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MESSAGE
FROM THE
BUTTE COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Dear Butte County Residents,

We are pleased to share our Annual Report for the 2021-2022 academic year. This report is organized to showcase the essential functions of who we are, who we serve, what we do, and what can be accomplished when we all work together.

I am incredibly proud of our staff at BCOE and our partnerships throughout the community. As you read through this report, you will become familiar with the services our BCOE team members provide – in early childhood education, K-12th grade support, and adult education – each and every day. Our BCOE motto is “Where Students Come First” and every one of our hard-working employees puts students first with respect, service, duty, and integrity.

You’ll find several QR codes you can scan or click on throughout the report which will take you to more in-depth video messages. As you scroll through our Annual Report, we encourage you to watch the videos. They are short, easy to understand, and worth your time. Thank you for taking this time to learn more about the Butte County Office of Education.

With warmest regards,

Mary Sakuma
Butte County Superintendent of Schools
The Butte County Office of Education (BCOE) partners with local schools and the community to support quality education for almost 30,000 students in Butte County and several thousand more in regional programs throughout the state.

BCOE administers services for students of all ages, from birth through adulthood. Often, our programs offer services and resources to students and families that face extreme challenges and need additional aid. Our programs support charter schools and school districts by performing tasks that can be done more efficiently and economically at the county level, such as staff development and training programs, providing trauma response, and curriculum development. BCOE also offers a variety of career programs and services for adults in the county.

Watch the video linked below to learn more about the heart and culture of BCOE.

_Pictured: A BCOE student observes the sky with binoculars._
County Offices of Education (COEs) vary by county. Generally they support school districts by performing tasks that can be done more efficiently and economically at the county level. This includes providing or helping formulate new curricula, staff development and training programs, instructional procedures, and design business and personnel systems.

Watch the linked video to learn about the role of a County Office of Education. Here are some key takeaways:

- COEs offer support and services for districts and charter schools
- COEs approve district Local Control Accountability Plans (LCAP)
- COEs ensure school district fiscal accountability and financial competence
- COEs do not directly oversee or govern local school districts
The Butte County Board of Education

Butte County Office of Education is committed to service and support. The Butte County Board of Education, in conjunction with the County Superintendent of Schools, provides leadership, service and support to the 14 local districts and all students in Butte County. The Butte County Board of Education consists of seven elected members who represent individual Trustee Areas in the county.

Roles of the Board

- Approving the annual county office budget
- Adopting policies governing the operation of the Board
- Acting as the appeal board for student expulsions
- Acting as the appeal board for inter-district transfers
- Acting as the appeal board for charter school petitions
- Establishing the County Superintendent salary
- Approving curriculum for the community schools, juvenile court school, and Regional Occupational Program
- Acting as the County Committee on school district organization
Who We Serve

BUTTE COUNTY SCHOOLS

School Districts:
1. Bangor Union Elementary School District
2. Biggs Unified School District
3. Chico Unified School District
4. Durham Unified School District
5. Golden Feather Union Elementary School District
6. Gridley Unified School District
7. Manzanita Elementary School District
8. Orville City Elementary School District
9. Orville Union High School District
10. Palermo Union School District
11. Paradise Unified School District
12. Pioneer Union Elementary School District
13. Thermalito Union Elementary School District

Charter Schools:
1. Achieve Charter School
2. Blue Oak Charter School
3. Chico Country Day
4. Children's Community Charter School
5. Core Butte Charter
6. Forest Ranch Charter School
7. Hometech Charter School
8. Inspire School of Arts and Science
9. Ipakanni Early College Charter
10. Nord Country School
11. Paradise Charter Middle School
12. Pivot Charter School–North Valley
13. Sherwood Montessori
14. Stream Charter School
15. Wildflower Open Classroom

SELPA & BCOE Schools:
1. Butte County Community School
2. Butte County Special Education
3. Children's Centers Preschools
4. Come Back Butte Charter
5. Hearthstone School
6. Table Mountain School

Districts outlined in blue are elementary feeder districts for Oroville Union High School District.
The data shown below represents all students enrolled in Butte County schools for the 2021-2022 school year. Data is provided by the California School Dashboard. The dashboard provides parents and educators with information so they can participate in decisions to improve student learning.

