

FREE

School News

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Covering the Redondo Beach Unified School District



Volume 14, Issue 120

September / October 2020

Board of Education



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Dr. Steven Keller

Hello RBUSD Parents/Guardians:

The entire RBUSD Team welcomes you back to the 2020-21 school year. Yes, we will begin in distance learning, but our plan is to return back to on-campus learning when the State and County allow us to do so. Your patience and understanding are appreciated.

The 2020-21 school year will be challenging given COVID-19. Team RBUSD is committed to doing whatever it takes to provide your child(ren) with the best educational program possible. We thank you for your support, commitment, and trust. Together, we can make this a meaningful school year for your child(ren).

Sincerely,

Steven Keller, Ed.D.

Proud Superintendent of Schools

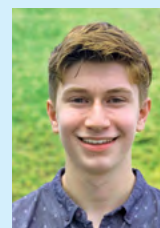
Please see page 2 for the Superintendent's message



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Superintendent



Dr. Steven Keller

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The entire RBUSD Team welcomes you back to the 2020-21 school year. Yes, we will begin in distance learning, but our plan is to return back to on-campus learning when the State and County allow us to do so. Your patience and understanding are appreciated.

COVID-19 is present in Redondo Beach and therefore has its presence in the RBUSD learning community. We have been working with the LA County Department of Public Health (LACDPH) and following their guidance and directives. I am on a weekly call with Dr. Barbara Ferrer, LACDPH Director, along with the other 80 LA County superintendents. The current status of the virus is significant in LA County. The data changes daily, and predicting how COVID numbers will change over the next few weeks or months is unrealistic. What we know is that LA County is one of many counties in California on the “monitored list.” To be removed from this list, the county needs to stabilize its COVID data for 14 consecutive days. This is a LACDPH and California Department of Public Health decision and not RBUSD. Although there is a waiver option for grades TK-6, LACDPH is not considering the waiver process at this time. What you should know is that when LACDPH provides us the greenlight to re-open, RBUSD will not turn on the light switch and begin returning to school campuses the next day. It will take some time, but when it is safe to return, we will re-open to hybrid learning for those students enrolled in that model. By the way, about 6% of our families chose Option 2, 100% Online Learning Model.

On a personal note, I have seen the ills of this virus’ indirect outcomes. I have spoken with staff members and parents who feel isolated, disconnected, emotionally exhausted, various levels of anxiety, and have job security worry. This pandemic is real and some of our staff members and families are struggling. We have to care for ourselves and one another. If your child(ren) needs help, please reach out to your counselor or your site administrator; our staff members will do whatever they can to help and support your family’s need.

If you have not heard, Marvin Brown, Assistant Principal at RUHS, and I are assembling the Race and Equity Committee focused on anti-racism and social justice. We spent time over the summer speaking with various staff members, parents, and former and current students to learn more from our stakeholder groups. You will hear more about this committee in the weeks ahead.

School districts are in the business of teaching and learning. Teaching and learning were turned upside down in March. Although we heard many positive stories from students and parents regarding their distance learning experience, some of you were not satisfied with that experience. We heard you. I remind all parents, as it has been stated at Board meetings, in the RBUSD Reopening Plan, and at the Town Hall meeting, there will be differences between distance learning that begins August 26 and what was experienced in the spring. The most notable changes are: purposeful/scheduled school days, mandatory attendance, grading, focus on essential, rigorous grade-level standards, Board adopted digital curriculum, iPads for grades TK-1, daily live contact and engagement with direct teacher instruction, intervention/tutorial time as needed, increased social-emotional lessons and supports, designated Individual Education Plan (IEP) services continue, and five days of professional development prior to the start of the school year for teachers. Everyone is committed to improving the distance learning experience. Unlike the spring distance learning in which the students and teachers had already developed a six-month, in-person connection, our students and teachers will now begin this year virtually. Each teacher is well aware of this reality and will do his/her best to connect and engage with your child from the beginning.

The 2020-21 school year will be challenging given COVID-19. Team RBUSD is committed to doing whatever it takes to provide your child(ren) with the best educational program possible. We thank you for your support, commitment, and trust. Together, we can make this a meaningful school year for your child(ren).

Sincerely,

Steven Keller, Ed.D.

Proud Superintendent of Schools

Redondo Beach Unified School District

1401 Inglewood Avenue, Redondo Beach, CA 90278 • (310) 379-5449 • www.rbusd.org

Board of Education



Brad Waller
Member

Welcome Back to a New School Year

To improved distance education. To virtual meetings with your teachers. And hopefully, back to school campuses. Everything is different. But guess, what? Some things have not changed.

Our staff at RBUSD are still the same. They are dedicated teachers, administrators, maintenance and support staff who are working to educate our children and make RBUSD the best (and cleanest) district in the South Bay. They have learned new skills for this year, but that is not special either. Staff is always learning and improving. This year our teachers have had five full days of professional development before school started to prepare them for the changed environment.

