



Update from the Superintendent

To: All BDS Employees
From: Mark McQueen, Superintendent
Date: May 10, 2024

This is a copy of the Superintendent's weekly message that is sent to parents/guardians. We want to make sure you have the same information as well, so you're in the loop :)

As we gear up for the final stretch of the school year, it's time for a laser-like focus on our collective goals. Now, more than ever, every step counts as we engage in state-mandated testing. As an entire community, we need to work together to ensure our students have a chance to shine.

I extend my deepest gratitude to every Bay District Schools Team of Teams member, from the educators and administrators to the support staff, students and parents/guardians. Your dedication and hard work have laid the foundation for success, and as we approach the season of state testing, your support is more invaluable than ever.

In classrooms across our district, teachers are gearing up with gusto, hosting boot camps and crafting creative strategies to empower our students with the tools they need to excel. These efforts aren't just about acing a test; they're about instilling confidence, fostering critical thinking skills, and forging resiliency by ensuring our students are well-prepared for the challenges that lie ahead.

I want to give a special shoutout to all the teachers and paraprofessionals who go above and beyond, offering extra help before and after school, during lunch breaks and through Saturday School programs. We're so grateful to the more than 190 teachers in the district who are working after-school "second jobs" as remediation tutors for students needing extra help.

Countless others generously volunteer their time as tutors to ensure our students have the support they need. Their commitment to our students' success is commendable, and this collaborative spirit exemplifies what it means to put the "A" back in Bay.

We need to rally together with a shared mission; to ensure that every student has the opportunity to "show what they know." Regular attendance and punctuality are not just checkboxes on a list; they're the keys that unlock doors of opportunity for our students. By being present and on time, our students can seize the chance to showcase their knowledge and demonstrate the incredible growth they've achieved throughout the year.

So, let's sprint to the finish of this school year with optimism and determination. As a community, we can show the state how much our Bay District students have learned this school year. Thank you for your unwavering support, and let's continue to put the "A" back in Bay!