



DISTRICT UPDATE

October 20, 2023

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



Mission:

Inspire learning

Vision:

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

Dear Bellevue Union School District Families and Staff,

We are quickly approaching the end of the first trimester of the school year. Soon, teachers and parents will come together to hold parent teacher conferences and discuss progress made by our students so far this year. This is a great opportunity for staff and families to make connections and to develop a strong partnership focused on student growth and achievement. Conferences will be held the week of November 3-17, 2023.

State of the District

- **Community Engagement:** We want to hear from our community. Over the next few months, we will be sending out surveys to our community to gather feedback that will be used to develop the next set of goals and services for our Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP). Additionally, we will conduct in-person information gathering sessions to hear what programs our staff and families would like to see in our district.
- **Bond Projects and Facilities Planning:** The Bellevue Union School District community passed Measure C in 2020. As a result of this, the District has been able to invest in large-scale facilities projects to modernize and improve existing facilities. The most notable project identified in the bond was the construction of a new Multi-Purpose Room at Kawana Springs Elementary School. This project is nearing completion and we anticipate opening the MPR and administrative offices in the late Winter/early Spring of 2024. In addition to this project the District will be focusing on the modernization of classroom interiors, improvement of playground equipment and fields, as well as landscaping and water efficiency improvements. We appreciate our community's support of our schools and are grateful for their investment in our facilities district-wide.
- **Developing Community Partners:** The greater Bellevue community is undergoing significant growth and development. We are seeing a large investment in housing units within our district boundaries. As a result of this growth, we have been working to plan for our future. This includes developing partnerships with the city and county governments as well as those nonprofits serving residents living in our community. This approach will allow us to ensure that our students and their families have easier access to resources and will provide them with opportunities to ensure that their voices are heard.

In closing, our community is strong. It is strong because we work together. By working together we can overcome all obstacles that we may face and we can lean on one another when we need support. We

can focus on building each other up so that we can all experience success. Our theme this year is Together/Juntos. I can think of no better way to be.

With pride,
Michael Kellison

SCHOOL SITE UPDATES:

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

Upcoming Meetings & Events:	
October 24, 8:45	ABC Fashion Show - Ms. Brown and Mrs. Ballard
October 30, 8:30	Student of the Month
October 31, 8:45	Costume Parade
November 1	No School; Teacher Work Day
November 3, 8:30	ELAC
November 9, 8:30	Parent Club/Coffee with the Principal
November 10	No School; Veterans Day
November 13-17	Minimum Days; 12:55 Dismissal Parent Conference Week
Other Events:	
Mondays after school	Move Over Mozart
Tuesdays: 2:45pm	Food Pantry
Tuesdays and Fridays after school	6th grade Marimba

Kawana Springs Elementary School

Office hours: Monday-Friday, 7:30-4:00	Contact Us @ 707-545-4283
Principal , Denise McCullough: dmccullough@busd.org	Office Assistant , Michelle Williams: mwilliams@busd.org
Office Manager , Susy Bradley: sbradley@busd.org	Family Engagement Facilitator , Erika Corrales: ecorrales@busd.org

Upcoming Meetings & Events:	
October 26, 2:45pm	School Site Council Meeting
October 31, 8:30am	Costume Parade
November 1, 2023	No School
November 2, 2023	Picture Re-take Day Día de los Muertos display- Class visits
November 3, Times vary by grade level	Student of the Trimester Assemblies
November 9, 12:00pm	ELAC Meeting
November 10, 2023	No School- Veterans' Day
Other Events:	
Mondays	Move Over Mozart
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3:05pm	Girls on the Run, Gr. 3-5
Tuesdays and Fridays, 2:35pm	Marimba- 6th Gr.
Thursdays, 10:00 - 11:00 am	Food Pantry

Meadow View Elementary School	
Office hours: Monday-Friday, 7:30-4:00	Contact Us @ 707-541-3715
Principal , Jean Walker: jwalker@busd.org	Office Assistant , Isabel Luna: imluna@busd.org
Office Manager , Natali Ramirez: nramirez@busd.org	Family Engagement Facilitator , Paula Hernandez: pfernandez@busd.org

Upcoming Meetings & Events:

October 27th tbd	Student of the month assembly
October 27th 4:00-5:00	Trunk or Treat
October 31st TBD	School wide Halloween parade
November 1, 2023	No School
November 3rd @ 8:30 am	Coffee with the Principal
November 3rd @ 9:30 am	ELAC committee
November 6th @ 3:00pm	School Site Council
November 10th, 2023	No school- Veterans Day
Other Events:	
Tuesdays: 2:00-2:15 pm	Food Pantry
Monday & Thursdays: 2:45 - 3:35 pm	Marimba Lesson, 6th gr.
Tuesday time tbd	Move over Mozart

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

Upcoming Meetings & Events:	
October 25	Picture Retake Day
October 27, 5:00 - 6:30 pm	Dia de los Muertos Festival & Salsa Contest
October 31, 2:00 pm	6th grade Costume Contest School Wide Halloween Costume Parade
November 3, 8:00 am	Coffee with the Principal and ELAC Meeting in the library

November 6, 2:45 pm	School Site Council Meeting in the Main Office Conference Room
Other Events:	
Thursdays: 10:00 - 11:00 am	Food Pantry
Mondays and Thursdays (2:35-3:35 pm)	6th gr. Marimba
Fridays after school (2:40-4:10 pm)	Move over Mozart

DISTRICT UPDATES:

Business Service: Chris Kim, CBO (business@busd.org)

Budget and Financial Update:

The District's Unaudited Actuals (Year End Financial Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023) was approved by the Board of Trustees on October 10, 2023. The District is now engaged in reviewing its budget and financial assumptions for FY 2023/24, the current fiscal year. For example, the District will review its revenue calculations based on updates to its enrollment and adjust its personnel costs to reflect hiring in the current year. These updates among others will be subsequently presented with the District's 1st Interim report on December 12th, 2023.

Transportation Update:

The School Bus Pass application deadline for the year is October 23, 2023. To sign up for a bus pass for your child, please apply online at www.schoolbusing.org. If you need assistance with your application, your School Site's Front Office staff can further assist you.

Citizen's Bond Oversight Committee:

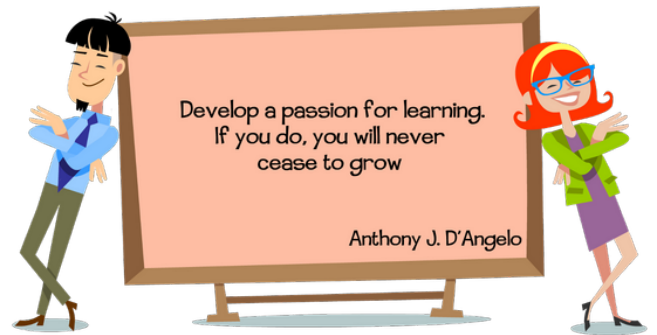
The District would like to invite your participation as a contributing member of the District's Citizen's Bond Oversight Committee. The specific bond for which we are petitioning your service is related to the District's Measure C Bond which was passed by voters in April 2020. The District is currently seeking members who meet the following criteria:

- 1 member must be an active member of the business community
- 1 member shall be active in a senior citizens' organization
- 1 member shall be active in a bona fide taxpayers' organization
- 1 member shall be the parent or guardian of a child enrolled in the district
- 1 member shall be the parent of an enrolled child and be active in a parent-teacher organization

Education Services: Aracely Romo-Flores, Director (curriculum@busd.org)

Bellevue Union School District is committed to continuous learning and continuous improvement. Not only do we focus on improving student learning, but we also strive to support our staff's continuous learning. Last week, our teachers received training in the area of math as we engaged in dot talks and number talks, which promote reasoning and problem-solving.

Next week, our second and third-grade teachers will experience another powerful learning opportunity. We will have two Guided Language Acquisition Design (GLAD) trainers in the district. One will model research-based effective teaching strategies in a second-grade class and the other will guide our understanding of why those instructional strategies are important for maximizing student learning. This will help us to meet the needs of our students better.



On November 1, 2023, we will again offer another learning opportunity for our staff. This is a ***"No School Day" for students***. Staff will receive Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports (PBIS) and Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) training. Our P.E. teachers will deepen their learning with SPARK, a research-based program that facilitates a well-rounded PE program that includes health-related fitness, skill development, and social development for ALL students.