This is also a bittersweet year for me as a board member. With term limits, this will be my last year on the board. Time has flown by. When I was elected, my daughter was just promoting from Parras to RUHS. She started her senior year in college a few days ago. Kids who were in the fourth grade when I was elected will be graduating from RUHS.

In those years RBUSD has become a destination district with families moving into our city just for the schools – enrollment is up by about 1,000 students. Obesity rates in RBUSD schools have dropped from 20% to 6.4% as part of our “Whole Child” initiative in cooperation with the Beach Cities Health District. We installed Solar panels at school sites saving millions of dollars in electricity costs, reducing our carbon footprint, and setting a great example for our children.

I’m proud to be a part of a board that built the fiscal reserves to a level that will hopefully bring us through the next few years of uncertain funding. Thanks to the voters of Redondo Beach, we have the Measure Q bond that provides 1:1 Chromebooks and Tablets for every student in the district – facilitating today’s distance learning. Taxpayers should also note that we have been saving them money with bond refinancing. The most recent of which will save taxpayers of the city \$8 million, bringing the total saved to \$20 million. Property owners in the city will see reduced tax rates on future tax bills.

The work is not done, but it will be overseen by a new board. That’s what change is all about.

Special education programs are authorized by federal and state laws.

These laws require that a free and appropriate public education shall be offered in the least restrictive environment to all students identified as disabled. Through the District’s Student Study Team process and other procedures, a continuous effort is made to locate and identify individuals who might qualify for special education services.



The law also provides that parents may initiate a request to have their child assessed to determine eligibility for special education and/or related services.

This request should be in writing and submitted to:

The Office of Special Education
1401 Inglewood Ave., Redondo Beach, CA 90278

Board of Education Meeting Dates

2020

September 22	October 27	December 8*
October 13	November 10*	

2021

January 12	March 9	May 25
January 26	March 23	June 8
February 9	April 27*	June 22
February 23	May 11	

***Due to holiday/local holiday schedule, only one Board meeting in November, December, and April (4/27/2021 – Organizational Meeting)**

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL



2020-2021





Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



Welcome back to another school year. There have been many changes throughout the years; however, I think we all agree this is the most challenging. Americans are innovative and educators are at the top of the list. Zoom has taken on a whole new meaning to this generation of students. Fortunately, students and educators were proficient with technology to help with the seamless transition to distance learning. Families stepped up to the challenge.

In this issue you will read articles about skills for students to continue to be successful during distance learning and so much more.

Thank you for continuing to include *School News* among your reading choices.

Be sure to enter our word search contest on page 15.

Our next issue is November 4, 2020. Until then have a Happy Halloween!



School News 
Education + Communication = A Better Nation
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Redondo Beach Council PTA

1401 Inglewood Ave., Redondo Beach, CA 90278 • www.rbusd.org

Why We're Needed

By Kimberly Quihuis, President

On behalf of the Redondo Beach Council PTA, it is my pleasure to welcome you back to school. This may not be the back-to-school we had hoped for, but I can assure you that your PTA has already been hard at work brainstorming, planning and reinventing ways of supporting our children, families and teachers.

Why should we join PTA, especially when students are not on campus? Here are some reasons:

To stay connected: PTA will be the connector—the glue that keeps students engaged with teachers, administrators and other families, regardless of what learning plan they have chosen, through new programs and virtual events.

Safe return to school: PTAs are restructuring their programming and budget to help address what students and staff will need to feel safe and to provide virtual programs until we can gather together again as a group.

Power in numbers: PTA is the largest child-advocacy organization in the country and is a powerful voice for all children, a relevant resource for families and communities, and a strong advocate for public education. You are also part of a nationwide network of millions of families, students, teachers administrators and community leaders

devoted to the educational success of children and the promotion of family engagement.

Please join your children's school-site PTA, or become a Redondo Beach community member and be a member of all 11 outstanding units in Redondo Beach. Your support has never been more important than right now! Go to RBPTA.org and become a member.

Redondo Beach Council

PTA®

everychild.one voice.®

The strength of our PTA depends upon the involvement and commitment of all parents, students and staff. Together, we will continue to work to make our schools the best they can be for our children, even while distance-learning. Thank you for your continued support, and have a wonderful year!



Ali Steward, MPH

Director
Youth Services

A Clear Vision to Start the 2020 School Year

The anticipation of the first day of school – on par with the first crack of a bat on Opening Day, and the final minutes of the year before the ball drops into the future. A jumble of hope and eagerness, optimism and earnestness.

In 2020, when we think we've seen it all, the school year will start not with a carefully calibrated dance of getting kids up, fed and out the door, but instead, perhaps just simply by logging on to "join meeting."

Did you still purchase new school supplies? Were backpacks loaded, the night – or weeks, or even months – before? Was the first day of school outfit instead relegated to a Zoom shirt? Did you make it to the front step to document this year of firsts, only to beeline back to the kitchen table?

