



## **DISTRICT UPDATE**

**April 21, 2023**

*From the Office of Superintendent Michael Kellison*  
3150 Education Drive Santa Rosa, CA 95407  
(707) 542-5197 [www.busd.org](http://www.busd.org)



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### ***Mission:***

*Inspire learning*

### ***Vision:***

*Engaging and ❤️ (valuing/caring) for our families, students and staff to empower our community.*

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Dear Bellevue Union School District Families and Staff,

I think that I can speak for everyone in that we are all looking forward to some much needed sunshine after a prolonged wet winter. The sun's magical powers seem to bring out more laughter and smiles from students and staff alike. It is wonderful to hear our students enjoying the outdoors again.

### **State of the District**

**Summer Programming:** We are currently planning what we believe will be an outstanding summer learning academy for our students. This summer we will offer two sessions, one at the beginning of the summer and one at the end. Additionally, we will partner with the Napa County Office of Education's Cool School team to complement our morning academic sessions with afternoon enrichment activities. We will provide bussing from each of the school sites to Bellevue Elementary, where the summer academy will be held, to ensure equitable access for all BUSD students.

**The BUSD Experience:** Over the summer, we will be working on a district document currently entitled the, "BUSD Student Experience." The purpose of this document is to lay out a plan for developing a common set of experiences that all BUSD students will receive regardless of the school they attend. At this time, we are focusing on the following categories: Art and Music; Sports; Experiential Learning (Field Trips); Before/After School and Break Enrichment. Once complete, this document will spell out in detail those "common" experiences that all BUSD students will receive from Transitional Kindergarten through Grade 6 and it will allow us to properly allocate resources in our budget to support the funding of these experiences.

In closing, we are looking forward to what lies ahead as we close out the school year in a positive way. Students will soon begin their annual state testing where they will have the opportunity to demonstrate their acquired knowledge from this year's learning. We will also be holding community engagement events at each of the school sites with the biggest event being Open House. Bellevue and Meadow View will host their Open House Nights on May 10th while Kawana Springs and Taylor Mountain will open their doors to families on May 17th. Additionally, we will hold our first BUSD End of Year Celebration for staff on May 24th so that we can honor the hard work and achievements of our BUSD staff and conclude our school year just like we started it, together.

With pride,  
Michael Kellison

## SCHOOL SITE UPDATES:

Bellevue Elementary School	
<b>Office hours:</b> Monday-Friday, 8:00-4:30	<b>Contact Us @</b> 707-542-5195
<b>Principal</b> , Nina Craig: <a href="mailto:ncraig@busd.org">ncraig@busd.org</a>	<b>Office Assistant</b> , Blanca Ramirez: <a href="mailto:bramirez@busd.org">bramirez@busd.org</a>
<b>Office Manager</b> , Karina Martinez: <a href="mailto:kmartinez@busd.org">kmartinez@busd.org</a>	<b>Family Engagement Facilitator</b> , Amy Flores Casares: <a href="mailto:aflorescasares@busd.org">aflorescasares@busd.org</a>

Upcoming Meetings & Events:	
Monday, April 24: 8:45am	Student of the Month
Wednesday, May 10: 6:00pm	Open House
Monday, May 15 - Thursday, May 18	CAASPP Testing 3rd-6th Grades
Monday, May 15: 9:00am	Volunteer Appreciation Tea
Friday, May 19	No School, Emergency Day
Other Events:	
Tuesdays 2:30-3:30 pm	Food Pantry
Mondays after school	Move over Mozart
Thursdays after school	3rd-6th Chorus
Fridays after school	5th grade Marimba
As Notified	4th-6th Grade Girls Basketball Practices and Games

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Kawana Springs Elementary School	
<b>Office hours:</b> Monday-Friday, 7:30-4:00	<b>Contact Us @</b> 707-545-4283
<b>Principal</b> , Denise McCullough: <a href="mailto:dmccullough@busd.org">dmccullough@busd.org</a>	<b>Office Assistant</b> , Michelle Williams: <a href="mailto:mwilliams@busd.org">mwilliams@busd.org</a>
<b>Office Manager</b> , Susy Bradley: <a href="mailto:sbradley@busd.org">sbradley@busd.org</a>	<b>Family Engagement Facilitator</b> , Erika Corrales: <a href="mailto:ecorrales@busd.org">ecorrales@busd.org</a>