**Enrollment by Ethnicity.**
- African American (2%)
- American Indian/Alaska Native (2%)
- Asian (6%)
- Filipino (1%)
- Hispanic or Latino (26%)
- Pacific Islander (1%)
- Two or More Races (7%)
- White (55%)

**Enrollment by Subgroup**
- 6% English Learners
- 1% Foster Youth
- 3% Homeless Youth
- 61% Socioeconomically Disadvantaged
- 13% Students with Disabilities
The Student Programs and Educational Support (SPES) division provides a wide range of education services and supports from birth through adulthood through four pillars:

- Relationships
- Wellness
- Service with a Rural Lens
- Continuous Improvement

Our programs encompass early start programs (birth to three years), preschool programs, TK-12 programs, Special Education programs and services, Career Technical Education and Training programs, Schools’ Trauma Response programs and After School programs. The service programs we offer incorporate support for homeless and foster youth and at-promise youth and adults, including those on probation or parole who we support with transition back into the community.

We support our local school districts through the statewide system of improvement, Induction, Educational Technology, Professional Development, Prevention Services, guidance and leadership for charter oversight, and we are the co-lead on the California Multi-Tiered System of Support (CA MTSS).
The BCOE Butte Teacher Induction Program is proud to serve almost 400 new teachers and mentors which represent nine counties, 44 districts, and 89 schools. While induction programs are designed to support new teachers within the first two years of the teaching profession, the Butte Teacher Induction Program has taken this a step further as we also cultivate a professional learning network that eliminates professional isolation and continues to support teachers throughout their career. One of our mentors shared that “the Butte Teacher Induction Program is more than an opportunity to clear a preliminary credential. It is an opportunity to connect and grow with a team of professionals that are always supporting and rooting for you.”

Creating a professional learning community that strives to meet the individual needs of each educator in an environment where they feel supported, valued and appreciated is at the heart of our Butte Induction Program. One of our teachers shared the following sentiment with us, “Thank you for all you have done for me during induction. I appreciate your passion. Having our meetings at the end of a long day teaching could have been exhausting, but I always felt refreshed and cared for at them. I know that was mainly because you cared to make it a meaningful and intentional experience.”
Child Development Programs and Services (CDPS) is a diverse department that offers preschool programs and quality support services to early learning and care providers throughout Butte County. CDPS services directly impact more than 2,000 children 0-5 years old, annually. In 2021, CDPS was a part of the Dual Language Learner Expansion Project funded by First 5 California and led by the First 5 Butte Children and Families Commission.

One participant shared, "I have 40 children in my classroom, and 40% of all children are identified as dual language learners. The Dual Language Learner project has impacted my program by allowing me access to resources to support my team, students, and families. The family interview has been a great tool when I do my enrollments. Parents can pick their language preference when filling out the family language and interests survey. The Intentional Messages and Anchor Text have been great tools to extend activities and promote the words to extend children's language in English & Spanish." Additionally, CDPS Direct Service Coordinator, Colleen Dugan, noted significant developmental progress gains of Dual Language children served in classrooms that have participated in the Dual Language Learner project.
Through the Butte County Regional Occupational Program (ROP) and our Career Technical Education (CTE) programs, the BCOE CTE offers various career programs and services for adults in the county. These are intended for anyone seeking a new career, a career focus, or upgrading current skills. The programs include medical assistant, registered dental assistant, certified veterinary assistant, phlebotomy, professional welding academy, and dental specialty course.

Alex Mordwinow, a dental assistant program student, shared that he chose to attend CTE because he was looking into a path for a career that was expedited. He wanted to get into a position with growth opportunities. He found that through the ROP/CTE Registered Dental Assistant program, he felt supported by the staff, who made themselves available to assist students through the program. Following his graduation, he found a job quickly with the facility where he completed his community classroom hours. When asked if he would recommend the CTE program to others looking to advance their careers, he responded that if someone is "interested [and] looking for a clear path into a career, then that’s where you would want to be."

*Pictured: A CTE graduate accepts his certificate.*
Coordinated District Support

REFLECTIONS

At BCOE, supporting small, rural LEAs has always been a priority. The BCOE Coordinated District Support Team (CDS) contracted with Golden Feather Union Elementary School District to assist Superintendent, Josh Peete. Together, they have focused on building a cohesive school community, clarifying a vision for staff, deepening social-emotional learning capacity for educators, and above all, centering relationships.

The CDS Team has watched the school climate at Golden Feather become increasingly positive, student-centered, and thrive. The partnership exemplifies how BCOE service is intended: working together to ensure it is experienced as support, not accountability. Superintendent Peete shared, "Before, this place was very disjointed, and people were off doing their own thing. Now we are a cohesive team with a common vision and common language. Now the teachers are always looking for opportunities to work and plan together. There is a whole different feel to our school." CDS Advisor Minden King's reflection on supporting Golden Feather, "I love going there. It warms my heart because there is such a positive atmosphere. Everyone enjoys their job and truly puts the needs of their students first."