November 13-17 are Parent Conference Days. These are also minimum days. If your child does not attend COOL School, please make arrangements for early dismissal. We look forward to seeing you and sharing your child's progress with you.

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

What is a vampire's favorite fruit? (see answer at the end of this section)

We are pleased to inform you that Bellevue Union School District School Nutrition Program continues to operate as a **Provision 2 site**. Schools that participate in Provision 2 are able to provide healthy and wholesome breakfast and lunch everyday for FREE to all students enrolled during the 2023-2024 School Year. No need to pack a breakfast or lunch, we will serve your student(s) nutritious and healthy foods for both breakfast and lunch for FREE everyday!

Why eat school meals? Balanced nutrition throughout the day contributes to student success in and out of the classroom. We participate in the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program to offer students fruits, vegetables, whole grains, lean protein and fat free or low fat milk with every school lunch. Updated federal nutrition standards also ensure these meals are within age-appropriate calorie levels and limit both unhealthy fats and sodium.

Made with School Lunch School meals make it possible for all kids to get the crucial nutrition they need to learn, play, run, thrive, and do the most important thing of all . . . grow up.

Check out the menus for breakfast and lunch.



Food Quiz: What vegetable contains more protein per calorie than steak? (see answer at the end of this section)

The Food Service Program is excited to receive **new equipment** in our kitchens possible from grant funds received. New **milk coolers** were delivered to Bellevue and Meadow View; **freezers** were delivered to Kawana Springs and Taylor Mountain; a new **retherm oven** was installed at Kawana Springs, new **10-quart mixer** was delivered to Bellevue, and new **convection steamer ovens** have been installed at Bellevue, Meadow View and Taylor Mountain kitchens. This equipment has enhanced our ability to provide wholesome and fresh foods for our students.



Happy National School Lunch Week, Oct 9 - Oct 13 - Level Up with School Lunch!

We celebrated with a week of specially made culinary delights featuring lunches from different countries: Asia, India, American, Italian, and Mexican. Lucky winners received prizes if they got the “lucky tray”, or won one of the great raffle prizes for taking a meal during the week. Thank you to Lilia and Mardonio at Bellevue Elementary for their generous donations to the raffle prizes! And big **THANK YOU** to the Food Service Staff who did an amazing job going above and beyond in serving all the students healthy and nutritious meals, each and everyday: Agueda, Amber, Carolyn, Chelsey, Donna, Gaby, Gustavo, Lori, Maria, Nancy, and Vania (substitute helper)!

Does your student need a special meal due to medical reasons? The Food Service Program can help accommodate most medically required special diets, such as diabetic, dairy-free, nut-free, soy-free, etc. Please be sure to have an authorized medical professional complete and sign the [Medical Statement form](#) and turn it into the School Office to start this process. Please allow two business weeks for accommodations to be active once the Medical Statement form is received. Vegetarian diets for religious reasons can also use this form and be signed by the parent; however, any medical needs must be signed by a medical professional. Sorry, we cannot accommodate personal preferences.