Upcoming Meetings & Events:	
Saturday, April 22nd, 9:00-11:00 am	Garden Work Day
Wednesday, April 26th, 6:30pm	PTO Meeting via <a href="#">Zoom</a>
Thursday, April 27th & Friday April 28th	Student of the Month Assemblies, Times vary by Grade Level
Thursday, April 27th, 8:00am	ELAC Meeting @ KS Library
Thursday, April 27th, 2:50pm	School Site Council Meeting @ KS Library
Friday, April 28th 1:30pm	Día del Niño Celebration
Mon, May 1- Friday, May 19	CAASPP Testing 3rd-6th Grades
Wednesday, May 17 6:00pm	Open House
Other Events:	
Mondays after school	Chorus
Tuesdays after school	Marimba class
Tuesdays and Thursdays after school	Girls on the Run
Wednesdays after school	Move Over Mozart
Thursdays, 10:00-11:00 am	Food Pantry

Meadow View Elementary School	
<b>Office hours:</b> Monday-Friday, 7:30-4:00	<b>Contact Us @</b> 707-541-3715
<b>Principal,</b> Jean Walker: <a href="mailto:jwalker@busd.org">jwalker@busd.org</a>	<b>Office Assistant,</b> Isabel Luna: <a href="mailto:imluna@busd.org">imluna@busd.org</a>
<b>Office Manager,</b> Natali Ramirez: <a href="mailto:qramirez@busd.org">qramirez@busd.org</a>	<b>Family Engagement Facilitator,</b> Paula Hernandez: <a href="mailto:pfernandez@busd.org">pfernandez@busd.org</a>

Upcoming Meetings & Events:	
Friday, April 21st	Spirit day, wear blue and green for Earth Day
Friday, April 28th	Sees Candy fundraiser due
Thursday, April 27th 4:30-6:00	Lotteria & activities

Friday, April 28th TBD	Student of the Month
Monday, May 8 2:45 pm	ELAC-School Site Council Meeting
Wednesday, May 10: 6:00pm	Open House
Monday, May 8th- Thursday, May 17th	CAASPP Testing 3rd-6th Grades
<b>Other Events:</b>	
Tuesdays 2:00-3:00 pm	Food Pantry
Thursdays 2:45 - 3:35 pm	Marimba Lesson, 5th gr.
Fridays after school	Move over Mozart
Tuesdays after school	3rd-6th Chorus
Thursday after school	5th graders
As Notified	4th-6th Grade Girls Basketball Practices and Games

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Taylor Mountain Elementary School	
<b>Office hours:</b> Monday-Friday, 7:30-4:00	<b>Contact Us @</b> 707-542-3671
<b>Principal,</b> Margaret Jacobson: <a href="mailto:mjacobson@busd.org">mjacobson@busd.org</a>	<b>Office Assistant,</b> Hope Leon: <a href="mailto:hleon@busd.org">hleon@busd.org</a>
<b>Office Manager,</b> Julie Roza: <a href="mailto:jroza@busd.org">jroza@busd.org</a>	<b>Family Engagement Facilitator,</b> Elida Guerrero: <a href="mailto:eguerrero@busd.org">eguerrero@busd.org</a>

Upcoming Meetings & Events:	
Friday, April 21 5:00 - 7:00 pm	TM Hawk Fest
Wed, April 26 and Mon, May 1 6:00 pm	Girls Basketball games at home
Friday April 28	Rainbow Neon Day
Friday, May 5 8:00 am	Parent Coffee in the Library
Monday, May 8 2:45 pm	ELAC-School Site Council Meeting
May 8 - 16	Gr 3-6 CAASPP Testing

Wednesday May 17 5:30 pm	Open House and Reclassification
<b>Other Events:</b>	
Mondays 2:40 - 3:30 pm	Marimba Lesson, 5th gr.
Thursdays 10:00 - 11:00 am	Food Pantry
Thursdays after school (2:40-4:20 pm)	Move over Mozart
Fridays after school (2:40-4:10 pm)	3rd-6th Chorus

## DISTRICT UPDATES:

**Business Service:** Chris Kim, CBO ([business@busd.org](mailto:business@busd.org))

The District presented the audit of its financial statements and governmental activities associated with Measure C and Measure J for the 2021/22 fiscal year by Christy White and Associates. In summary, the audit identified no findings or questioned costs for the year ended on June 30, 2022 for both Measure C and Measure J.