By definition, social-emotional learning (SEL) is the process through which children and adults understand and manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions.

There's never been a better test of these skills than in the era of COVID-19.

Struggling with the sadness and frustration of missing out on Friday Night Lights, either from the field or the bleachers? A pop quiz on understanding and managing emotions.

Creating structure and boundaries at home around synchronous (which is together, with your classmates, just like synchronous swimmers are together, in the pool) or asynchronous learning? A test of setting – and achieving – positive goals.

Hearing your teacher say, "you're frozen, again," to the same classmate? A chance to feel and show empathy for those experiencing technical difficulties.

Learning about your peers' summer adventures – likely closer to home this year – and their pets, siblings and grandparents, who might spontaneously drop into the virtual classroom? An examination of establishing and maintaining positive relationships.

Contributing to the class discussion, instead of streaming TikTok videos? A midterm on making responsible decisions.

There are plenty of opportunities to learn this year – academically, socially and emotionally. The key is to "get up, dress up and show up."

To stay updated on the latest school health news from BCHD, go to www.bchd.org/covid-schools.



"I wear my face covering for my friends and peers!"

- Rani Crosby, Beach Cities Health District's Youth Advisory Council member and Redondo Union High School student

Who do you wear your face covering for?

We all must continue to do our part to slow the spread of COVID-19 and protect our most vulnerable. Please stay home as much as possible. It truly is safer at home. If you must go out, practice physical distancing and wear your cloth face covering when around others. For more information visit bchd.org/coronavirus.



Avoiding a Sedentary Lifestyle During COVID-19



Griselda Alvarez, M.D.,
pediatric
endocrinologist,
Endocrine &
Diabetes Center,
MemorialCare
Miller Children's &
Women's Hospital
Long Beach

Over the last decade, the incidence of childhood obesity has continued to rise. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, about 13.7 million kids ages 2 to 19 are obese. Childhood obesity is linked to other serious health conditions, such as Type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure and high cholesterol.

One of the best ways to prevent obesity is a well-balanced diet and exercise. With COVID-19 keeping most kids at home, it can be challenging to ensure your child gets daily physical activity. According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, children 6 years and older need 60 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity on most days.

Start slowly and set a pace that is right for your child. Try scheduling the exercise into three 20-minute sessions or four 15-minute sessions. Combining aerobic and resistance activities yield the greatest benefits.

Traditional exercises, such as calf stretches and sit-ups, might not seem "fun" to your child. To make things easier, try incorporating play into their exercise with these activities:

- Running games (tag, hide and seek, etc.)
- Kicking balls (soccer, kickball, etc.)
- Exercise-based video games
- Jumping jacks
- Dancing
- Riding a bike
- Hopscotch
- Hiking
- Yoga
- Cartwheels

Staying active is a universal goal. By exercising together, you can reinforce the importance of staying healthy. However, activities that involve other participants should be reserved to household members to slow the spread of COVID-19.

MemorialCare Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach has an Endocrine & Diabetes Center that treats children affected by Type 2 diabetes and other conditions linked to childhood obesity.

2801 Atlantic Ave., Long Beach, CA 90806
800-MEMORIAL • millerchildrens.org/Diabetes



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800-MEMORIAL (636-6742) | millerchildrens.org/Elite

Redondo Beach Educational Foundation

409 N. P.C.H., #310, Redondo Beach, CA 90277 • 310/954-2004 • www.rbef.org



Hanh Archer
President

Distance Learning Is Learning!

As we navigate our way through this unprecedented pandemic, the Redondo Beach Unified School District and the Redondo Beach Educational Foundation are working hand in hand to ensure that, despite this crisis, our students' needs are met.

The "classrooms" our children started the school year in look very different from a traditional classroom. It may be a corner of the kitchen table, with your child and you sitting in your "office" working side by side. It may be a desk in their bedroom. Or it may be a beanbag on the living room floor where your child curls up to do their independent reading each day. But while our learning locations have temporarily changed, what hasn't changed is RBEF's dedication to supporting our students and families in their educational journeys.

Your investment has allowed us to continue to fund high-quality educational programs for all RBUSD students, even in this unprecedented year of distance and hybrid learning. Programs that will be supported by investments to RBEF this year include arts programs, with band and

vocal music at all levels; credentialed physical-education teachers; teacher grants; STEM and robotics; college- and career-readiness programs; and many more!

Thank you for your continued support of our students. Throughout the 2020 Investor Drive, we have been saying "RBUSD—we got you!" Investments from community members like you show all our students that what we actually mean is "RBUSD Students—We *all* got you!"



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RBUSD Alternative Education

1000 Del Amo St., Redondo Beach, CA 90277 • 310/798-8690 • rshs.rbusd.org



Anthony Bridi
Principal

Break Ground!

