



Superintendent's Message



Dear Bonita Unified
Community,

Over the last few months, our students have continued excelling in their academics, athletics, arts and activities, garnering accolades that demonstrate why

Bonita Unified is among the top districts in the state. While we value these recognitions and the validation they provide, they are not what drives the work in the District. Our teachers, staff, administrators, volunteers and community partners are all united by one goal: to do what is best for every Bonita Unified student.

That is a goal we strive to achieve by providing a variety of learning and enrichment opportunities, offering additional support to address student needs, and cultivating a welcoming and positive environment where students feel free to be themselves and explore their interests.

I want to thank the Board of Education and our entire District community for believing in Bonita Unified's vision, and for trusting me to serve as your superintendent and lead this District into the future.

As a reminder, our schools will be closed for spring break from Monday, April 3 to Friday, April 7. I hope you all enjoy a restful break and look forward to what the next few months will bring for Bonita Unified.

Thank you for your continued support of Bonita Unified and our exceptional students.

Sincerely,
Matt Wien
Superintendent

District News

BUSD Students Honored by LVSDEF for Perseverance, Kindness

Cheered on by a full house of teachers, staff and families, nearly 100 Bonita Unified students were honored with a moment in the spotlight – for achievements that often go unrecognized – during the 2022–23 La Verne/San Dimas Educational Foundation Awards on March 13.

Eleven students received the Act of Kindness Award for charitable acts that ranged from providing

medical first aid to raising funds for animal shelters. Approximately 90 students across all educational levels were honored with the Perseverance Award for their tenacity in overcoming physical, emotional or academic challenges, and eight graduating seniors received career technical education scholarships to support their academic or professional goals. [Read more.](#)



EXCELLENCE in the **FOUR As**

At Bonita Unified, we emphasize the **four As**: **Academics, Athletics, Arts and Activities**. Below are some recent examples of how BUSD students, teachers and staff are demonstrating excellence in these areas.

ACADEMICS

BUSD Students Celebrate Read Across America Week

Students, teachers and staff participated in Read Across America Week in early March, engaging in themed dress-up days, door decorating contests, reading their favorite books to their younger "Book Buddies," and more.

Bonita Unified is proud to provide a dynamic, research-based reading program to ensure grade-level reading by third grade, which has earned the District a No. 1 ranking on the California Reading Coalition's Reading Report Card. [Watch the highlights of BUSD's Read Across America activities.](#)



San Dimas High Receives AP Computer Science Female Diversity Award

San Dimas High School has received the 2022 AP Computer Science Female Diversity Award from the College Board, recognizing its work in establishing equal gender representation in its Advanced Placement Computer Science Principles (AP CSP) class.

This is the first year that San Dimas High has been recognized with the award since initiating its program in 2019. The award is given to schools that have AP CSP classes with 50% or more female exam taker representation, or a percentage of CSP exam takers that meets or exceeds that of the school's female population.

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ATHLETICS



SDHS Honors Girls Wrestling Champions with Bell-Ringing Ceremony

San Dimas High School honored CIF champions Kaley Rice and Juliana Marquez with a bell-ringing ceremony in March, continuing the school's tradition of celebrating outstanding student accomplishments by ringing the bell that stands in the center of campus. In addition to being named CIF champions, Rice and Marquez advanced to compete in the CIF Masters tournament and the state championship.

BUSD Students Compete in San Dimas City Olympics

Students from Allen Avenue, Ekstrand, Gladstone and Shull elementary schools, came together for a day of friendly competition on the track and field during the San Dimas City Olympics, held March 18.

Many BUSD students finished in first, second or third in their events, and will go on to represent the City of San Dimas in the San Gabriel Valley Championships.



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Bonita High Girls Basketball Players Receive All-Area Honors

Bonita High School junior forward Nicole Uballe and senior guard Amore Mason were named to the San Gabriel Valley Tribune All-Area Girls Basketball First Team, recognizing their stellar performance in a season that saw the Bonita High girls varsity basketball team capture its fifth consecutive Palomares League championship. Uballe and Mason were also selected for the all-league first team, and Mason was named the Palomares League MVP. They are joined by freshman guard Tressa Beatty, who was named to the all-area second team as well as all-league first team.



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ARTS

4 Bonita Unified Students Named to All-State Honor Choirs

Bonita High School choral students Jhett Buggle, Trinity Moreno and Joe Ensign and San Dimas High School student Ethan Maun were selected for the California Choral Directors Association 2023 All-State Honor Choirs.

These four talented singers performed with the top high school musicians from across the state at the annual California Music Educators Association conference, held Feb. 16 to 18 in Fresno. All four students were also selected to the Southern California Vocal Association Honor Choirs.



(Back to front, left to right) Bonita High Director of Choral Music Ryan Yoder celebrates with Jhett Buggle, Joe Ensign, Eric Romero, Ethan Maun, Trinity Moreno and Ellen Chen after they performed with Southern California Vocal Association Honor Choirs. Buggle, Moreno, Ensign and Maun were then selected to perform with the CCDA All-State Honor Choirs.



Ramona Drama Society Stages "Little Mermaid Jr." Musical

The Ramona Middle School Drama Society staged its annual musical on March 1 and 2, entertaining families, peers and community members with an outstanding production of "The Little Mermaid Jr." Ramona offers drama as an elective, as well as an after school club, as part of the District's robust visual and performing arts program.

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ACTIVITIES

Gladstone Elementary Fifth-Grader Wins District Spelling Bee

Gladstone Elementary fifth-grade student Carlos Jovellanos took home the top prize during the annual BUSD Spelling Bee, held Feb. 6 at the Bonita Center for the Arts. A total of 54 elementary students competed in the District contest after placing in the top seven spellers in each elementary school's respective spelling bee.

Grace Miller Elementary student Tori Herrig earned second place, and Shull Elementary student Sanjana Ralangi took third place. The top three received scholarships provided by the San Dimas Masonic Lodge. Watch the competition on the [La Verne Community Television YouTube page](#).



Lone Hill Students Excel in Damien Math Competition

Lone Hill Middle School's Mathletes showcased their academic excellence during the 11th annual Damien Math Competition in March, which brought together local seventh- and eighth-grade students for an exciting day of contests designed to test students' math skills.

Students competed in a general knowledge math exam, known as the math medley, an individual subject matter exam that quizzed students on arithmetic, logic and reasoning, algebra or geometry, and a collaborative Super Quiz Bowl team exercise.

The Lone Hill Mathletes took second place in the Seventh Grade Super Quiz Bowl, and Lone Hill student Akshara was recognized as the top seventh-grader in geometry.