The District also seated two members on its Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee related to the General Obligation Bond, Election of 2020, Measure C. These appointees were approved by the Board of Trustees and all associated review of facilities expenditures, bylaws, and audits were likewise completed.

The State of California's Revision to the FY 2023-24 budget takes place in May. Following this, the District will update its financial assumptions for the FY 2023-24 fiscal year with particular attention to the statutory cost of living adjustment (COLA). These updated budgetary assumptions will be mirrored in the District's Budget and LCAP proposals.

**Curriculum and English Learners:** Aracely Romo-Flores, Director ([curriculum@busd.org](mailto:curriculum@busd.org))

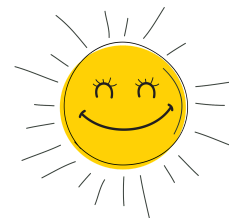
### ***Summer School***

This school year we are offering two 3-week Summer School sessions. We have extended the registration due date to **Friday, April 28, 2023**. Spots are filling up so please don't wait to register your child(ren).

#### **Session 1 June 12-June 30, 2023\***

- Up to 9 hour day for students
- Instructional Day - 8:00-12:00 (Academic Support with teachers)
- Enrichment - 12:00-5:00 (COOL School)

\*Monday, June 19th (Juneteenth) is a holiday



#### **Session 2 July 17-August 4, 2023**

- 9 hour day for students

- Instructional Day - 8:00-12:00 (Academic Support with teachers)
- Enrichment - 12:00-5:00 (COOL School)

### **Testing**

Our 5th grade students have started to take the California Physical Fitness Test (PFT) and the California Science Test (CAST). Students in grades 3-6 will take the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment in English Language Arts and Math beginning in May. Our 3-6 grade Kawana Springs students will also take the California Spanish Assessment.



For more information on testing, please refer to **The Parent Guides to Understanding** below. These answer key questions (what, why, who, how, and when) about California's assessment programs. Information is also included about how parents can support their student's success.

- [A Parent Guide to Understanding the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments](#)(PDF)
- [Una Guía de Comprensión Para Padres Evaluaciones Sumativas \(Spanish\)](#)(PDF)
- [A Parent Guide to Understanding the California Spanish Assessment \(CSA\)](#)(PDF)
- [Una Guía de Comprensión Para Padres Evaluación de español en California \(CSA\) \(Spanish\)](#)(PDF)

Families also have access to a new website for resources to support their child's learning. The Starting Smarter website includes information on student score reports, sample test questions, parent-teacher conferences, and other no-cost resources in English and Spanish.

[Starting Smarter Parent Informational Flyer](#)(PDF) – This flyer provides information about the Starting Smarter website.

[Starting Smarter Parent Informational Flyer, Spanish version](#)(PDF) – This flyer provides information about the Starting Smarter website.

These assessments provide important information for us to know how to better support and challenge each student.

Below are a few things families can do to help their child(ren) have a successful testing experience:

- Get your child to bed on time or a little early (a well-rested student will test better).
- Provide a good, healthy breakfast before leaving for school or have them arrive early to eat breakfast at school.
- Communicate with your child that this test is important. Encourage your child to do his/her very best.
- Make sure your child is here. Get to school on time to allow your child to feel relaxed and unrushed. More than ever, being on time is critical to successful testing experiences.
- Visit <https://www.caaspp.org/practice-and-training/> for practice

*Thank you for your support!*

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Food Services: Lynn Wong, Manager ([lwong@busd.org](mailto:lwong@busd.org))

Zap! Zoom! Pow!

Celebrate School Lunch Hero Day with a Wow!



**Friday, May 5**, we celebrate **School Lunch Hero Day** to recognize the hard working professionals in our school cafeterias.

Not only do these heroes prepare our meals, but they also adhere to strict nutrition standards, keep pesky allergies at bay, and offer service with a smile. Every. Single. Day.

The School Lunch Heroes of Bellevue Elementary, Kawana Springs Elementary, Meadow View Elementary and Taylor Mountain Elementary use their superpowers to keep you nourished, ready to learn, and energized for your favorite after-school activities!

