

# BONITA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Superintendent

Carl Coles -Superintendent

**Assistant Superintendents** 

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April 29, 2020

Dear Bonita Unified Community,

As we continue to navigate the unique situation of distance learning, we'd like to take the opportunity to thank our entire community for the patience and support that has been extended to our Bonita USD family. We continue to post updates on our <a href="website">website</a> and social media (<a href="Facebook">Facebook</a> and <a href="Twitter">Twitter</a>). We encourage you to check these platforms regularly, as well as watch for communications from your school's principal and teachers.

As the District makes decisions regarding our operations and educational programs, we rely on the Los Angeles County Department of Health (LACDH), California Department of Education, and other local, state, and federal authorities. There are still many unanswered questions. Here is the latest information that we have.

#### Will summer school be held?

Yes. We feel it is important that students are afforded the opportunities to get ahead and make up credits. Therefore, high school summer school classes will be held remotely. Please note that the work assigned through these programs is not considered optional and will be required for students to earn credits. We can take advantage of this opportunity to refine and build upon the distance learning platform in the event this type of instruction is necessary during the next school year.

Due to current guidelines and orders, the English Learner (EL) summer program and the Extended School Year (ESY) program will also be conducted remotely. The ESY program for students who have it listed on their IEPs includes all educational classes and services such as speech and language, occupational therapy, counseling, etc.

All students who are signed up for summer school, the EL summer program, and ESY will be sent further information from the summer school principals and/or the Office of Special Education.

# How will Bonita Unified celebrate graduating seniors?

Our high school principals are developing multiple scenarios of ways to best honor our Class of 2020 graduating seniors. They are collaboratively working with students, parents, and other stakeholders brainstorming possible options to celebrate our nearly 800+ graduating seniors. Please know that the health and safety of our school community is our highest priority, so we will be complying with all LACDH orders. We hope to have more information available about senior ceremonies and activities in the near future.

### How can I get assistance with the Chromebook Bonita Unified issued to me?

Bonita Unified has distributed over 2,000 Chromebooks to students for participation in remote learning opportunities. For questions or issues with your District-issued Chromebook, please email: <a href="mailto:HelpDesk@bonita.k12.ca.us">HelpDesk@bonita.k12.ca.us</a>

### How can I register my student(s) for the 2020-21 school year?

All Bonita Unified schools are now processing online enrollment for the 2020-21 school year, including interdistrict transfers. Visit sites.google.com/bonita.k12.ca.us/busdstusrvremoteoperations for more information.

For details about BLAST Preschool Registration, visit <u>do.bonita.k12.ca.us/documents/Educational%20Services/BLAST-2020-2021-onlineRev.pdf</u>.

#### Does Bonita Unified have resources available for my child's mental health?

If you are concerned about how your child is emotionally responding to the current COVID-19 crisis, counseling services are available by reaching out to your school principal. We can provide services to students in need during these unprecedented times.

Board of Education Derek Bahmanou Chuck Coyne Glenn Creiman Diane Koach Wellness and self-care information and resources are available for students and families using the following link: https://sites.google.com/bonita.k12.ca.us/bonitausdwellnessresources

## Will Bonita Unified still offer School Age Care summer camp for K-5 students?

The District is considering how to best address daycare services. We hope to have more information available about School Age Care summer camp by mid-May as we await updated information from LACDH.

#### Is Bonita Unified still providing meal services?

The District continues to serve a free lunch and breakfast every weekday from 10 a.m. to noon for children ages 18 and younger at the following locations:

- Roynon School: 2715 E. St., La Verne (enter 8th from D street; meals served from MPR)
- Central Kitchen, behind Chaparral High School: 121 W. Allen Ave., San Dimas (enter on Monte Vista)

Meals are served curbside, with no need to get out of your car. Your child does not need to be enrolled in BUSD. No sign-ups or identification are required. Meal services will continue throughout summer break.

# Is Bonita Unified issuing fees and reimbursements for things we paid for earlier in the year but didn't get to utilize?

Yes

- Field trips, camps, and other site trips: Please contact your school site for reimbursement information.
- Bus Pass: The District will roll over unused bus pass payments (for March, April & May) to the 2020-21 school
  year. No further action is necessary on your part. If you would prefer a refund, or you have questions, please
  email TDispatch@bonita.k12.ca.us
- School Age Care Tuition: Tuition fees for childcare will not be charged for the remainder of the school year. An
  email from the SAC office has been sent to those with a credit in their accounts regarding whether you would like
  a refund or rollover of your credit to the 2020-21 school year.
- <u>Student Meal Accounts</u>: Parents/Guardians who would like to request refunds from student breakfast/lunch accounts should contact the Child Nutrition Department at <a href="mailto:mckenna@bonita.k12.ca.us">mckenna@bonita.k12.ca.us</a>. Remaining balances will automatically roll over to the student's account for the 2020-21 school year.

#### How and when will schools reopen for the 2020-2021 year?

Bonita USD leadership is part of a task force with the Los Angeles County Office of Education. The focus is to work collaboratively with districts to develop potential educational options for the next school year.

The announcement from Gov. Gavin Newsom suggested the idea to reopen schools as early as July or August comes with many questions that we are not able to answer yet, and we understand this can be unsettling for students and parents.

However, Bonita Unified knows these two things with certainty: the safety of our students and staff will remain our highest priority, and we will communicate information efficiently, accurately, and as soon as possible.

### What if I have other general questions during closures?

School secretaries, teachers, and administrators are available via email throughout the school closure. If you have additional questions or concerns regarding the school closure, you can email Tish Rambaud, our District Receptionist at <a href="mailto:Rambaud@bonita.k12.ca.us">Rambaud@bonita.k12.ca.us</a>. Mrs. Rambaud will forward your email to the appropriate person and someone will get back you within 24 hours.

Thank you again for your patience during these uncertain times. We will continue to work on behalf of our students and look forward to when we can see their 10,000 smiling faces in person again.

Sincerely,

Carl Coles Superintendent