



Burbank Unified School District
Superintendent's Office
1900 W. Olive Avenue
Burbank, CA 91506
Ph: 818.729.4422 • Fax: 818.729.4550

Board of Education

Dr. Armond Aghakhanian, President
Steve Frintner, Vice President
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Superintendent

Matt Hill, Ed.D.

May 14, 2020

Dear Families, Students, and Employees:

As we head into the last week of school, we want to thank everyone for uniting together during these challenging times. There are many questions that still need to be answered before we reopen schools. We are creating opportunities for ongoing engagement and feedback on the budget and school reopening. We will send additional information about those opportunities over the next several weeks.

Class of 2020

We will continue to monitor health guidelines to see when we can have some in-person celebration(s), (with appropriate health precautions), for our seniors. If we can do something later this summer we will, and if we cannot we will plan for celebration/reunion events next year. In the meantime, I would like to share my message to the Class of 2020.

Dear Class of 2020:

In a typical year, I would begin this letter with "Congratulations!" but we all know that this is not a typical year. Our lives, especially yours, have been flipped upside down. You have worked hard for 13 years to reach this point. This should be a time of celebration and reflection, but many of your senior year activities that you were counting on have been stripped away. While it is nobody's fault that this pandemic has happened, I want to say I hear you and I feel your pain. So what do we do in times of crisis? We grieve. We each go through various stages of grief. It is not linear. It is not predictable. It is not the same for everyone. So no matter where you are in that process, please know we will get through this together. For those of you who are not ready to celebrate, I understand. Please reach out to those who you can count on and they will help you during this difficult time. For those of you who are ready to celebrate, I say Congratulations!

So what is next? There will be opportunities, failures, and successes. You have your whole lives ahead of you. Learn from the past, enjoy today, and plan for your future has always been advice that I try to follow, but I, like the rest of us, do not always follow that advice. Instead, this crisis reminds me not to take for granted what I have today.

Class of 2020, you have endured significant challenges, but you will be stronger because of them. I am confident the Class of 2020 is the class that will lead us to a brighter future!

Budget

Today, Governor Newsom released his [May Revision](#) to the State budget that includes significant reductions. If this budget is implemented, it will drastically impact BUSD. The California School Board Association has made it easy for us to stress the need to protect public

education funding. [Click here to email your legislators](#). On Tuesday, May 19th at 7pm the Board of Education will have a Special Board meeting to discuss budget scenarios and discuss fundraising priorities. You may watch the meeting by [clicking here](#)

Reopening of School 2020-21

We are continuing to research what other countries, states and districts are doing for the reopening of schools. We are planning multiple scenarios that will require flexibility from the state and will also depend on the state budget (please see below). We know that education will be different than our former school model and the distance learning model we just implemented. As we receive more guidance, we will seek your feedback and will share more details about these models. Even though it can feel overwhelming at times, we are going to take this crisis as an opportunity to be creative and re-imagine education to meet the needs of our students, families, and employees.

District Technology Checked out to Students

In order to comply with County stay-at-home orders and consider the safety of our families and staff, we will be postponing the collection of technology, and hotspots that were checked-out to students/families, **unless your child will be changing schools or leaving the district.**

Families of 5th, 8th and 12th grade students will be receiving more information on the process directly. For all other students, we recommend placing all district materials into a bag and storing them until a collection time is announced. Technology should remain unplugged if it is not utilized and stored with all components together, including any power cables or accessories. If you plan to continue to use technology, it is best practice to power devices down regularly.

Meal Service

Last Day of BUSD Meal Distribution is **MAY 20th**. Pandemic EBT Available for families so that they can receive assistance in buying food while schools are closed. Families with children who already receive CalFresh, CalWorks, or certain Medi-Cal benefits do not need to apply. They will get their P-EBT card in the mail during the month of May. Families with children who are currently eligible for free and reduced-price meals, and do not receive their P-EBT card in the mail by May 22, 2020, **must apply online between May 22nd and June 30th**. Please visit the following website for more information: <https://www.CDSS.ca.gov/home/pandemic-ebt>. **May 22nd you can apply online by visiting: www.CA.P-EBT.org**

By continuing to work together, we will build a stronger BUSD. The next District update will be sent Thursday, **May 21st**.

Take care,



Matt Hill, Ed.D.
Superintendent