This academic year will be like no other in our history. This said, we have a remarkable opportunity to build relationships and stay connected with peers and instructional leaders through utilizing new online platforms. Our virtual space is our new normal, our classroom and our means toward success in a quickly evolving world.

Students, we challenge you to build healthy daily routines that will support your daily educational focus. Your attendance is crucial in this endeavor and will ultimately guide your path toward attainable goals and, of course, receiving your high school diploma.

At Patricia Dreizler High School, students will:

- Break cycles by practicing personal and social responsibility.
- Break molds by weighing alternatives and exercising problem-solving skills.
- Break ground by preparing for college/career readiness.
- Breakers, we are excited to begin this school year together! Break cycles, break molds, break ground!



**Diploma received! Dreizler graduate,
driven from the beginning toward success.**

RBUSD Educational Services

1401 Inglewood Ave., Redondo Beach, CA 90278 • 310/937-1221



BACK TO SCHOOL SPECIAL!



- Days of the week masks now available!
- Stay at home art kits and Small POD Private art classes.
- We donate masks to local healthcare providers and the homeless.
- A portion of our PEACE Love and Paws mask sales benefits LA Animal Services.

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www.Sbartiststudio.com | IG: sbartiststudio.com

Distance Learning

On behalf of the Educational Services team, welcome to a new school year via 100% distance learning!



Lee Lee Chou
Deputy
Superintendent,
Educational
Services

We launched with five days of professional development for team RBUSD. I appreciate all our instructional leaders that have worked tirelessly to provide a strong start to the 2020–21 school year. Collectively, the team—TOSAs, IT TOSAs, ILs and LITTs—has engaged in over 800 hours of professional collaboration and planning. All our teachers and principals sent out personalized videos to connect with their students and families before the first day of school. We also appreciate the collaborative efforts of our IT team in ensuring that all the infrastructure and tech-support needs are met.

Our commitment, whether online or in person, is ensuring that students continue to stay engaged and experience quality education during this pandemic. Although distance learning was nobody's choice, all teachers and school staff are looking forward to seeing our students virtually in the classroom. We are committed to the social-emotional wellness of our learning community. Thank you for your continued partnership and support!

RBUSD Child Development

1401 Inglewood Ave., Redondo Beach, CA 90278
310/798-8683x1312, 1321 • www.rbused.org



Theresa Van Dusen
Director

From a Distance

In June, our Child Development Center, the other CDC, was the first district-run program to successfully open on-campus care for students. It has gone so well that we are expanding for the fall.

The program looks quite different from our normal operations. We adhere to Los Angeles County Department of Public Health guidelines, which require a maximum of

12 students per room, physical distancing and masks to be worn. While these may sound like challenging requirements, we know from experience that it can safely be done. As the district starts school with 100% distance learning, students that are enrolled in CDC will need to be attending their elementary class virtually. Our CDC staff will support students with logging on when necessary and following the distance-learning bell schedule, with some fun built in, too.



Finding creative ways to play together.

We are excited to have students back and see them having a great time, even if it is from a distance.

South Bay Adult School

3401 Inglewood Ave., Redondo Beach, CA 90278
310/937-3340 • www.southbayadult.org



Drew Gamet
Director

Meet Ms. Daley!

For adults that are in the process of learning English, completing their high school diploma or GED, or studying to get a new career in this new distance-learning environment, the challenges can be daunting. Many are trying to help their own children in their online learning, work a full-time job, *and* attend classes online through the South Bay Adult School. Given these challenges, I would encourage all our students to get to know our career, placement and support coordinator, Maya Daley.



Maya is always willing to assist South Bay Adult School students.

Ms. Daley is singularly focused on helping students when times get tough. She works directly with outside agencies such as the South Bay Workforce Investment Board and the Torrance One-Stop. That means that when students are experiencing joblessness because of the pandemic, Ms. Daley can connect students with employment opportunities. She also can connect students with local food banks and with resources for housing needs or rent relief.

We want to give our students every opportunity to complete their education, so if you would like to speak with Ms. Daley, call our office.

Adams *Middle School (6–8)*

2600 Ripley Ave., Redondo Beach, CA 90278 • 310/798-8636 • www.adamsmiddle.org



Lisa Veal
Principal

Key to Success

Uncharted waters. Unprecedented times. The new normal. We have all heard these phrases and more as society attempts to make sense of the world in which we now live. Too, many are still adjusting to the way in which students are being asked to learn, and as a result, feelings of trepidation may accompany the welcoming of the new school year. However, skills students need to

develop to be successful learners on campus are still vital in distance learning.

Time management: Effective time-management skills are necessary in life. Strategies to strengthen this skill can include following a daily schedule, setting timers, creating deadlines, using to-do lists, and backward planning. Effectively managing one's time is a skill that must be developed and doesn't suddenly happen. However, once a student does this, the benefits are lifelong.

Effective communication: Students should take direction from their teachers on how to access communication with them, how to compose an email to

them or peers, how to appropriately use virtual features such as chat rooms and blogs, and when formal language and formatting are required.