Make sure to share some extra thanks with them on Friday, May 5. Don't forget to thank your School Lunch Heroes and express your appreciation for everything they do for all of us.

[Coloring pages to celebrate your School Lunch Hero.](#)

**Menu Highlights** We are always introducing new menu items to our students, and would love to get your student's feedback on menu items served. This information helps us plan future menus. New items in April included: churros and chocolate, pancake wrapped beef sausage (looked like a corn dog), chocolate chip oatmeal rounds (looked like a cookie), BBQ chicken drumsticks, baked ziti, orange chicken, and street tacos. We got immediate feedback that the churros and chocolate, and BBQ chicken drumsticks were huge successes! Send us a quick note on what other menu items that your students enjoy, and what they might want to see on the menu in the future, [cafeteria@busd.org](mailto:cafeteria@busd.org).

Upcoming new items in May include: walking taco, taco joe (like a sloppy joe), and beef with Spanish rice. **Check out the [menus](#) for breakfast and lunch.**

### **Sonoma County Regional Parks Annual Pass for Only \$5/year**



The Sonoma County Regional Parks is offering entrance to their parks for only \$5/year (regularly \$69/year) to any of their [55 regional parks](#) for families who qualify for [free meal eligibility](#).

Please contact the Food Service Program with name of student(s), school(s) attending, address, email, and phone number, if you are interested in applying for this

discounted entry pass, [cafeteria@busd.org](mailto:cafeteria@busd.org). A verification letter will be provided to take to the Sonoma County Regional Parks office to purchase your annual pass. The pass is good for 12-months from the date of purchase. With summer break coming up, this is a great opportunity to get out and enjoy nature!

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Human Resources: Stacy Spector, Director ([hr@busd.org](mailto:hr@busd.org))



We continue to hire for both Certificated and Classified positions. We have attended career fairs looking to recruit teachers for Special Education.

Please spread the word we are looking for Instructional Assistants at the Special Day Class at Meadow View and Bellevue, a night custodian at Kawana Springs, and a Mild/Moderate Special Day Class teacher for Bellevue.

