



*Belleve Buzz*



## FEBRUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER

### A THRILLING START TO THE NEW YEAR!

The Bulldog PTO a BUZZ with exciting plans for the upcoming months. From a fresh calendar of social events to several campus improvement initiatives, our committees are working tirelessly to create memorable experiences for our students and community.

Even with the whirlwind of excitement, we still have a few key volunteer and chair positions to be filled. Your involvement can make a significant difference, shaping the future of our community initiatives. Find out more about these opportunities and how you can contribute in this issue.

As we kick off this new year, let's come together to embrace the challenges, seize the opportunities, and make 2024 a year to remember. Happy reading, and here's to an extraordinary start to the new year!

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# HAPPY 2024, BULLDOG FAMILIES!

I really hope that your New Year is off to an awesome start and that you had a great holiday season with your family to wrap up 2023.

Moving into the New Year, the PTO is off to a running start. The Ongoing Fundraising committee continues to have a monthly schedule of great Restaurant Nights and other upcoming events. In addition to this, Amber Idell has also agreed to spearhead the Annual School Carnival, which will begin planning soon. Thank you Amber! The Staff Appreciation Committee has a full schedule of lunches and appreciation events planned for the rest of the year, for which several parent volunteers have stepped up to help execute. The Campus Beautification Committee recently completed the cement improvements in front of Yellow Forum and are working on several other improvement projects. Busy. Busy. Busy.

The PTO team has been nothing short of amazing and I will continue to state how consistently thankful and proud I am of our PTO for their commitment to their roles this school year. Everyone has taken great pride within their committee projects and it has been a beautiful thing to be a part of.

In the 4th quarter of 2023, the PTO had been recruiting for a few committee openings. And since then, two of these openings have been filled. **Amber Idell** will take on spearheading the Social Committee and she has already scheduled an exciting new event with the Bellevue Parent Hike next week.

**Elaine Garcia** has taken over our social media channels and has already leveled up our presence and promotions on the channels significantly.

**The PTO still has two remaining openings: VAPA Committee Chair and Annual Fundraiser Committee Chair(s) for the 2023-24 school year.** If you're interested in either of these roles or have any questions about them, please do not hesitate to contact us at [PTO@BSFCS.ORG](mailto:PTO@BSFCS.ORG).

Please also remember that if none of the above roles work for you but you would still like to learn of other ways that you can get more involved at Bellevue, please reach out to any of us on the PTO, to Julie Turk, or to any of the teachers to learn of other volunteer opportunities that you can take advantage of. I hope to see you more around campus soon :)

Well, that is it from me for now but please do remember to follow us on our BulldogPTO social media channels (Facebook & Instagram) and please don't forget to visit our website ([bulldogpto.com](http://bulldogpto.com)) on a regular basis to stay in the know about what we're doing this year. Thank you for reading the PTO Buzz and create an amazing February!



**Mike Z. Robinson**  
**Bulldog PTO President**  
[bulldogptopresident@gmail.com](mailto:bulldogptopresident@gmail.com)

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 [instagram.com/bulldogpto](https://instagram.com/bulldogpto)



# FUN TIMES AHEAD: Social Committee Sets the Stage for Memorable Moments in 2024



The BSFCS Social Committee is back in action and our first social event of the new year was a hit! Bellevue parents hit the trails for the Bellevue Parent Hike organized by the PTO Social Committee. The group explored the Pismo Reserve Spring to Spring trail, soaking in breathtaking views of Pismo Beach while enjoying the refreshing walk through the hills.



A huge thank you to Social Committee Chair, **Amber Idell** for coordinating this fantastic morning of nature, laughter, and exercise!





## SAVE THE DATES FOR OUR NEXT SOCIAL EVENTS!

First, join us for a Bellevue Parent Wine Mixer at 15 degrees C on March 7 at 6 p.m. It's an opportunity to unwind, socialize, and connect with fellow Bellevue parents in a relaxed setting. No tickets to buy as this is a social event, but [please RSVP](#) so we can make sure the venue can accommodate our needs. Let's raise a glass to friendship and community spirit!

