



BUCKEYE UNION DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS

2023-2024

January 2024

From the Superintendent

Happy New Year and welcome to 2024! We are approximately halfway through the school year and I wanted to highlight some of what has been occurring at the District level.

On behalf of Buckeye Union, we wish everyone a happy and prosperous year!

David Roth, Ph.D.
Superintendent

*We are
Buckeye!*

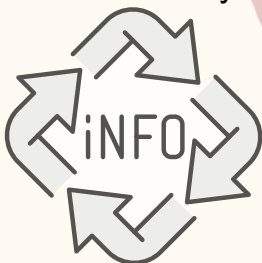


District Mission

Working together with families, the community, and highly-qualified staff, the Buckeye Union School District ensures that each student masters the knowledge and skills needed to maximize their academic and personal success in a global society.

District Vision

It is the Vision of the Buckeye Union School District to provide the highest quality educational program for all students, so that they fulfill their innate potential, become lifelong learners, and contribute to society as responsible citizens.



If you would like to invite a community member to join our District-Wide mailing list, they may subscribe [HERE](#).

If you would like to give us an idea for future Buckeye Union District Highlights, please email us at ksellwood@buckeyeusd.org

**VISIT OUR
WEBSITE**

Community Engagement

Each year, our school sites are supported by a team of parent leaders who ensure every school is able to offer a quality plus experience for students. Additionally, these parent leaders work to support our teachers, staff, and administrators. Through the efforts of each site's PTA/PTO/PTC leadership and the Buckeye Education Foundation, every school experiences student enrichment and family events that would not otherwise be possible. These parent leaders further ensure we thrive as an educational community, and in recognition of their efforts, the District recently hosted an appreciation social. We want it to be very clear, we can't do it without the support of parents!



The Board warming up by the cozy, Smart Board fire!

Curriculum and Instruction



This year, the Buckeye Union School Board, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, has created an Instructional Materials Adoption Committee (IMAC) that includes 4 parents and 1 community member-at-large whom the Board selected from a pool of 22 applicants. Additional members of the committee include 8 teachers who are currently participating in a District-wide pilot of potential materials for a new English Language Arts (ELA) program. The committee is led by the District's Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Rachelle Ball. Over the year, selected teachers will pilot 3 different programs and share their impressions and preferences with the committee. Ultimately, the committee will make a recommendation to the Board for consideration in selecting a new adoption. The District plans to bring the committee's final recommendation to the Board in the spring, and implementation of a new program would begin in the 2024-2025 school year for grades K-8. To read more about the IMAC, please click [HERE](#).

School Safety and Security

Our school sites are more focused than ever on maintaining safe and secure school sites while preserving a welcoming environment for parents, students, and employees. To this end, the Board has approved an expenditure of approximately \$500,000 to install security cameras on all campuses.

Additionally, at the site and District leadership level, we remain committed to working with local law enforcement to ensure our sites utilize best practices and receive ongoing training. Recently, the District administration attended a Threat Assessment Training sponsored by the El Dorado Office of Education and the El Dorado County Sheriff's Department.

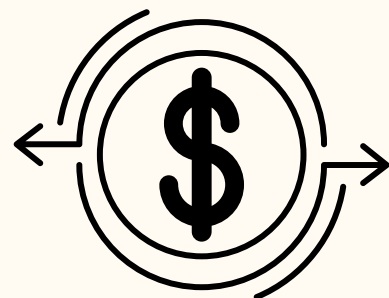
Online Enrollment



Last spring, the Board approved the selection of a new student information system that includes a state-of-the-art secure online enrollment system. This online enrollment system will launch in February. Details on accessing the system will come from the sites this month.

State Education Budget News

In recent years, the State has prioritized revenues for public education funding, enabling Districts to support students in the face of numerous challenges. As we approach the Governor's budget proposal release this month, the State has communicated that the future year increases to public education funding will likely be less than was projected. While it is impossible to know yet what the State budget will look like for 2024-2025, the District will be watching carefully and will keep all stakeholders informed as details come forth.



Stars at School: Annie Muse-Fisher

Annie Muse-Fisher stands as a beacon of support for English language learners in the Buckeye Union School District. Her home base is William Brooks Elementary. She is a recognizable presence at the school as she once roamed the same halls as a student. Serving as the district's English Language Coordinator, Annie's reach expands beyond William Brooks. Her goal? To empower every English language learner across the district, understanding that each site is home to a diverse group of students eager to grasp the language.

She's driven by a passion to champion a population that often slips through the cracks of mainstream support systems. This dedication recently culminated in the 10th annual Heritage Festival, a resounding success with 400 attendees representing 13 countries. Volunteers transformed the venue with vibrant booths, while dancers and performers brought cultures to life. The festival's goal was clear: to celebrate the rich tapestry of communities within El Dorado County.

In her fourth year with the district, Annie finds joy in witnessing students grow more at ease every day. Buckeye, she notes, boasts an astonishing 25 spoken home languages, including the Indian language, Gujarati, spoken by one exceptional student.

To Annie, this commitment is deeply meaningful. She revels in celebrating the mosaic of cultures and the gift of bilingualism that defines their community. Through her unwavering dedication, Annie is shaping a more inclusive and welcoming future for El Dorado County's English language learners.

