)

- Contacto BSV: Jissel Poblete: [jisselpoblete@berkeley.net](mailto:jisselpoblete@berkeley.net)
- **INSCRIBASE AQUI:** [Solicitud de voluntariado en el nuevo salón de clases](#)

**Voluntarios de Apoyo Escolar de BSV/ BSV School Support Volunteers:** Padres y / o miembros de la comunidad que desean apoyar varias tareas relacionadas con la escuela de forma única o esporádica.

- Compromiso: visitas únicas o una serie de roles
- Ejemplos de funciones: Supervisión del patio de recreo de Washington (@ sitio), 1x Proyecto de aula (@ sitio), Programa de tareas de BSV, Centro de educación de BSV, Ensamblaje de suministros de BSV, etc.
- Limitaciones del sitio: Función limitada a una escuela (y un aula) solamente. A menudo, aunque no exclusivamente, al aire libre.
- Requisitos: Cargar prueba de autorización oficial de COVID vax: BSV confirma la autorización por correo electrónico al contacto de voluntarios y la escuela (enumerados en la solicitud), si corresponde. El nombre del voluntario se agrega automáticamente a la hoja de cálculo de "Voluntarios seleccionados por BSV por sitio" para los directores y el liderazgo de BUSD.
- Identificación en el campus: Los voluntarios se registran en el patio principal cada vez (para rastrear contactos) y obtienen una calcomanía de voluntario de BSV para usar
- Contacto de BSV: Valerie Kratzer: [valeriekratzer@berkeley.net](mailto:valeriekratzer@berkeley.net)
- **REGISTRESE AQUI:** [Solicitud de voluntarios de apoyo escolar de BSV \(más corta\)](#)

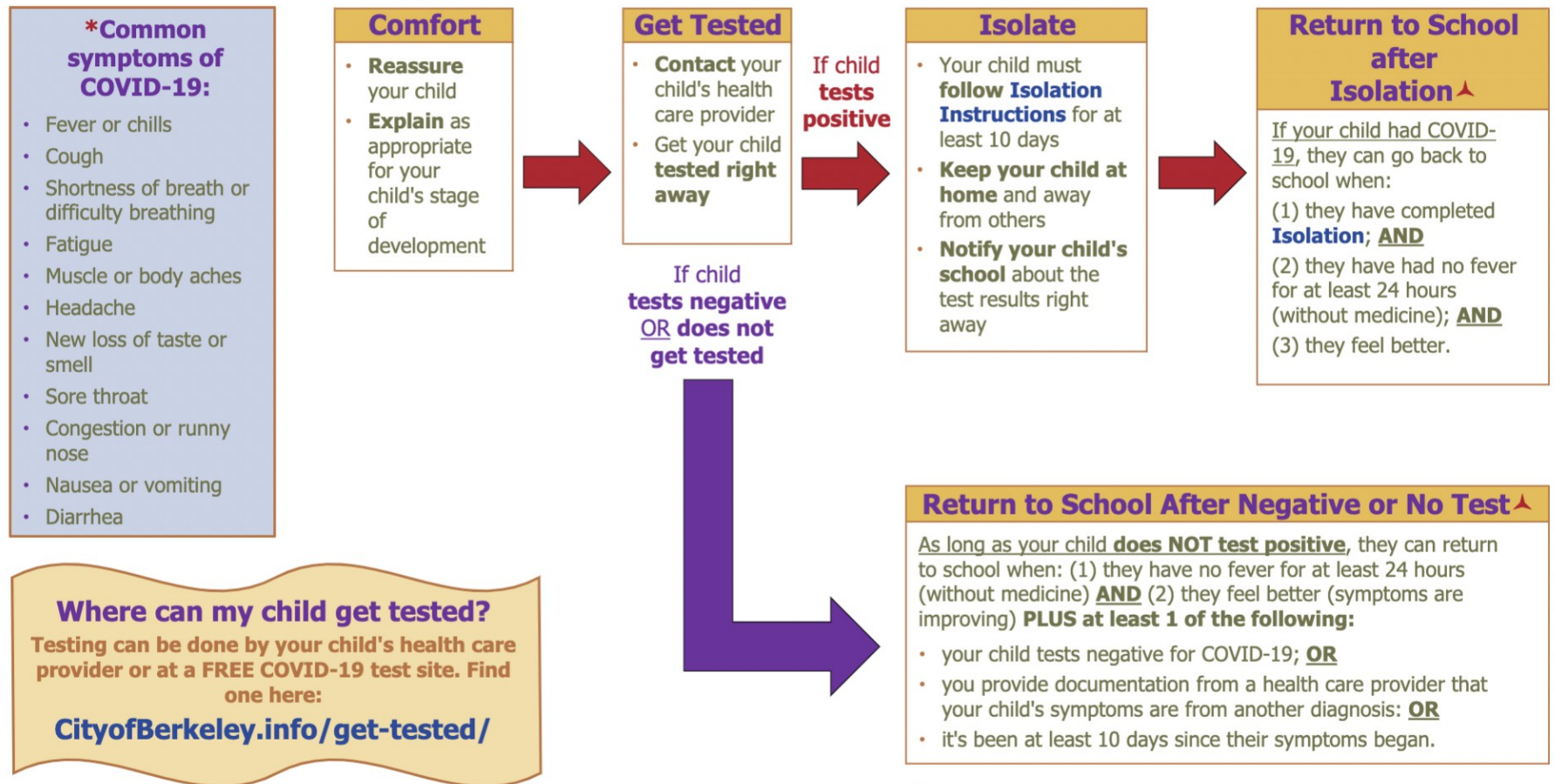
- Después de eso, **REGISTRESE AQUI** [Washington's Playground Supervision](#)

*Por favor permita 1 semana completa entre la nueva solicitud de voluntario y la autorización final.*

**Friday Coffee Hour!** Your Washington PTA provides delicious free coffee every Friday morning on McKinley between the barriers from 8:15 - 9:15 am ish. Come and celebrate Fridays!

**Did you get a WiFi Hotspot from BUSD?** Here's a message from Tech Services: *We are notifying all families that all hotspots will be disconnected at the end of the month, unless they complete [an online form](#) letting us know that they still need it.*

# What do I do if my child has COVID-19 symptoms\* with no known exposure? (applies to **VACCINATED** and **UNVACCINATED** children)



**Where can my child get tested?**  
Testing can be done by your child's health care provider or at a FREE COVID-19 test site. Find one here:  
[CityofBerkeley.info/get-tested/](http://CityofBerkeley.info/get-tested/)

▲ Check school/program policy before sending your child back.



**Rolling Drop Off gets safer and faster!** Thank you to the PTA volunteers from the Safety Committee who had signs made for the rolling drop off area on McKinley. We are all safer because of your efforts!

**Campus opens at 8 am** Please do not drop your child off prior to this time unless they are enrolled in the [BEARS](#) before school program. Thank you!

Q&A from the [Health & Safety Presentation](#):

**Q:** My child was just tested yesterday and they were negative. Why do they have to go home today if they have symptoms?

**A:** If symptoms of COVID develop *after* testing, we are required to send home and only permit return when symptoms have improved and there is a negative test (see flowchart). If the symptoms developed *before* testing, & test was negative, the student may attend school as long as symptoms are improving.

Calendar Reminders:

- **September 23:** PTA meeting 6 - 8 pm via [Zoom](#)
- **September 28: Fire Drill 1 pm**

**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)