Pictured: The CDS team members.
Butte County Community School

Butte County Community School (BCCS) serves high-risk students throughout the county. The school serves students who are referred by a School Attendance Review Board (SARB), are on probation, expelled or at risk of dropping out of school, and have a high mobility rate among the small student population. BCCS offers learning environments that emphasize a rigorous instructional program where students develop thinking skills, personal qualities and college and career readiness skills to prepare for transition to middle school already on a college/career track.

BASES Learning Center

BASES Learning Center (which stands for "Butte Area Social Emotional Solutions") is a program for students with social and emotional challenges that provides intensive academic, psychological, and behavioral support to increase academic and personal success. Our program offers high-quality instruction in standards-based curriculum and individualized programs and services specific to student needs. Some of the benefits include: smaller class sizes, psychological support services, a structured, leveled program based in best practices for behavior, and individualized academic supports with frequent parent communication.
Come Back Butte Charter

Come Back Butte Charter (CBBC) strives to meet the needs of students, ages 16 and older, who have not been successful in traditional schools or students who dropped out of school. CBBC motivates students who do not have a high school diploma to “come back” and finish what they started. Students have the opportunity to earn their high school diploma, or high school equivalence, and receive support to set attainable goals for their future.

Hearthstone

Hearthstone Charter School is a Western Association of Schools & Colleges (WASC) accredited dependent public charter school and is under the oversight of the Butte County Office of Education. This school provides personalized learning through an Independent Study model and has increased opportunities for first instruction through a Hybrid Option (blended Independent Study with classroom instruction). This model strengthens the school’s relationship with parents and the community to prepare students for career, college, and life.
The Butte County Office of Education Special Education department provides educational services to individuals with special needs ages birth to 22 years. Special Education supports include Designated Instructional Services (DIS) to local school districts as well as operating individual classrooms on general education campuses throughout Butte County. This year Special Education teamed with Paradise Recreation and Park Department (PRPD) and implemented an outdoor education program for students to increase engagement and provide alternatives to teaching and learning. Students participated in Outdoor Education For All (OEFA), taking local field trips to learn through hands-on activities. The program was successful in providing exciting learning opportunities for students and it offered unique one-of-a-kind local experiences that may not have been attainable without the support of PRPD.

Pictured: Special Education students and staff enjoy an outdoor lesson.

Table Mountain School is a juvenile court school that provides a standards-based educational program to all youth detained in Butte County Juvenile Hall. The student population can be transient. Students may be enrolled anywhere from one or two days to over a year.
The Statewide and Local Support Services Division (SLSS) has over 800 administrative professionals, program staff, and instructional tutors that provide services to diverse learning communities. We offer services in almost every county throughout California. Our services include Information Technology Services, Maintenance, Facilities & Operations, Migrant Education, California Mini-Corps, CalKidz-Summer Foods Program, Back 2 Work, Learning Support, eSports, and our BCOE Foundations.

The dedicated members of SLSS are providing services to people in need throughout California. Our services encompass the whole child and provide support for students and their families. We know that home life is directly tied to a child's ability to succeed. This is why our SLSS services extend beyond a traditional classroom to support families. Our goal is to ensure that every child has the opportunity to grow, learn, and accomplish their dreams. We are proud to focus on providing marginalized demographics with the necessary resources and support on their paths to success.

Pictured: A BCOE Back 2 Work crew picks up trash as part of the Clean CA project.
The BCOE CalKidz program serves students meals all year long in partnership with food programs with Butte County school districts and community partners. During the 2021-2022 school year, we were able to extend our CalKidz programs, services, and assistance in nutrition education, meals, and food service monitoring with Nutrition Educations through the Raley’s Project, SNAP-Ed, Safeway Grant, and The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) funding. CalKidz provided over 130,000 student meals and nutrition education to over 762 students with the Mobile Teaching Kitchen. With these services, BCOE CalKidz added a new rockstar to the team – Kraig Morgan. Mr. Morgan was extremely successful with assisting in the nutrition education classes, providing help and support to our partner programs, as well as providing nutritious yummy food to sites.

Pictured: Elementary students enjoy a fun activity while learning about nutrition and exercise with the BCOE Mobile Teaching Kitchen.
The BCOE California Migrant Education Program is designed to support high-quality supplemental educational programs for migrant children. Our goal is to ensure that all migrant students receive the supports they need to be successful and prepare them to be responsible citizens. Through a partnership with University of Southern California and with the California Teaching Fellows Foundation and Fresno State University, Migrant Education provides residential programs for 9th, 10th and 11th grade students. Students live on campus, eat in the residential dining room, and experience college living. Students participate in courses that focus on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) education and English Language Arts. Through the program, migrant students develop leadership skills, cultural pride, and confidence to apply to college. Programs integrate performing arts, drawing, arts and crafts, and cultural studies.

