



BURLINGAME COMMUNITY  
EDUCATION FOUNDATION

PARENT REFERENCE

# GUIDE

Burlingame School District 2021-2022

# Dear Burlingame Community,

Burlingame is a particularly close-knit, caring community that believes in providing public education that focuses on the whole child. By all measures, we have excelled at delivering a comprehensive and rigorous TK-8 education that sets our children up for success long after they leave us. We are constantly looking for avenues of improvement and opportunities for innovation and ask all of our families to engage with a solution focused approach.

All of this effort is focused on our core purpose and mission of engaging our community to create resilient, curious, compassionate, problem-solvers who are prepared for their future. We aren't sure what the future world will look like, but we are committed to making sure that every student is prepared to meet the challenges of that world.

BCE partners directly with the District to help provide an education that meets the needs of all of our District's students. BCE, as well as our PTAs, parents, and community are all committed to high levels of engagement, volunteerism and participation to provide an education that is far more robust and exemplary than what is provided in most public schools today. Welcome to Burlingame schools and thank you for joining our partnership to provide the best educational experience possible for your child's elementary and intermediate years.



Chris Mount-Benites | Burlingame School District Superintendent



One of the most frequently asked questions Burlingame school parents have is “How can I help my school?” There are so many ways you can make a difference to your child’s education.



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This guide offers an introduction to some of the parent-supported organizations and initiatives within the school district that benefit each student.

# Burlingame Community for Education Foundation

BCE is the primary fundraising organization that enables an exceptional education for our TK-8th grade students.



## Why does BCE Exist?

Passed in 1978, Prop 13 changed the way California funds our schools, capping property taxes, and gutting public school funding. Schools could no longer be supported through public funds alone. They were forced to cut music, art, electives and staff. Class sizes soared. Until the concerned community founded the Burlingame Community for Education Foundation (BCE) in 1981 to fill the gap in state funding and provide the kind of education our children deserve.

Donations to BCE (a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization) provide crucial funds to every school, and make a difference for every child. BCE raises more than \$2.5 million each year through parent and business donations to provide an unrestricted grant to boost our school budget. The funds are applied towards additional teachers and specialists who improve the classroom experience; professional development to enhance student learning; physical education to keep body and mind healthy; and academic enrichment such as music and world languages. This funding supplements the amount received from the State of California, bond measures, local parcel tax and federal funds.



## BCE Impact

### Additional Elementary Teachers

- Keep class sizes smaller than state requirements
- Provide certificated support staff (i.e. Psychologists, Academic Intervention)

### Excellence in Teaching

- District-Wide Paid Professional Development Days. Training includes STEAM & newly adopted curriculum as well as methodologies to build learning at all levels.

### Music Program

- TK-8 Music Program
- BIS Musical
- Music Supplies

### Physical Education

- Instruction for TK-8 to build physical, social, emotional and mental development

### BIS World Languages

- Students have the opportunity to learn a new language and expand their world view

## What You Can Do

It is only with your investment that we can take good public schools and make them into great public schools. We suggest an annual investment of \$1,500 per student every fall, or \$150/month if you start in September. We also recognize that many families may not be able to contribute at such a level. Any amount is appreciated and will make a difference to all of our students. Please consider making an annual contribution every fall to BCE.

Contribute today at [bcefoundation.org](http://bcefoundation.org)

We are also proud to report that our education foundation is almost entirely run by 200+ parent volunteers. Contact your BCE School Site Director or email the BCE Office at [info@bcefoundation.org](mailto:info@bcefoundation.org) for more info about our organization.

## BCE Contacts

**Craig Darling, BCE President**  
[president@bcefoundation.org](mailto:president@bcefoundation.org)

**BIS: Kathy Kleinbaum**  
[bis@bcefoundation.org](mailto:bis@bcefoundation.org)

**Franklin: Petra Campos**  
[franklin@bcefoundation.org](mailto:franklin@bcefoundation.org)

**Hoover: Marc Ibanez**  
[hoover@bcefoundation.org](mailto:hoover@bcefoundation.org)

**Lincoln: Dana Howells McFadden**  
[lincoln@bcefoundation.org](mailto:lincoln@bcefoundation.org)

**McKinley: Christine Gutknecht**  
[mckinley@bcefoundation.org](mailto:mckinley@bcefoundation.org)

**Roosevelt: Shantel Weinsheimer**  
[roosevelt@bcefoundation.org](mailto:roosevelt@bcefoundation.org)

**Washington: Christina Funk**  
[washington@bcefoundation.org](mailto:washington@bcefoundation.org)

**BCE Office**  
[info@bcefoundation.org](mailto:info@bcefoundation.org)



# Parent-Teacher Association

The PTA is a volunteer-driven, community-building organization that focuses on child advocacy, parent education, classroom and teacher support.

