



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
Charlene Tabet, Clerk
Steve Ferguson
Dr. Roberta Reynolds

Superintendent

Matt Hill, Ed.D.

4 June 2020

Dear Families, Students, and Employees:

The past ten days have been extremely difficult for all of us. I personally have been haunted by the visual of George Floyd being murdered by a police officer. I keep asking myself, what if George was a student, parent, or employee of BUSD? Have I done everything I could in my personal and professional life to prevent these types of murders from happening? The honest answer is no. I strongly believe we need to be more deliberate with our intentions and actions to address racism and inequities in our schools and communities. As a country we have tried, but we have failed. We can and we must do better. We must create brave spaces where we can have honest conversations about race. The Board of Education has made this a clear focus in our District goals. We have started to listen to our students, parents and employees about their experiences. We have also partnered with the Burbank Teachers Association (BTA) and California School Employees Association (CSEA) to continue this work. We have made some progress, but we still have challenges. We know that our students and employees of color do not see enough employees who look like them. We know that we need our curriculum to better represent different points of view. We know we need to continue to implement culturally relevant teaching. Now is the time to accelerate our work with open hearts and open minds. We should never again hear the phrase, "I can't breathe."

Budget Update

The Board and Education and I want to thank Senator Portantino for his leadership and advocacy. Over the past couple of weeks he has set up meeting with the Board, neighboring school districts, the Senate Budget team, the Governor's office, and me. The Senate budget proposal was the foundation for the Legislature [budget proposal](#) that was agreed upon last night. The Board of Education and I also want to thank Assemblymember Friedman for her advocacy and support. Our advocacy is working. We need to continue to email the Governor. Tell him to adopt the Legislature's plan [Click here to email your legislators](#). In order to make our decision based on the most likely State budget, **we have rescheduled the Budget Study Session to June 17th**. You may learn more about our budget process by clicking here <https://www.burbankusd.org/2020-21Budget>. You may also submit feedback to this email address budget@burbankusd.org. Finally, you can watch the Board meetings by [clicking here](#)

- Thursday, June 4, at 7pm – Regular Board meeting, Budget Update
- **New Date: Wednesday, June 17, at 7pm – Study Session regarding the Budget**
- Thursday, June 18, at 7pm – Regular Board Meeting, Budget Update
- Thursday, June 25, at 7pm Special Board Meeting – Budget Adoption

Reopening of School 2020-21

Thank you all for completing the quick survey about distance learning. We are closing the survey on June 7th. You can access the survey by [clicking here](#). The Reopening Committee held its first meeting this week and will start to post their work on this website <https://www.burbankusd.org/Reopening>. You may also email your comments to re-opening@burbankusd.org

By continuing to work together, we will build a stronger BUSD.

Take care,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matt Hill". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Matt Hill, Ed.D.
Superintendent