**All jobs at Bellevue Union School District**

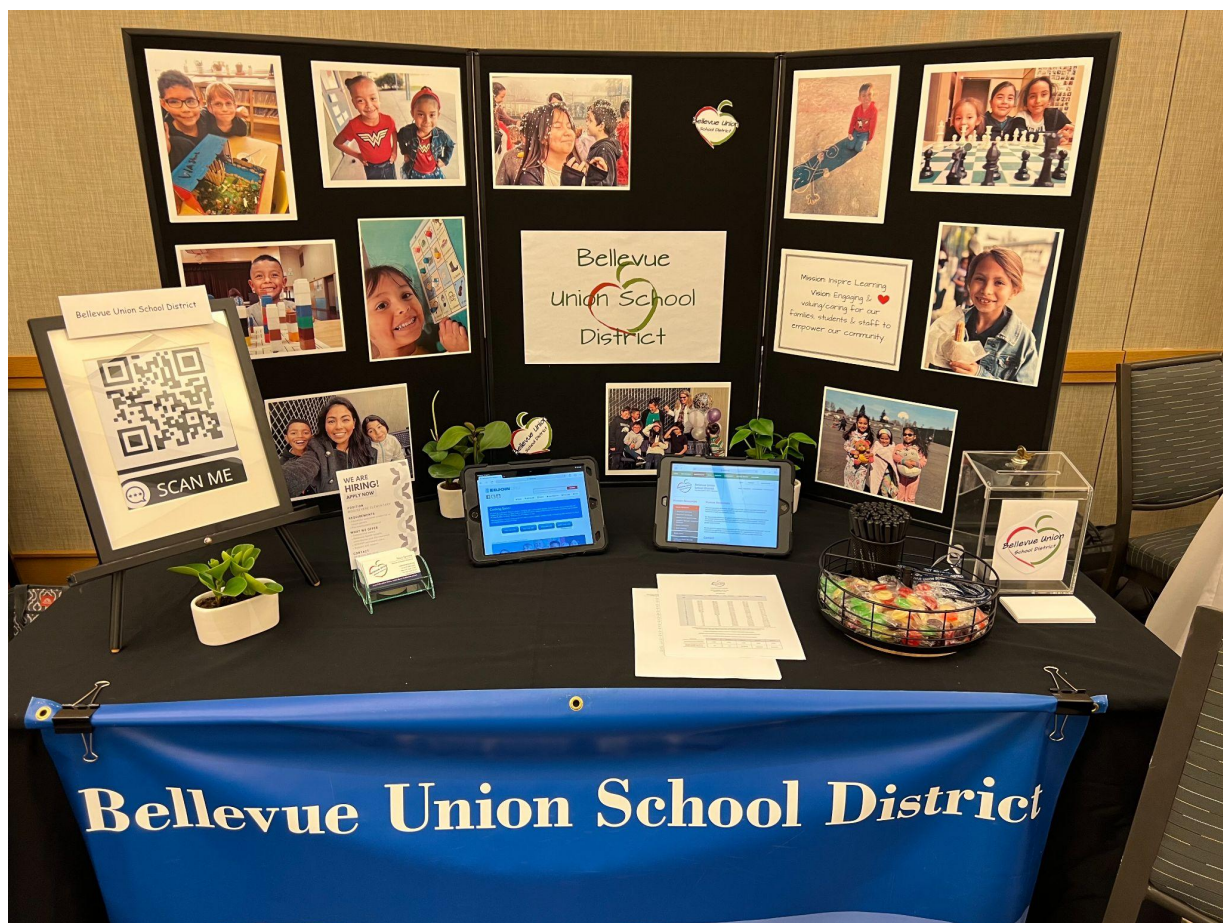
<http://www.edjoin.org/BellevueUnion>

**Certificated jobs at Bellevue Union School District**

<http://www.edjoin.org/Home/Jobs?countyID=0&districtID=912&catID=1>

**Classified jobs at Bellevue Union School District**

<http://www.edjoin.org/Home/Jobs?countyID=0&districtID=912&catID=3>







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**Maintenance & Operations:** Bill Jereb, Director ([maintenance@busd.org](mailto:maintenance@busd.org))

Please send any questions or maintenance requests you may have about our facilities to [mohelp@busd.org](mailto:mohelp@busd.org). Thank you!

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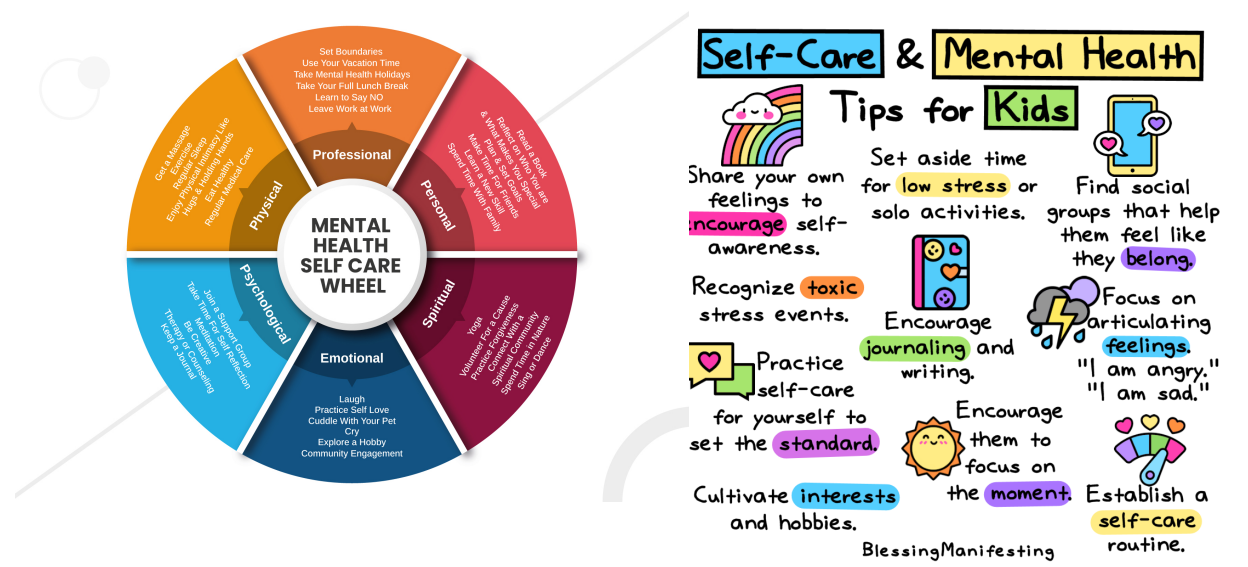
**Student Services:** Tracy Whitaker ([studentservices@busd.org](mailto:studentservices@busd.org))

This year marked the launch of a social emotional learning curriculum, CharacterStrong. The school counselors will be surveying the students. The purpose of the survey is to gain data and compare it to the survey results conducted in the fall. The Student Services Committee will be reviewing the data at our May meeting.

