

UPDATE – SEPTEMBER 2017

Superintendent's Message

While observing students at lunch one day, I was amazed to see how many of our students sit across from one another while looking down at their Smartphones and texting someone else. In the office buildings, employees were busy answering emails, phone calls or stuffing letters into envelopes preparing them for the mail. The differences in the way generations communicate is fascinating and affects each of us on a daily basis.

Bonita Unified School District's mission statement includes the commitment to "...build skills for success in an ever-changing world." Learning how to communicate in a multi-generational workplace is one of those skills necessary to be successful. Not only is this good for our students, but for our employees as well.

On August 7th, Bonita Unified School District leadership, which included administrators, teachers, and classified (co-educational) staff members participated in a staff development workshop on "The Multi-Generational Workplace". This training was the first step in educating our staff about the differences in communication styles and how we can overcome differences to become a more unified District. In turn, it will help us as we work and interact with our students to better meet their needs.

Ongoing communication is an essential element to success. Last year I started a [Twitter](#) account so individuals could see the beginning of my "Hero's Journey." This year, I added [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#) accounts. All three of these social media accounts provide the same information, and my username is @busd4kids. Bonita Unified District [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) accounts have the username of @BonitaUSD. I encourage you to sign up and follow us on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter to see the great things happening throughout Bonita Unified School District. Also, schools have social media accounts to keep parents informed of school activities and opportunities to get involved. The District needs to hear from parents and community members. If you haven't had a chance to complete our communications survey, please take a few minutes to visit and complete this very important survey. This communication survey can be filled out online from the District's Home page at <http://do.bonita.k12.ca.us>.

We look forward to another great school year.

Sincerely,

Christina (Christy) Goennier, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Bonita USD Begins Renovations to District Office

The Bonita Unified School District will soon break ground on the renovation and expansion of its 40 plus year-old District office located at 115 N. Allen Avenue in San Dimas. The building will be completely updated and will be expanded by approximately 20%, providing needed space for staff. An additional wing will provide a modern multi-use space which the District will use as a training facility, as well as the community meeting room for the Board of Education.

“BUSD staff grew out of the current building long ago,” noted Assistant Superintendent of Business, Susan Cross Hume. “This renovation will provide the necessary space for us to serve our ‘customers’--our students, parents, and community, and will bring the building up to modern workplace and building code standards.” “Our new facility will have new infrastructure to handle increased technology requirements, as well as fully ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliant restrooms and access.”

“And plenty of windows!” Hume added, “One of the most important things to all our District office staff was that we have plenty of windows.” The current building is noticeably lacking in natural lighting.

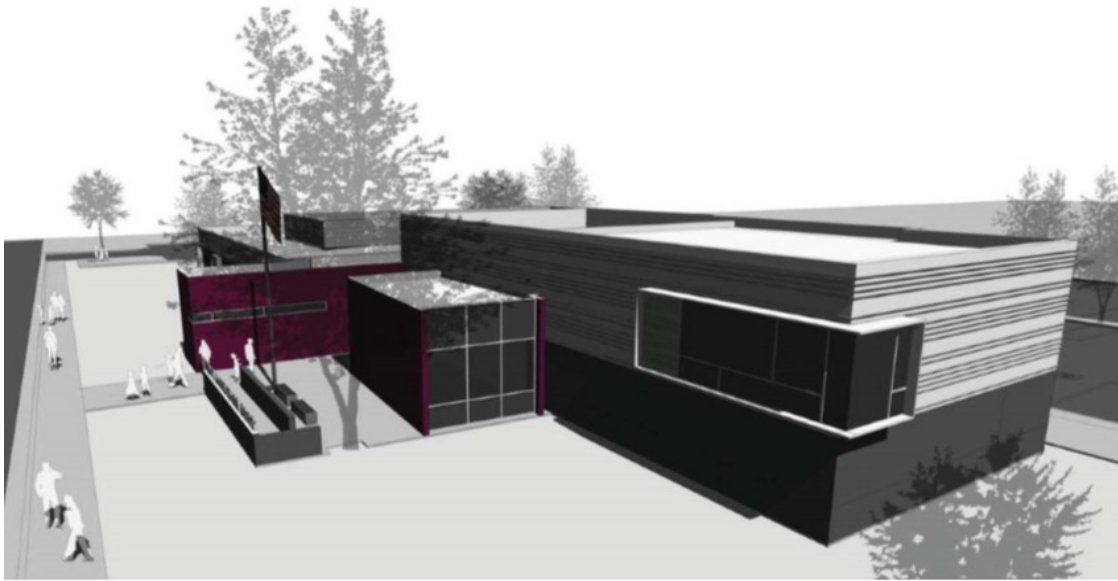
A feature of the expanded building is a workspace for the District’s Student Services Department. Previously housed in portables in the parking lot, this team will now have a fully functioning, customer service oriented space where they can better serve their clients.