Students are also given the opportunity to take part in extracurricular classes, such as physical education. One student shared that the college gym was teaching a boxing class and teaching the importance of discipline. She took very well to the class and the coaches were extremely impressed. The coaches offered her a training package for her to keep learning and training at a gym when she returned home.
The CA Mini-Corps program prides itself on providing current, research-based professional development to college students who aspire to become bilingual teachers. Our CA Mini-Corps coordinators provide tutors with training and coaching during their time in the program. In turn, the CA Mini-Corps tutors provide services to migratory students in small groups and one-on-one settings.

The CA Mini-Corps program allows college students to enter their teacher credential programs with various skills and knowledge. The program is essential to the success of building bilingual teachers in the state of California because of the skillset they create early on. Our tutors excel when they enter a teaching credential program and are prepared to enter the workforce as educators.

A recent former CA Mini-Corps tutor, Kimberly Zepeda, was named "Student of the Year" in the teacher credential program at CSU, Bakersfield, where she is currently enrolled. We are very proud of our Mini-Corps tutors and are happy to celebrate their accomplishments and recognitions.

Pictured: Kimberly Zepeda receiving her award.
The BCOE Back 2 Work program saw significant expansion during the 2021-2022 academic year. Through an expanded partnership between Caltrans and the BCOE Back 2 Work program, thousands of underserved and often-marginalized Californians have found paths to gainful employment and a fresh start. Thanks to the governor’s Clean California initiative, a multiyear clean-up effort led by Caltrans to remove trash, created thousands of jobs and an opportunity to engage communities to transform public spaces.

BCOE’s Back 2 Work Program helps participants who have experienced homelessness, reentered society after incarceration, or encountered barriers to finding employment learn life and job skills and receive temporary paid employment, job placement assistance and social services in counties throughout California.
The Butte County Superintendent of Schools division oversees several departments, including Fiscal Services, Human Resources, Future Educator Support, and Student Events.

Departments under the Superintendent’s Division offer support and resources to staff and students. They are responsible for personnel functions, internal business, fiscal oversight, and providing equal opportunity for all individuals in Butte County Office of Education programs and activities.

_Pictured: Mary Sakuma, Butte County Superintendent of Schools, celebrates the winner of the Butte County Spelling Bee._
The role of the Fiscal Services department is to provide financial support services to all of the various programs administered by the Butte County Office of Education and several of Butte County’s smaller school districts and charter schools. In addition, the Fiscal Services department is responsible for the fiscal oversight of all school districts in Butte County and any charter schools authorized by BCOE.

This year, the Fiscal Services team helped Pioneer Union Elementary School District (PUESD) relocate to the Bangor Union Elementary School District (BUESD) site. PUESD will lease two portables to house their students while their school is rebuilt after the devastating North Complex Fire.

The Fiscal Services team assisted PUESD and BUESD in making sure that all state and federal purchasing rules for the portables were followed. Team members also helped school district leaders meet the construction contractors to ensure that deadlines would be met in time for students to return to the classroom in August 2022.
The Human Resources (HR) department is central to the operations of the Butte County Office of Education and is involved in the entire employee life cycle. A few of the many services provided by the HR team include recruiting and onboarding qualified staff, verifying certificated employees are appropriately credentialed, ensuring timely and accurate payment of salary and wages, and reporting of retirement. In short, anything that affects an employee is touched by Human Resources. Human Resources is in the unique position to be in support of and in services to BCOE’s many varied programs.

At BCOE we value all employees and job candidates as unique individuals, and we welcome the variety of experiences they bring to our organization. Check out our open positions via the QR code below and apply to join our team.
Future Educator Support Services (FES), is a department at Butte County Office of Education (BCOE) that partners with California colleges, Local Educational Agencies, and Migrant Education programs throughout the state in providing programs and services to educators who wish to pursue a California teaching credential. Our two-prong approach at FES addresses the needs of supplemental services for our K-12 migratory students and our postsecondary working adults who are aspiring educators in the state of California. Through our unique teacher pathways we continue to address California’s bilingual teacher shortage. We employ former migrant students who are now classroom teachers and are advisors to our candidates. This role brings much credibility and support to those who may not yet see themselves as having the ability to pursue their passion of becoming an educator. The process has become very daunting for our nontraditional students, but with our support they are able to experience success.