Persistence: Encourage your children to stick with it, to have patience when encountering technical problems, to seek help when needed, to persist through challenges, and to work daily on assignments.

A good study environment: Students should have a dedicated workspace that is free of distractions and that clearly says, "I am ready to learn." They should also consider turning off their phones during instruction, avoid playing games and internet surfing, set up good lighting, and have at-the-ready materials they will need for learning.

Motivation: In order to be successful, students have to want to succeed. Help your children set goals, help them identify what they enjoy about school, and celebrate the accomplishments, both big and small.

With these strong work habits in place and in partnership with the Adams staff, we are confident your children will have a successful school year, regardless of the setting.

Alta Vista *Elementary (K–5)*

815 Knob Ave., Redondo Beach, CA 90277 • 310/798-8650 • altavista.rbusd.org



Dr. Dale Hillyer
Principal

Welcome to Distance Learning!

Welcome to Alta Vista's Distance Learning Program! Our teachers and support team have been hard at work preparing to transition our program to an online format. We're looking forward to Zoom-ing with you and your children as we kick off the beginning of the 2021 school year as Distance Learning Wildcats!

We've been in numerous virtual meetings the past several weeks to ensure that our program is mission consistent and mindful of the academic, developmental, social and emotional needs of our students across the grade levels. While distance learning looks and feels different from in-person instruction, the program we have developed will ensure that our students continue to meet the learning benchmarks in all disciplines, including physical education, art and music.

Our Distance Learning Program is designed to ensure that students are engaged in interactive standards-based virtual lessons and small-group instruction. The program will utilize a variety of learning-management systems to keep our students engaged, including Google Classroom, Google Docs, Raz-Kids, Seesaw and Zoom. If you don't know how to use these resources, do not worry—your children know! If your children don't know, don't worry—your children's teachers or our RBUSD tech team will help you. Remember, one day at a time! If you have any questions, we're only a Wildcat call or email away!

We understand that most of you will be juggling working remotely from home and supervising your children, and we see you. For those in our community who provide essential services for the community and must report to work, as usual—we honor and thank you! Staying in close communication is key to the success of all our students. We may not be physically in the same room, but we are connecting and learning together each day in our own Wildcat way!

Beryl Heights *Elementary* (K–5)

920 Beryl St., Redondo Beach, CA 90277 • 310/798-8611 • beryl.rbusd.org



Karen Mohr
Principal

Are You Ready?

Welcome back, Beryl families, to a year like no other! With most students across the country beginning school at home, our schools in Redondo have been steps ahead to prepare for online learning that is truly engaging, interactive and live!

Our staff has been trained and is well versed in distance learning and what it will take to get children engaged and learning the essential standards. Our IT department has introduced new platforms such as Zoom to create breakout rooms where students can collaborate and work together. As always, our Beryl teachers are ready to teach the rigorous standards at every grade level, and we will continue to highlight our Character Counts Recognition Program within our daily online learning. Please join us on Parent Square to receive weekly emails, and join our Instagram account @berylbulldogs.

Our PTA meeting/Back to School Night was held on Sept. 9. Our PTA meeting began at 5:30 p.m. followed by Mrs. Mohr's presentation and teachers' presentations. Every night, devote 30 to 60 minutes to discussing your children's day and what they have learned. Read together every night, and take an active part in their learning by keeping open communication with your children's teachers.

Attendance is crucial to your children's success. Please make sure your children are online at 8:30 a.m. every day. Our teachers will be taking attendance daily. Feedback will be given frequently online and in small-group and individual meetings on the computer.

Even though distance learning is not the optimal learning style for most students, our school team is here for you and is dedicated to helping your children excel academically, socially, emotionally and physically. We will persevere and make every effort to provide the best education and support for your children through our distance-learning model. We are looking forward to seeing you virtually until we can meet again in person!

Birney *Elementary* (K–5)

1600 Green Ln., Redondo Beach, CA 90278 • 310/798-8626 • birney.rbusd.org



Mira Baskaron
Principal

A Strong Start

Welcome back! I am truly looking forward to a new school year, even if we are beginning it with distance learning. We want to welcome our returning Birney families and extend a special greeting to our new Birney Bobcats, from staff to students. This year promises to be another successful one, with many exciting things to look forward to.

We know that distance learning will not be the same as physical in-school learning. It's important to set a positive tone for this different start to the school year. Below are some guidelines for starting the school year off strong:

Have a designated learning space for distance learning. This space should be clear of distractions.

Providing headphones for the student will be beneficial and help minimize distractions.

Set a schedule and review this schedule the night before as well as each morning. This schedule should include the time when various activities and learning will take place.

Parents/guardians should review this schedule with students and ensure that times of various activities are clearly defined and reviewed.

Ensure that students know how to join their teachers' live sessions by clicking on specific links. Even our youngest students can do this independently if we teach them how and have them practice.