## How It Helps

By strengthening the community among teachers, parents and children, PTA aims to provide a vital link between school and families to make our school community stronger. Each school's PTA helps coordinate volunteerism in the classroom, plans family social events and supports parent communication.

## PTA Impact

There are a wide variety of events and volunteer opportunities throughout the year, day and night. PTA support is school-specific, including: **Community Building Services & Events:**

- Weekly Newsletter
- Education Nights (ie. Math, Science, Art Nights)
- Parent Education Speakers

### **School Celebrations:**

- Teacher & Staff Appreciations
- 5th Grade Celebration
- Special events & School traditions

## Supporting Students and Teachers:

- Volunteering in the classroom, library and at lunch duty
- Student Assemblies
- Classroom and art supplies for projects
- Book Fair

Burlingame PTAs are prohibited from paying teacher or staff salaries. PTAs hold their own events at each school site with the primary function of community building and may also raise smaller discretionary funds for field trips, school materials and the like.

## What You Can Do

PTA plays a vital role in supporting our students and school. Please become a member to show your support. Stay informed and read your school newsletter! Check out your school's website for the link to join PTA and sign up for communications.

Get involved by volunteering to help organize or support one of the many school-specific events during the year. Attend events with your family and come check out a PTA meeting.

## Contact

Your school newsletter should provide PTA meeting and event updates.

## PTA Contacts

### **Chandra Lund**

BSD PTA Council President  
burlingameschoolspta@gmail.com

### **Ingrid Gauthier**

BIS PTA President  
president@bis-pta.com

### **Bill Reagon**

Franklin PTA President  
president@franklinpta-burlingame.com

### **Sophia Chen**

Hoover PTA President  
HESPTA@burlingameschools.org

### **Brooke Agresti**

Lincoln PTA President  
lincoln.pta.president@gmail.com

### **Faith Bonitz-Tanaka**

McKinley PTA President  
pres.mckinleypta@gmail.com

### **Amy Chen**

Roosevelt PTA President  
wearoosevelt.pta@gmail.com

### **Birte Scholz**

Washington PTA President  
WESPTA@burlingameschools.org



## School Site Council

Each school has an integrated group of parents, school leadership and school staff that comprise the School Site Council—the Principal, 1 staff, 3 teachers, and 5 parents. School-wide parent voting selects parents who serve 3-year terms. Teachers are selected by other teachers and also serve for 3 years. Parent elections are held in the Spring.

### How It Helps

Throughout the school year, the SSC creates annual and long-term plans for school-wide improvements based on the Burlingame School District goals, including new academic programs, staff development, parent outreach strategies, or other student development programs. The School Site Council develops a three-year School Improvement Plan which is to be approved by the Burlingame School Board. They review the plan regularly to see how well it is meeting students' needs and modify the plan as necessary. In addition, they develop an annual school budget and monitor it on an ongoing basis.

#SCIENCE MATTERS



SSC also establishes and maintains communications with BSD, school district personnel, and the community for the benefit of our students' educational experience.

### What You Can Do

Non-members are invited to attend the monthly meetings, pass their concerns on to an SSC member or write a letter to the Council. The more voices heard, the better the SSC can do its job as representatives of the whole school community.

The regularly scheduled time is determined at the beginning of the school year and will be announced in each school's newsletter.

If you are interested in becoming an SSC member, please submit your name to the school office for elections held in the spring. There are openings for new parents every year.



# Burlingame School District has the 2ND LOWEST per-student spending levels in San Mateo County

### Spending Per Student in San Mateo County (2019-2020)



BCE is a 501(c) (3) non-profit public benefit corporation.