When asked about his experience in our program, one of our former students, Ed Bhagwandeen stated, “When I tried to do it on my own, there were all these different tests, and hours that you had to meet. I was like, ‘How do people do this when they’re working to survive?’ It became further and further away from being feasible.” Bhagwandeen has since graduated from our program, and is pursuing his PhD in Education.

Pictured: The FES team attends the Annual Expanded Learning Institute.
The Butte County Office of Education promotes excellence in public education by organizing countywide student events and competitions including Mock Trial, Academic Decathlon, Robotics, National History Day, Spelling Bee and Poetry Out Loud. These annual student competitions are designed to strengthen student relationships, develop problem solving skills and build self-confidence. The academic competitions and events foster skills, talents, gifts and creativity that may not be seen within traditional classroom projects. The programs focus public attention on county level student achievements that are reached through dedication, practice and commitment.

Most events culminate with assembling students in-person to participate in competitions. Students also gather together during class or after school to work on projects to prepare for the event. The pandemic made in-person activities as a team a challenge. With students learning remotely during the 2020-2021 school year, recruiting teams was challenging for teachers and coaches. For the actual culminating event, the pandemic modified the experience offered to students. BCOE worked to transition the events into a virtual format when possible and, in some cases, change the competition rules to accommodate a virtual format.

Here are a few other great long-term benefits students gain:
- Improved academic performance
- Higher self confidence
- Foundation for the future: well rounded for college and job applications
BCOE Superintendent's High School Art Show: BCOE hosted the eighth annual BCOE Superintendent’s High School Art Show in March 2022. This unique juried art show provides Butte County high school students the opportunity to exhibit their works in a professional manner for viewing by the general public and offers a competitive experience for awards in a wide variety of media.

Every child deserves the opportunity to learn and develop through the arts and other core curricula. This art show is a unique opportunity for Butte County high school students to compete against each other and demonstrate school pride in support of student achievement in the visual arts. This art show is a fundamental part of arts education in Butte County. Watch the linked video to learn more about the benefits of Arts Education.

Pictured: Artwork submitted by Butte County high school students.

Scan or click
National History Day: A year-long educational program that encourages students to explore local, state, national, and world history. After selecting a historical topic related to an annual theme, students conduct extensive research using libraries, archives, museums, and oral history interviews. They analyze and interpret their findings, draw conclusions about their topic’s significance in history, and create final projects that present their work.

Poetry Out Loud: Poetry Out Loud encourages high school students to learn about great poetry through memorization and recitation. This program helps students master public speaking skills, build self-confidence, and learn about literary history and contemporary life.

Poetry Out Loud uses a pyramid structure that starts at the classroom level. Winners advance to a schoolwide competition, then to the Butte County competition. Winners from the county competition will advance to the state competition in March. Butte County's Poetry Out Loud program is supported by the Friends of the Arts.

Pictured is Emily Morrison, Reece Thompson & Seth Brewton with Butte County Superintendent of Schools, Mary Sakuma.
Mock Trial: The BCOE Mock Trial actively engages students from local high schools. Students learn to work in teams, exchange ideas, set goals, and delve into issues while interacting with mentors and role models from their communities. Students are given a case they study and prepare to defend by developing strategies and arguments for trial. Students develop presentation skills, public speaking experience, analytic ability, and team cooperation through this process.

Spelling Bee: The Butte County Office of Education coordinated the Butte County Elementary Spelling Bee for grades 4-6 students and the Butte County Junior High Spelling Bee for students in grades 7-9. Students, parents, staff, and judges were excited to return to an in-person competition. Fifty-three students participated in the Elementary Spelling Bee and 16 students participated in the Jr. High Spelling Bee. One first-place winner and one runner-up from each competition advanced to the 2022 California State Spelling Bee.
Robotics Event: The Butte County Office of Education partnered with YMCA of Oroville and Butte Built Bots to provide a junk robotics workshop for students. Through the workshop, students learned how to design a functioning robot that could perform a simple task by using their creativity and STEM skills.

Under the direction of Butte County Office of Education and mentors from the Butte Built Bots team, students were given supplies to assemble a unique robot, which was later entered into the 2022 Butte County Fair.

Pictured: Students work on building their robots.
Celebrating Excellence

This year we celebrated our fantastic employees in-person at our Oroville headquarters. Our teams had a wonderful time coming together to recognize and honor our 10 year, 20 year, and 30 year employees, along with our retirees, and award winning staff members.
Come Back Butte Charter
Graduation 2022
Butte County Community School Graduation & Promotion 2022
Hearthstone
Graduation & Promotion
2022
Stay Informed

Stay up to date and informed of student events and programs, family and community resources, the Butte County Board of Education meetings, and additional resources by following us on social media or visiting our website.

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Office of Education
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