Communication is key. Keep an open line of communication with your children and their teacher.

Check in with your children daily regarding their academics and mental/emotional state of being.

The school staff and parents/guardians are on the same team. Working together will be critical for student success. Please reach out if you need us!

Jefferson *Elementary* (K-5)

600 Harkness Ln., Redondo Beach, CA 90278 • 310/798-8631 • jefferson.rbusd.org



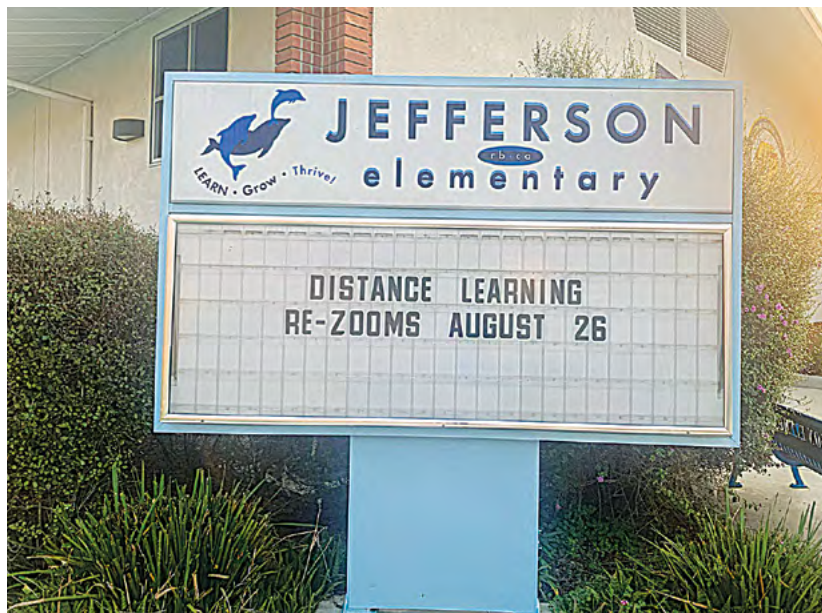
Jeff Winckler
Principal

Going the Distance

Welcome to the beginning of the 2020–21 school year! This year at Jefferson, like all schools in RBUSD and across Los Angeles County, we are beginning the year under the distance-learning model. As a school, we are excited to provide a robust offering to our students and families through a variety of distance-learning platforms.

With several months to prepare and plan, this fall's distance-learning experience will be significantly different from that of spring. With distance learning, we want to continue to emphasize student interaction and community as we do when we are at school in person. Our priority is to have consistent frequent interactions with teachers on a daily basis through a combination of morning class meetings, live and prerecorded learning sessions, and small groups with teachers and staff. Student engagement in all core curricular areas will occur in whole-class lessons, peer groups within a given class and individually. We will also be offering art, music, PE and some "value added" extra programs in the afternoon.

While this is certainly a very different set of circumstances for all of us to operate under, at Jefferson, we are confident that we will grow to a place where we



support students the very best we can under the conditions we all find ourselves in. We will all need to learn together as we proceed into the fall and do so with patience, flexibility and positivity. There is no doubt we'll make some mistakes. When we do, we will own them and move on. But together as genuine partners in education, we will deliver as a team on behalf of our students through distance learning.

Lincoln *Elementary* (K-5)

2223 Plant Ave., Redondo Beach, CA 90277 • 310/798-8646 • lincoln.rbusd.org



Brianne Nakayama
Principal

In This Together

The 2020 school year is beginning like it never has before. I will be the first to admit that I never envisioned that beginning my first year as the principal at Lincoln would be one in which I have no students on my physical campus!

At Lincoln, we will continue to support one another to ensure that we provide the constant elements that Lincoln has always provided to our students, which allow them to thrive in this distance-learning model. We will continue to have clear communication with our students and families, develop student self-advocacy and independence, provide a consistent daily instructional schedule, and build student's social skills with peers and their teacher.

In addition to the academic and social constants we will provide, each student will also engage in a distance-learning program that continues to develop the whole child. Our students are engaging in lessons for PE, music, Hands On Art, social-emotional learning, nutrition lessons and other enrichment opportunities.

As we begin the school year in this new distance-learning model, the foundations of providing students with a strong academic experience are not new to us at Lincoln. It is who we are as the Lincoln family. I know that the Lincoln staff, students and families will remain interdependent to ensure the success of every student. Our success as a community during distance learning will come from our ability to work together and closely support one another.

Madison Elementary (K-5)

2200 MacKay Ln., Redondo Beach, CA 90278 • 310/798-8623 • madison.rbusd.org



Dr. Heather Cash
Principal

Stronger than Ever!

As we begin this school year in distance learning, we are reminded of our community's unending support and partnership.

The Madison PTA welcomed students

to the new school year with Make Lemonade treats, music, cheers and more!