The project is expected to take two years, from move out date to completion. At the end of June, District staff relocated to a temporary home, located at [801 Corporate Center Drive, Suite 270, Pomona, CA 91768-2627](#), where they will provide services for the next two years.

During the renovation, Board of Education meetings will take place at the Bonita High School Student Union, [3102 D Street, La Verne](#). Dates and times of Board of Education meetings are available online at the District’s website <http://bonita.k12.ca.us>.

This renovation project will complete a 12-year major capital facilities campaign that totaled \$139 million and financed by voter-approved Bond Measures AB and C. Previous projects included modernization of all 13 school sites, gym expansions for Bonita and San Dimas High Schools, new gyms for Lone Hill and Ramona Middle Schools, and the construction of the Bonita Center for the Arts. The one other remaining project which is in the planning stages now is the renovation of the Bonita High School stadium bleachers.

“We’re excited about our “new” District office,” commented Superintendent Christina Goennier, Ed.D. “By passing Measures AB and C, our community showed they are committed to providing a quality learning environment for our students, teachers, and staff. Renovation of the District office is the last piece of the puzzle to pull it all together.”



Photos 1 & 2: Renderings of future Bonita USD District Administration Building, by Rachlin Architects

New Staff Orientation

On August 14, 2017, Bonita Unified School District hosted a new staff orientation at Ekstrand Elementary School to welcome over 100 classified, certificated, and management employees who are either new to the District or who were promoted to new positions. The orientation began with breakfast followed by welcome messages and words of encouragement from School Board President Glenn Creiman and Superintendent Christina Goennier, Ed.D. All new staff were presented with important information and resources from Educational Services, Business Services and Human Resources departments to provide support and guidance.

The District held orientations in past years, however, this was the first time all staff received the same information together on the same day. “One of the District’s goals is to continue to promote a culture of inclusiveness. All instructional and co-educational staff have important roles that are vital to ensuring student learning continues to be the District’s highest priority,” said Assistant Superintendent Human Resources Carl Coles.

Don Roberts, the President of the District’s California School Employees Association said, “The outside of the District building says *Unified*. By holding a new staff orientation that includes everyone sends a strong message of unity.” Ruth Luevand, the President of District’s Teachers Association said, “Working collaboratively and together as a unified district allows all stakeholders, parents, teachers, and community to do what is best for kids.”

Bonita USD wishes all their new employees a successful 2017-2018 school year.

Employee Name	Assignment	Work Location
Ashley Alvarenga	Instructional Aide	Allen Ave Elementary
Tiffany Brito	FAST Class Teacher	Allen Ave Elementary
Katheryne Gomez	Instructional Aide II	Bonita High School
Sawssan Harb	Biology Teacher	Bonita High School
Carmen Rojas Hart	Spanish Teacher	Bonita High School
Aimee Hurtado	American Sign Language Teacher	Bonita High School
Adriana Lacher	Instructional Aide	Bonita High School
Joy Lindsay	Assistant Principal	Bonita High School
Ryan Marcos	Physical Education Teacher	Bonita High School
Nichalous Queen	Biology Chemistry Teacher	Bonita High School
Kenny Ritchie	Principal	Bonita High School
Adam Varnes	Math Teacher	Bonita High School
Susan Cross Hume	Assistant Superintendent	Business Services
Penny Reyes	Director of Purchasing	Business Services
Jeremy Martinez	Groundman	Business Svs - Maintenance
Robin Mion	Clerk III	Business Svs - Maintenance
Reece Nasmyth	Warehouse/Stockperson	Business Svs - Warehouse
Steven Brown	Instructional Aide II	Chaparral/Vista High Schools
Dan Gribon	Dean of Students	Chaparral/Vista High Schools
Kevin Duong	Technology Support Technician	Computer Information Systems
Alma Amado	Opportunity Class Teacher	Educational Services