Sources:  
San Mateo Daily Journal, 2021

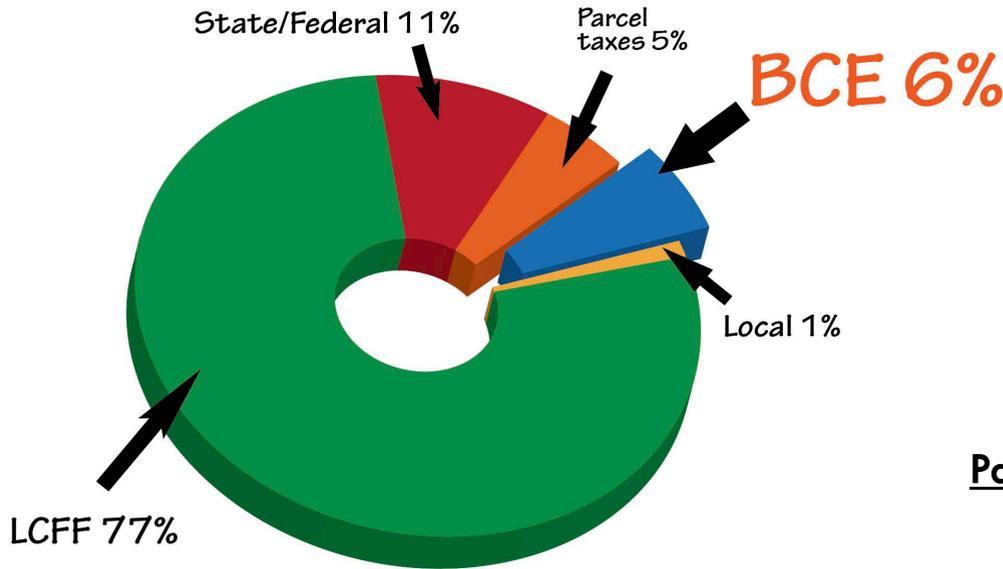


# School Funding 101



Our grant is an important part of the BSD Budget – \$2.5M+ that can't be replaced.

## 2020/21 General Funding Revenues



\*Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF)

## Burlingame School District Academic Year 2020-21

- Approx 3,400 students
- Revenue ~\$37M
- Expenditures ~\$40.5M
- State/Fed Funding: (11%)
- Local parcel tax: \$2.1M (5%)
- BCE funding: \$2.4M (6%)
- LCFF\* State Funding: 78%

### Parcel Tax

Raises \$2m per year that enables BSD to have competitive teacher salaries - 5% - expires June 2030 (BSD parcel tax is the lowest on the Peninsula)



# MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

## Local Capital Improvement Measures

The Burlingame School District needs to invest in capital improvement projects for school facilities and grounds in order to address daily wear-and-tear and renovate for future needs. When those needs arise and can't be covered with existing funds, the District may seek alternative sources of funding including voter approval for a general obligation bond measure.

California Constitution Article 13A defines the following: "Bonded indebtedness incurred by a school district, community college district, or county office of education for the construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or replacement of school facilities, including the furnishing and equipping of school facilities, or the acquisition or lease of real property for school facilities, approved by 55 percent of the voters of the district or county, as appropriate, voting on the proposition on or after the effective date of the measure adding this paragraph."



## How It Helps

Local school districts simply do not have the means within their annual budgets to fund facilities' improvement projects. Local bond measures provide dedicated funding that is overseen by an audit committee and local oversight committees to ensure the funds are spent according to plan. The funds cannot be used to support any school salary or administration costs.

## Local Bond Measure Impact

"Measure M" in November 2016 authorized the District to issue up to \$56,000,000 aggregate principal amount of the District's general obligation bonds. In March 2020, Burlingame voters passed "Measure O" which authorized the District to issue up to \$97,000,000 aggregate principal amount of the Districts' general obligation bonds.

These bonds have helped fund various facility improvements at our Burlingame elementary schools and Burlingame Intermediate School including:

- New classroom buildings
- New playground blacktops, fields, water fountains/bottle fillers, benches
- Repair or replacement of leaking and deteriorating roofs

- Install or improve Fire Safety Systems
- Upgrade heating and ventilation system for improved energy efficiency
- Install solar panels
- Update aging and/or deteriorating restrooms
- Improve technology infrastructure
- Renovate school classrooms and improve access for teachers or students with disabilities
- Enhance school security and communication systems for improved student safety
- Install new turf playing fields
- Build new middle school Library Media Center
- Renovate middle school science classrooms
- Repair or replace outdated classrooms and labs to support 21st-century education
- Remove dry rot, lead and asbestos
- Protect student and staff safety, including installing security cameras
- Replace aging and inefficient plumbing and electrical systems

## What You Can Do

Support our schools' ability to provide the best possible environment for our children's learning. Vote to pass these measures when they arise.