Our PTA has been creative, enthusiastic and responsive to our changing needs as we work together to provide rich and meaningful learning experiences for our students. Redondo Beach Education Foundation attended our materials distribution to reconnect with families, and Madison teachers provided students with the materials necessary to learn



A Comet helping at Materials Distribution!

from home, including iPads, Chromebooks and textbooks. RBUSD administrators distributed backpacks full of school supplies. Our partnership with Beach Cities Health District has provided a health-screener app for staff, parent-education resources and COVID resources.

Together, everyone has pivoted and changed our focus to making distance learning a success for each Madison Comet. The Madison community remains stronger than ever as we embrace the challenges to come together!

Parras Middle School (6-8)

200 N. Lucia Ave., Redondo Beach, CA 90277 • 310/798-8616 • www.parrasmiddle.org



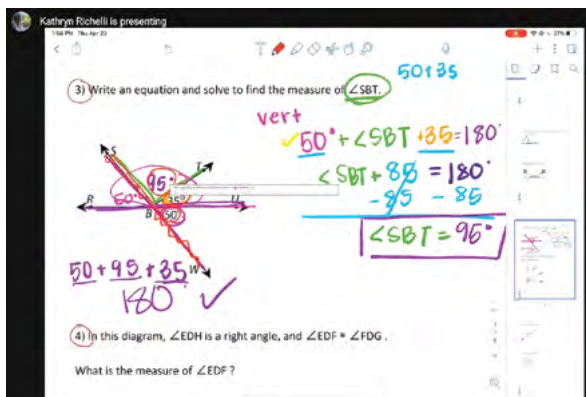
Jonathan Erickson
Principal

'Long-Distance Relationship'

We have probably all heard the phrase "Distance makes the heart grow fonder"—maybe in movies, maybe elsewhere, but do we really believe it? Long-distance relationships can

certainly be tough to maintain, and there may be a parallel with our distance learning. Are students fonder of school or the idea of returning to school now that they have been off campus for so long? I think so, and we definitely miss having your children here on campus.

However, even when stuck in distance learning, we cannot give up on the connections we have built through the years. Our teachers and staff are committed to educating your children and doing so through meaningful online interactions. Of course, we prefer in-person, but distance learning also has some good qualities that we



Ms. Kathryn Richelli teaching a geometry lesson online!

would like to take full advantage of. These include but are not limited to the following:

Students can communicate with the teacher and one another verbally as before but also in writing through the chat window.

Students can go into breakout rooms where they are not distracted by the conversations of other groups as they would be in a

traditional classroom.

Students are not in the front, back or side of the classroom. Everyone has the best seat in the virtual classroom!

Of course, we all are looking forward to coming back to in-person learning as soon as it is safe to do so. But we can still do incredible things while making the most of distance learning, and that is exactly what are committed to.

Welcome back, and here's to a wonderful 2020-21 school year!

Redondo Union *High School*

One Sea Hawk Way, Redondo Beach, CA 90277 • 310/798-8665 • www.redondounion.org



Jens Brandt
Principal

Maximize Online Learning

Sea Hawk Families, as we start the 20-21 school year with distance learning, we want to share some general tips for students to maximize their experiences in an online learning environment.

1. Find a quiet, private place to get your work done. It can be difficult, especially when you are sharing the house with family and friends, but carving out a physical place that is solely dedicated for school can create stability and consistency.
2. Reach out to classmates early in the school year. While you may find you aren't able to collaborate in some synchronous/face to face sessions, having a group of peers to study and work with will combat some of the isolation that comes with distance learning.
3. Treat your schedule like it's a normal school schedule. Get to bed at a reasonable time, and wake up early enough to mentally prepare for class. It always helps, if you can, to get some exercise in and eat a healthy breakfast.

4. Work on being self-motivated. While it is unfortunate that we lose some accountability in this system, there is an opportunity to truly have a taste of what adult-life entails. You are going to have far fewer voices telling you that things need to get done, and ultimately it's going to fall on your shoulders to hold yourself responsible.

5. Be patient with your family, your teachers, and most importantly, yourself. If it feels like everyone else is getting the hang of distance learning and that you're the only one struggling, know that just about everyone is having a rough go at it. Bonding takes place in sharing stressful experiences, and use this as an opportunity to develop relationships within our community.

Please continue to support the reopening of campuses by practicing physical distancing, wearing a mask, and engaging in good hygiene. We want everyone to remain safe and healthy. See you online, Sea Hawks, and hopefully in-person, sooner rather than later. We miss you!

Tulita *Elementary (K-5)*

1520 Prospect Ave., Redondo Beach, CA 90277 • 310/798-8628 • tulita.rbusd.org



Dr. Tanaz Bruna
Principal

Distance Learning: Strong Start

The saying "Never let a crisis go to waste" has been attributed to several people throughout history. We have experienced a worldwide pandemic crisis, and our question as educators is, how can we make sure it doesn't go to waste?

