



25555 W. Durango Street
Buckeye, AZ 85326
623.925.3400
www.BESD33.org

A Community Passionate About Student Success

April 20, 2018

Dear BESD Parents & Guardians –

Last night an announcement was made by Arizona Educators United and the Arizona Education Association that a state-wide teacher walkout is planned for Thursday, April 26. The length of time for the walk-out was not shared. Additionally, the group has called for more walk-ins to take place before or after school next Monday-Wednesday.

The Buckeye Elementary School District values and respects our teachers, as well as the countless other support staff and administrators who make it possible for our 5,460 students to reach their fullest potential. While the last thing we want to do is close schools, we are committed to operating our schools in a way that places student safety first. We have a solid communication plan in place and should our data indicate that staffing ratios will not support an optimal learning environment, we may have to make the difficult decision to close one or more of our eight campuses.

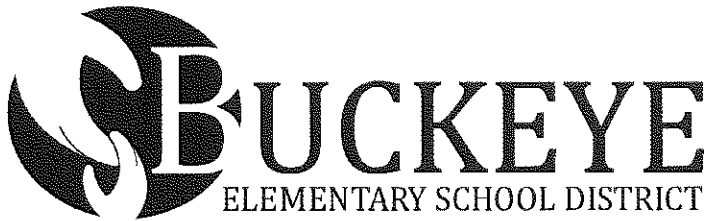
If we are able to remain open, your child's day will most certainly "look" different.

Please see below for some important key points that would be important in the event a walkout does occur and schools remain open.

1. If you choose to keep your child home during the impacted days, we will consider the absence **EXCUSED**. Students will not be penalized in any way, including as it pertains to attendance awards.
2. Transportation services will continue, as usual, for the morning. However, the need to relocate students to other district schools for adequate levels of supervision may disrupt routes throughout the day. It is important that you prepare for potential delays on after school routes.
3. Schools that are deemed to not possess adequate levels of supervision may need consolidated with other district schools. If your child's school is consolidated, you will receive a separate notification with specifics.
4. The school day will prioritize supervision over the typical delivery of academic content. Although we will make every attempt to continue to provide learning opportunities, we will not be able to replicate a normal school day.
5. Programming may include increased opportunities for structured games, videos, and

Bales Elementary..... 623.847.8503
Buckeye Elementary.....623.386.4487
Inca Elementary.....623.925.3500
WestPark Elementary.....623.435.3282

Jasinski Elementary..... 623.925.3100
Marionneaux Elementary623.866.6100
Sundance Elementary..... 623.847.8531
BESD Preschool..... 623.925.3333



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- large group activities.
- 6. We will be leveraging every available substitute teacher, approved volunteer, classified staff, and district office staff personnel, to provide the minimum levels of supervision for safety.
- 7. Please be sure your school has updated emergency contact information, including email and telephone numbers.
- 8. The City of Buckeye BASE before and after school program will continue.
- 9. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Lon Sage (lsage@besd33.org) for information.

Schools will remain open unless the principal in consultation with the District office determines that student safety would be a concern, at which point the decision to close will be made. Please ensure that your contact information is correct in at your child's school so you receive the notifications. Continuous updates will be available on our Twitter feed (@BuckeyeESD). Our website will soon have a schedule posted indicating when instructional time will be made up, should classes be cancelled, as well as detailed FAQ's.

We will be working with our community partners on resources to support our families and will share them on our website. If preschool has to close, parents will receive a refund for the days that are missed.

Our district and school websites will be the primary source for information regarding other school activities such as field trips, athletics and music/theatre performances.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kristi Sandvik
Superintendent

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