



BONITA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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June 8, 2021

This week marks the culmination of 13 years of education for over 800 students in the Bonita Unified School District. Bonita Unified has been a part of the lives of many of these students since they were in kindergarten. We have watched them grow and mature, but never more so than in this last year. The previous 15 months have been incredibly challenging, but these students showed unbelievable determination and perseverance, and we are proud of each one of them as they enter the workforce, military, and colleges/universities.

The end of the school year also serves as a time to reflect on the past and look forward to the future. When the pandemic started, our goals were simple; to ensure our students, staff, and communities' safety, to maximize our efforts in getting kids back on campus in a sustainable and meaningful way, and to come out of this pandemic stronger than when we entered it. Because of the tremendous efforts from our certificated, classified, and management teams, I am proud to report that we completed the year with nearly 75% of students receiving in-person instruction, most student-athletes returning to the field/gym, and the arts significantly increasing in-person activities.

As we now turn our attention to the 2021-2022 school year, we are excited to announce the plan for a full-scale return to in-person instruction/school. As we make this transition, we are moving away from the situational decision-making of the previous year, and are returning our focus to long-term and strategic planning.

I am proud that we have developed a plan of action to address the toll the last year has taken on our students, and that will begin with robust summer school programs at all grade levels. This summer, we will also hire a significant number of teachers and classified staff to provide interventions and remediation for English Language Arts and mathematics commencing the first day of the 2021-22 school year. Additionally, the mental health of our students continues to be of the utmost importance. Accordingly, we are adding additional mental health specialists to make sure that students are getting the emotional support they need.

We will continue to offer distance learning for those students who cannot return to in-person school for the 2021-2022 school year. More details and information on this program will be forthcoming in the next several weeks.

There is no destination to education. In just a few short months, the class of 2034 will step foot in kindergarten classrooms. Our goal as a District is to focus on improvement; to get better every day, every month, and every year. We will continue to use our core values of, Equity, Mastery, and a Focus on Results as the guiding principles in our decision-making process.

As we close out this school year, please take a moment and watch the Year in Review video in [this link](#) that highlights the journey of our students and staff in this last year.

On behalf of the Board of Education, we cannot thank you enough for your support, understanding, and trust throughout this school year.

Carl J. Coles
Superintendent

“Preparing Every Student To Live Their Purpose”