April is Autism Awareness Month. The CAPTAIN organization, California Autism Professional Training and Information Network is a comprehensive resource for parents and educators alike. [Link to CAPTAIN](#).

May is Mental Health Awareness Month. BUSD offers school counseling at each school site, supports wellness through the social emotional learning program, and has provided staff training on trauma

informed practices. Self-care is one wall everyone can support overall mental health. This includes students, families, and staff.



### Technology: Ryan Green, Director ([it@busd.org](mailto:it@busd.org))

CAASPP testing is almost here and we are excited to share that early next week the IT department will be delivering a new set of headphones to all TK-6 classrooms. These headphones are much more comfortable and durable and we will provide bins to store them properly in order to take care of them.

We are currently taking a closer look at the value and effectiveness of our district software subscriptions. We will be surveying staff in the coming weeks for feedback on a few specific applications and also looking at usage data.

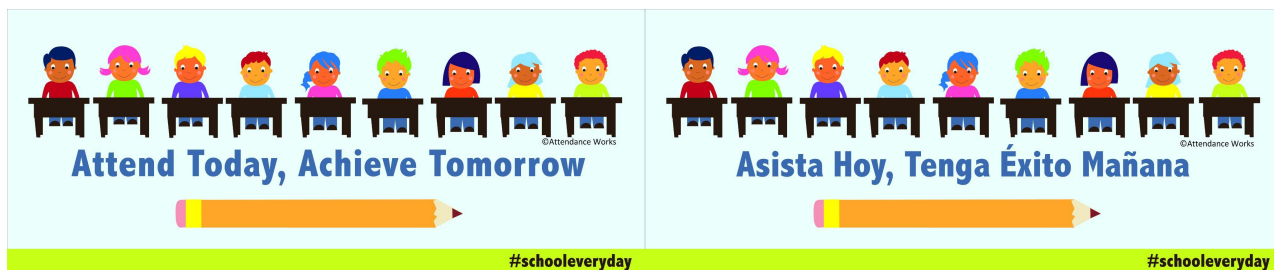
As always, please send any questions or technology requests to [ithelp@busd.org](mailto:ithelp@busd.org) and let's finish the year strong!

### General Information About the District: Moriah Hart, Executive Assistant ([mhart@busd.org](mailto:mhart@busd.org))



**MUSIC** - At Bellevue Union School District we are committed to arts education for our students and have exciting plans for the fall to expand music during the school day. We know students who participate in the arts at school stay in school, and do better in school!

We are still searching for an after school violin instructor for our 5th & 6th graders after school. Instructors are not required to be classical musicians, but need experience teaching kids in groups and we'd love to get some mariachi opportunities for our students. If you have an instructor to recommend or would like more information email [mhart@busd.org](mailto:mhart@busd.org) or check out our music page for more info: [www.busd.org/music](http://www.busd.org/music)



Attendance Reminder, as we head into the last weeks of school it is important to keep coming to school and being on time!

Missing 10% of school (1 or 2 days every few weeks) can make it harder for students to learn math and reading. For every day missed it takes a minimum of two days for students to catch up to their classmates in the same class!

## Registration is now open



## El registro ya está abierto

Online registration ([link](#)) is open for all grades for the fall. Paper applications are also available at all school offices.

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Our newsletters are always available on our [website](#), on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/busd.org](http://www.facebook.com/busd.org) and via our mobile phone app available here: [www.busd.org/app](http://www.busd.org/app)

With pride,

**Michael Kellison**

Superintendent

BELLEVUE UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

3150 Education Drive / Santa Rosa, CA 95407

(707) 542-5197 / Fax: (707) 542-6127

<http://www.busd.org>

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