Christie Bernal	School Nurse	Educational Services
Anthony Farenga	Coordinator of Specialized Services	Educational Services
Sarah Hernandez	Adapted Physical Education Teacher	Educational Services
Chris Ann Horsley	Sr. Director of Curr & Instruction	Educational Services
Kathleen St Ives	Licensed Vocational Nurse	Educational Services
Kathy Lindenmayer	District Nurse	Educational Services
Anne Neal	Sr. Director of Curr & Instruction	Educational Services
Mark Rodgers	Sr. Director of Specialized Student Svs	Educational Services
Susan Suarez	Licensed Vocational Nurse	Educational Services
Danielle Walker	Coordinator of Specialized Services	Educational Services
Matthew Wien	Assistant Superintendent	Educational Services
Melissa Willmore	School Psychologist	Educational Services
Elizabeth Hutter	1st Grade Teacher	Ekstrand Elementary
Kesley Kraiss	5th Grade Teacher	Ekstrand Elementary
Linda Nieblas	4th Grade Teacher	Ekstrand Elementary
Karina Ojeda	Instructional Aide	Ekstrand Elementary
Cristin Toia	1st Grade Teacher	Ekstrand Elementary
Denice Delgado	4th Grade Teacher	Gladstone Elementary School
Kelly Magallanes	Instructional Aide	Gladstone Elementary School
Maria Rodriguez	Cafeteria Worker I	Gladstone Elementary School
Krista Suchanek	3rd Grade Teacher	Gladstone Elementary School
Veronica Amaral	Specialized Services SAI Teacher	Grace Miller Elementary
Tomeika Carter	Principal	Grace Miller Elementary
Sara Cochran	Instructional Aide II	Grace Miller Elementary
Julie Comaianni	Clerk II	Grace Miller Elementary
Antonio Garza	Pre-SDC Teacher	Grace Miller Elementary
Laura Graham	Specialized Services Teacher	Grace Miller Elementary
Kathleen Martinez	Instructional Aide II	Grace Miller Elementary
Carl Coles	Assistant Superintendent	Human Resources
Stephanie Kopp-Morales	School Age Care Assistant	La Verne Heights Elementary
Cynthia Acedo	Physical Education Teacher	Lone Hill Middle School
Lesley Allizadeh	Science Teacher	Lone Hill Middle School

Crystal Bair	Science Teacher	Lone Hill Middle School
Aaron Hageman	Social Studies Teacher	Lone Hill Middle School
Diana Rodgers	Health Clerk	Lone Hill Middle School
Rachel Sanwald	English Teacher	Lone Hill Middle School
Patricia Alspaugh	5th Grade Teacher	Oak Mesa Elementary
Maricar Leahy	5th Grade Teacher	Oak Mesa Elementary
Diana Nairouz	SAI Teacher	Oak Mesa Elementary
Audrey Shendrick	3rd Grade Teacher	Oak Mesa Elementary
Shaun Abkarian	Specialized Services SAI Teacher	Ramona Middle School
Kyle Boardman	Instructional Aide II	Ramona Middle School
James Ellis	Principal	Ramona Middle School
John Madunich	Science Teacher	Ramona Middle School
Cuylar McDonald	Band Director	Ramona Middle School
Courtney Munoz	Instructional Aide II	Ramona Middle School
Matt Pogan	Science Teacher	Ramona Middle School
Rachel Powers	Physical Education Teacher	Ramona Middle School
Kelly Smith	Instructional Aide II	Ramona Middle School
Eva Soto	Cafeteria Worker I	Ramona Middle School
Jessica Wade	Science Teacher	Ramona Middle School
Tammi DiGrazia	Principal	Roynon Elementary School
Jessica Kirby	Cafeteria Worker I	Roynon Elementary School
Sharon Piras	Math Teacher	Roynon Elementary School
Leslie Sandoval	Assistant Principal	Roynon Elementary School
Ryan Blau	High School Finance Clerk	San Dimas High School
Jodi Cruz	Media Center Assistant	San Dimas High School
Kylie Doniak	Instructional Aide II	San Dimas High School
Jennifer Egan	Receptionist	San Dimas High School
Brenda Jackson	High School Attendance Clerk	San Dimas High School
Maria Jimenez	Cafeteria Worker I	San Dimas High School
Hee Jin Lee	Math Teacher	San Dimas High School
Kaeli Lehrmann	English Teacher	San Dimas High School
Joe Macdonald	Principal	San Dimas High School

Sandra Martinez	Digital Photo-Art Teacher	San Dimas High School
Chuen-Wei Ng	Physics-Chemistry Teacher	San Dimas High School
Sandy Perez	Math Teacher	San Dimas High School
Andrea Poma	Dean of Students	San Dimas High School
Kristal Pomerville	English Teacher	San Dimas High School
Jerolyn Prust	Math Teacher	San Dimas High School
Jared Pugh	Choral Teacher	San Dimas High School
Julia Straszewski	Spanish Teacher	San Dimas High School
Christine Cruz	School Age Care Assistant	School Age Care Program
Jessica Guerrero	School Age Care Assistant	School Age Care Program
Maria Marin	School Age Care Assistant	School Age Care Program
Linda Pierson	School Age Care Assistant	School Age Care Program
Veronica Garcia	Instructional Aide	Shull Elementary
Irma Porras	Cafeteria Worker I	Shull Elementary
Jennifer Powell	Principal	Shull Elementary
Victoria Skarich	4th Grade Teacher	Shull Elementary
Lindsey Smith	5th Grade Teacher	Shull Elementary
Sara Velasco	Cafeteria Worker I	Shull Elementary



Photo 3: New staff enjoying breakfast at the New Staff Orientation



Photo 4: Bonita Unified welcomes new staff at the New Staff Orientation