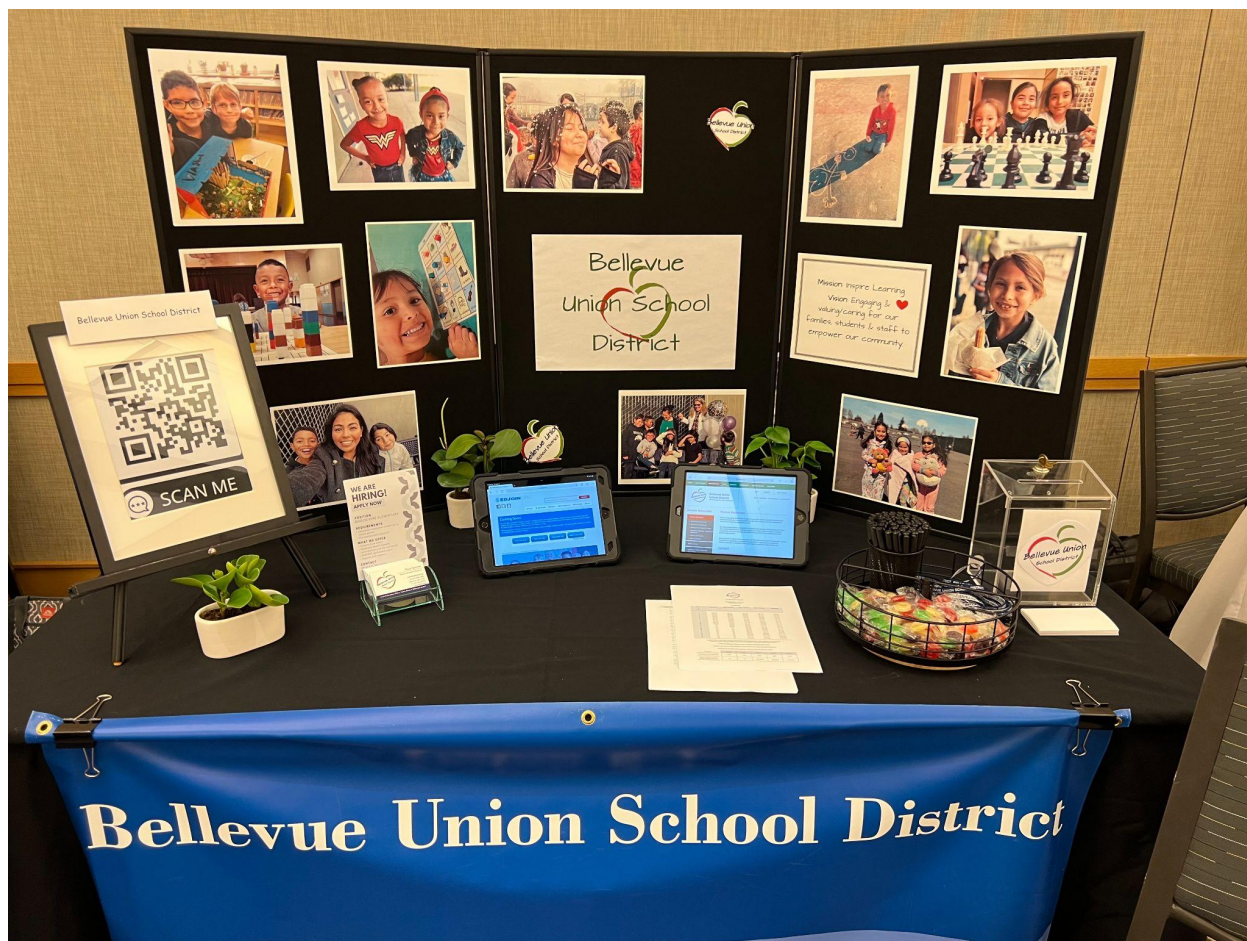
A **resource for child nutrition information**, shared by Anna, a BUSD student, is the “[A Kid’s Guide to Health and Nutrition](#)” blog at Grillo.com which provides some great information on child nutrition, cooking activities, and more. Disclaimer: please note that BUSD does not endorse any vendors or products from this resource.

What's a vampire's favorite fruit? A neck-tarine !

Food Quiz answer: Broccoli contains more protein per calorie than steak and, per calorie, spinach is about equal to chicken and fish. Of course, you’ll need to eat a lot more broccoli and spinach to get the same amount of calories that you do from the meat.



Human Resources: Stacy Spector, Director (hr@busd.org 916-996-3493)



BUSD is always hiring! Flexible hours, great health and medical benefits, and wonderful people.

Classified jobs at Bellevue Union School District

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

Please click on the links below to apply:

[Classified Job Application_English version](#)

[Solicitud de empleo clasificada_version en espanol](#)

Student Services: Tracy Whitaker (studentservices@busd.org)

This month students are learning about RESPONSIBILITY for the month of October. Lessons are delivered via the CharacterStrong social emotional learning curriculum. *Responsibility is taking action and understanding the impact of our choices.*



Please see our school-wide responsibility resource for families.