# OUR SCHOOLS ROCK!

## Burlingame Intermediate

1715 Quesada Way, Burlingame  
Principal: Erica Gilbert

## Franklin Elementary

2385 Trousdale Dr., Burlingame  
Principal: Jude Lawrence

## Hoover Elementary

2220 Summit Dr., Burlingame  
Principal: Lisa Booth

## Lincoln Elementary

1801 Devereux Dr., Burlingame  
Principal: Laura Afshar

## McKinley Elementary

701 Paloma Ave., Burlingame  
Principal: Joy Shmueli

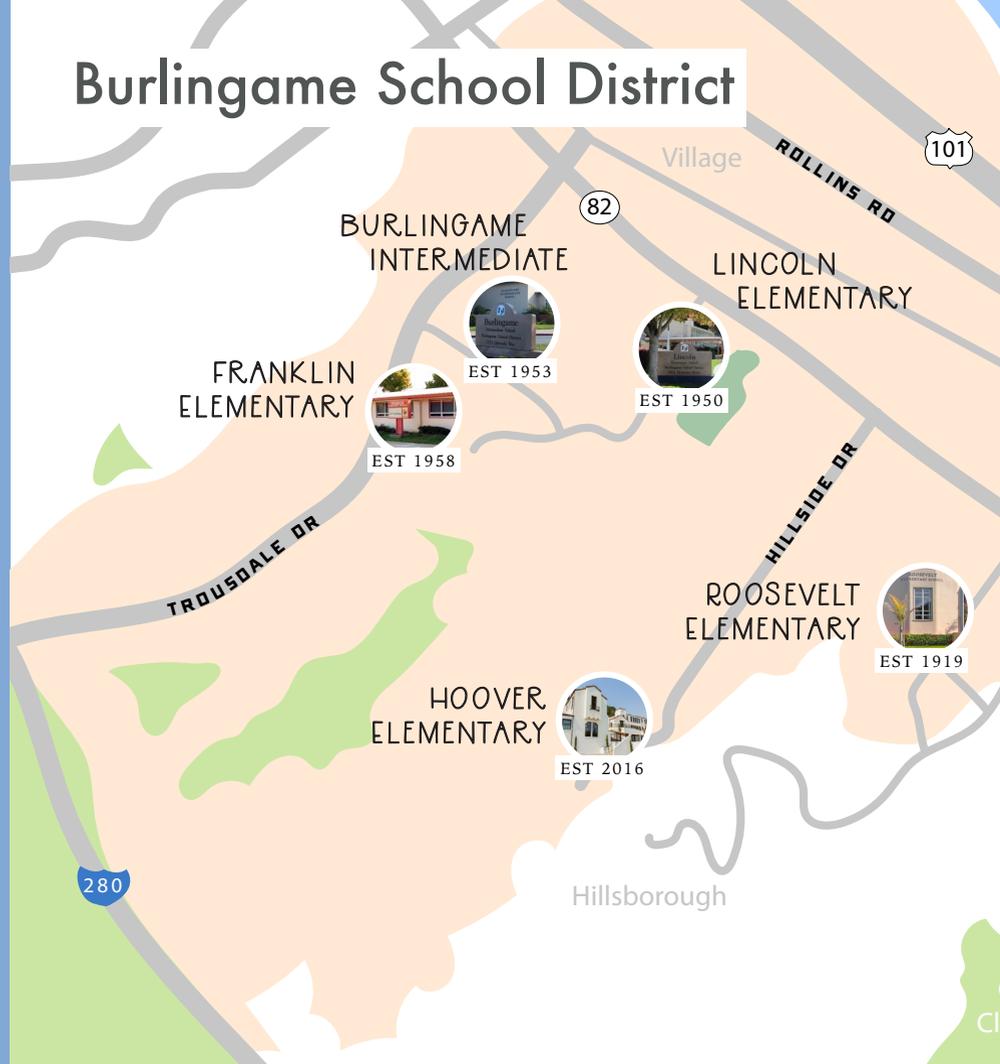
## Roosevelt Elementary

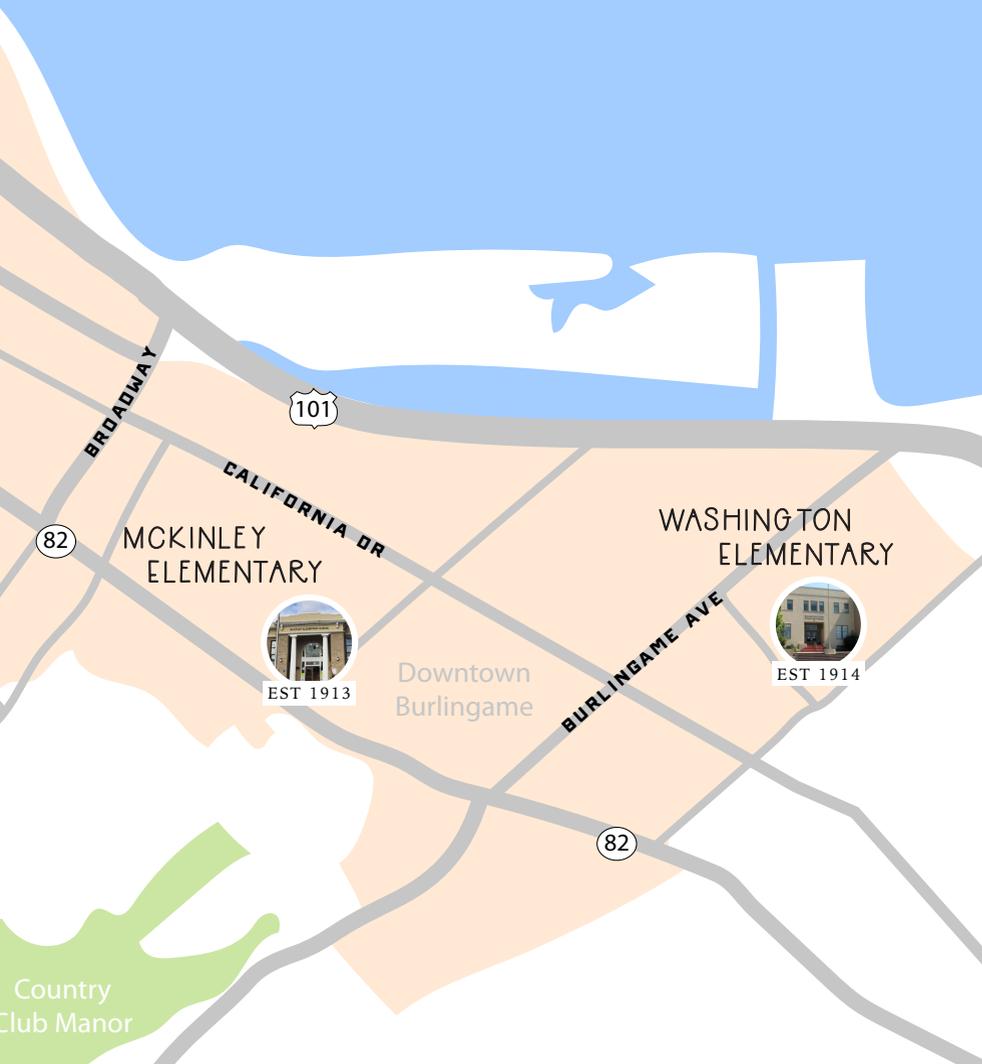
1151 Vancouver Ave., Burlingame  
Principal: Matthew Pavao

## Washington Elementary

801 Howard Ave., Burlingame  
Principal: Cristin Coleman

# Burlingame School District



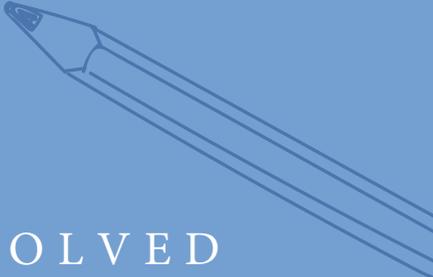


## OUR VISION

“ Challenging the leaders, thinkers,  
and creators of tomorrow ”

## OUR MISSION

“ Engage our community to build  
resilient, curious, compassionate,  
problem-solvers who are prepared  
for their future ”



INVEST | VOLUNTEER | GET INVOLVED

[bcefoundation.org](http://bcefoundation.org)



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