We have spent time as a district examining what worked with distance learning and what didn't. We are excited to virtually welcome our students back to another school year! Although the landscape may look a little different this year, the need for your support and involvement remains unchanged. This year, more than ever before, your children need you to be active participants in their education and school. We implore you to stay connected to Tulita through our many forms of communication to our families.

Our teachers have been busy with professional development and look forward to focusing all their energies on designing lessons and units of study to engage, challenge, and grow our students. You will see a very structured approach to remote learning and teaching. Our staff will be quite busy designing engaging lessons for your children and participating in ongoing professional development as we strive to ensure that all within the Tulita and RBUSD communities are treated equally and



Virtual Tulita staff photo!

fairly with respect, kindness and empathy.

Remember that the only way out is through, and we will get through this time that we face together. It won't always be easy and will take some work. What will make it work best is flexibility, positivity and an understanding of the complexity of one another's collective circumstances. Our school's goal has always been to have students learn, grow and thrive as well as be flexible and positive. That goal continues now and as much as we can make it possible in these unprecedented times. Thank you for your commitment to the Tulita learning community!

Washington *Elementary* (K-5)

1100 Lilienthal Ln., Redondo Beach, CA 90278 • 310/798-8641 • washington.rbusd.org



Andrea Bittick
Principal

Different World, Same Goals

The world has undoubtedly changed over the course of the past six months, and although this school year will look very different, some things will remain the same. At Washington, we are still committed to the same goals we have had in previous years, and some of these goals will be even more important as we begin the school year in uncertain times. We will be focusing

on the following areas this school year: social/emotional support through programs like MindUp, Start with Hello, Relationship Mapping and the Gratitude Campaign; development of more culturally responsive instruction in addition to social-justice education; rigorous math instruction utilizing CGI and Eureka Math; intensive reading instruction through small-group intervention and use of Leveled Literacy Intervention; and intentional blended learning instruction using tech tools and vetted online learning programs.

It is a priority for us to stay connected to our families even without being able to start off the year physically on campus. We will continue to use Instagram for daily announcements, weekly events and showcasing our school. We are also excited to start utilizing a school Twitter account so we can share school events as well as post different articles of interest to families that can help provide additional insight or resources for supporting learning at home. We hope that many of you have been able to access our podcast, "Exploring Education," since this provides another layer for the community to stay connected to Washington.

Finally, safety will continue to be our top priority at Washington. We will continue to implement all the measures necessary to ensure the safety of our community during this time.

We are ready for all the new challenges in front of this school year, and we are excited for the opportunities that will arise out of these obstacles. Go Explorers!

Weather Terms –Word Search Contest

Rules!

One word in the list is NOT in the word search.
When you have completed the word search, one word will be left and that word you email to: Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com Please put RBUSD in the subject line.

Entries must be received by October 15, 2020

From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a \$20 Barnes & noble gift card.

TORNADO	TSUNAMI
CYCLONE	CHILLY
EARTHQUAKE	COLD
RAIN	HOT
THUNDER	FREEZING
LIGHTNING	FROST
SNOW	SANDSTORM
SLEET	THAW
WIND	FLOOD
STORM	HURRICANE
HEAT WAVE	

E	V	A	W	T	A	E	H	Q	H	W	M	H	C	T
K	L	Z	L	C	L	I	G	H	T	N	I	N	G	X
A	E	W	B	B	R	P	U	V	U	K	Y	N	J	Q
U	S	Y	A	C	F	R	E	E	Z	I	N	G	D	M
Q	Y	W	T	H	R	E	E	G	N	M	I	R	J	X
H	S	S	E	I	T	D	L	Z	W	A	A	M	I	R
T	C	Y	C	L	O	N	E	I	Y	N	R	T	I	Y
R	S	A	Q	L	R	U	F	E	T	U	C	G	A	B
A	N	A	F	Y	N	H	F	R	O	S	T	O	R	M
E	M	S	L	N	A	T	H	Q	H	T	E	E	L	S
Q	U	B	C	V	D	O	O	L	F	D	O	O	D	D
T	C	B	T	W	O	N	S	H	X	G	H	V	W	U

Congratulations to Dylan Lonsdale
Winner of our last Word Search Contest!



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South Bay Hands On Art

Home Edition

By Co-Chairs Buffy Soule and Caasi Copp

Like many things, the SBHOA program will look different for the 2020-21 school year. We will continue to provide art education, but the lessons will be designed for students to do at home and at their own pace. Videos will be provided along with simple and clear instructions, allowing students to have fun while creating a masterpiece. They will require only basic supplies, but even with these limitations, there are endless possibilities! Some projects may be inspired by famous artists and others may focus on key art concepts. A few may be just plain fun to keep creativity alive! We also plan to supply bonus projects that the whole family can enjoy together. Hopefully our young artists will enjoy their new at-home art experiences and share that joy with you too.



2110-B Artesia Blvd., Box 805, Redondo Beach, CA 90277
www.southbayhandsonart.com

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