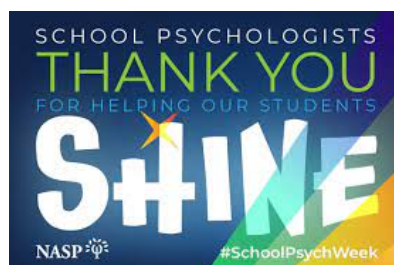
[School Wide Responsibility Newsletter English](#)

[School Wide Responsibility Newsletter Spanish](#)

This month the school counselors will visit each classroom and lead the students through a short self-rating form in areas that address social emotional wellness. For example, being able to name their feelings, knowing ways to calm themselves down, and understanding that their behavior can impact others around them. The self-rating will occur this month and in late April.



The ELC safety fence is completed and we cannot be more pleased with the result. The safety fence provides a barrier between the walkway and the parking lot. Our youngest students attend classes at this site and it was a much needed improvement.



Last, but certainly not least, November 6 - 10, 2023 is **National School Psychologist Week**. While the school psychologists primary role is to determine eligibility for special education services, they provide support and consultation at each of our school sites. They work collaboratively with principals and school counselors to support social emotional wellness and respond to student crises. Thank you for all you do!

Technology: Ryan Green, Director (it@busd.org)

Dear Parents and Staff,

We are excited to inform you about an important update regarding our Google Apps for Education policy, specifically for students under the age of 18. In our commitment to ensuring a safe and secure online learning environment, we have implemented stricter controls on 3rd Party Apps. These new measures will enhance privacy and data protection for our younger students. All 3rd Party Apps used within Google Apps for Education will undergo a vetting and approval process to ensure they comply with our privacy and security standards before they can be accessed by students. Existing apps have already gone through the process and have access controls in place. These include commonly used apps such as Clever, Blooket, Grammarly, and Kahoot. If you would like more information on Google's privacy policy, please use this link: https://workspace.google.com/terms/education_privacy.html

As always, please send any questions or technology requests to ithelp@busd.org.

BUSD Volunteer Process



We know many hands make light work and we appreciate the heart our volunteers put into our schools.

1. Bring your negative TB test* & photo ID to your school office



To volunteer with the Bellevue Union School District the following steps must be completed

2. You will receive a form to get your fingerprints done. This is free of cost to all volunteers



3. Take your form & go get fingerprinted



4. Our HR department will be notified when your fingerprints clear through the Department of Justice & the FBI, and will notify your school



5. Call your school to confirm you're cleared & ready to work with our children when your school/teacher needs you!



6. We have no control over how long fingerprints take, sometimes it's one day and sometimes it's a month or more



* acceptable proof of negative TB status includes a test, a letter from your doctor, or a questionnaire by a qualified medical practitioner & must be within the last 4 years & renewed every 4 years



Mental Wellness Resources



Are you experiencing...

- Persistent feelings of sadness, hopelessness or anger
- Feelings of being a failure or a burden
- Withdrawal from loved ones
- Changes in sleep, appetite, or drinking patterns
- Experiencing stomachaches
- Excessive self-criticism or criticism towards others
- Feeling confused, mentally foggy, or unable to concentrate
- Experiencing mood fluctuations, or neglecting personal hygiene?



Your Health is Important

Avoid these Strategies

- Self-Harm
- Violence
- Isolating
- Substance Abuse
- Self-medication
- Compulsivity
- Dissociation
- Catastrophizing

Positive Coping Strategies

- Meditation
- Mindfulness
- Yoga
- Breathing Exercises
- Spend time in nature
- Journaling
- Eat healthy
- Connect with others
- Let an adult know

Have you spoken to your school counselor?



Bellevue
Miriam Castillejos
mcastillejos@busd.org



Meadow View
Mark Bunnell
mbunnell@busd.org



Kawana Springs
Lucelene Jaimes Perez
ljaimesperez@busd.org



Taylor Mountain
Sarafina Silveyra
ssilveyra@busd.org

Community Resources

Crisis Text Line: Text "HOME" to 741741
Suicide & Crisis Lifeline: Call/Text 988
or chat 988lifeline.org

Crisis & Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273 TALK (8255)
<https://calyouth.org/cycl/>
CA Youth Crisis Line: 1-800-843-5200

<https://www.bUSD.org/parents/wellness>



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

With pride,

Michael Kellison

Superintendent

BELLEVUE UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

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