Also, mark your calendars for our next social hike on Saturday, March 10th. Embrace the beauty of our home as we explore a scenic trail together. Keep an eye out for details on the location and time, and let's make the most of that extra hour of sunshine!

## LET'S GET SOCIAL!



### PARENT WINE MIXER

Thursday, March 7th @ 6 p.m.  
15 Degrees C Wine Bar & Restaurant  
[CLICK HERE TO RSVP](#)



Save the Date!  
**SOCIAL HIKE**  
Saturday, March 10th  
Time & Location TBD

CHECK [BULLDOGPTO.ORG/UPCOMING-EVENTS](https://bulldogpto.org/upcoming-events) FOR THE LATEST EVENT UPDATES!

## ONGOING FUNDRAISING

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### Join us for February & March Restaurant Day/Nights!

February restaurant day/night will be at Woodstock's Pizza. Monday, February 12th. This restaurant day/night will be in conjunction with the Newsies wrap party. Feel free to come in for lunch or join the cast for a celebration dinner.


**Mention Bellevue and we will receive up to 25% back in sales.**

March restaurant day/night will be at Raku Ramen on Tuesday, March 19th.

**Use code BFCS24 when ordering at the kiosk or online and we will receive back 20% in sales.**


**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

**February Restaurant Night**



**Monday February 12th**  
Mention Bellevue & PTO will receive up to 25% of sales!

**March Restaurant Night**



**Tuesday, March 19th**  
Use the code BFCS24 when ordering at the kiosk or online & PTO will receive 20% of sales!

### Planning Begins Soon for 2nd Annual Rummage Sale!



Looking ahead, we have decided to move forward with our second annual Bellevue Rummage Sale in conjunction with Earth Week. We will hold the sale on Saturday, April 20 at Bellevue.

**Please reach out to Amber Idell (415-599-5442) to sign up to help plan and organize the event.** A sign-up genius will go out in a few weeks, but we are always open to ideas and suggestions! We hope to exceed our earnings from last year, and of course Reduce, Reuse and Recycle!

## STAFF APPRECIATION

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The staff were treated to Tacos and Enchiladas from Taco Roco in January during their Staff work day which they thoroughly enjoyed and expressed gratitude for!

**Thank you Kristen McKiernan** for organizing!



February 14th the Staff will be treated to sandwiches from the delicious High Street Deli! They will get an assortment of Sandwiches and of course a lovely treat since it is also Valentine's Day! **Thank you Vicki Cheatwood** for organizing!





FUNDRAISING  
**NEVER TASTED**  
SO GOOD

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12TH 12:00PM - 8:00PM  
Mention this fundraiser while ordering and  
up to 25% of the proceeds will go to

**BELLEVUE-SANTA FE CHARTER SCHOOL**

\*\*For online ordering, please use code "Fundy5" to count your order  
towards the fundraiser



## LIBRARY COMMITTEE

Aside from being super fun, our travel-themed Literati Book Fair earned Bellevue \$1,260 in new books! Our School Library is so grateful for your participation and support and hope you ended up with some great books to read over the holidays. Thanks to everyone who worked hard to set up, decorate, work the register, and tear down the fair. It was a fun group!



### Did You Know?

Our library also carries a selection of parenting and learning support books, leveled readers, and learn-to-read and beginning phonics books.

Parents are welcome to check books out, too, and can visit the library when open before school or during lunch or by appointment.

Our most recent library work day brought over 100 new books to our shelves, including a great selection of books to help kids read up on subjects like Chinese New Year & culture and well-illustrated books that will help us thoughtfully observe and appreciate Black History Month featuring artists, athletes, poets and leaders. We also added several high interest picture books, bridge books and advanced chapter books like Mary Pope Osborne's Merlin's Missions Series, new Geronimo Stilton books, Novack's Book with No Pictures, and new Kwame Alexander poetry. Of course, all of our fun Valentine's-themed books are on display, too! There's something for everyone in the library!

### Library Wish List

This month's wish list includes:

- The Investigators book series (John Patrick Green)
- Who Would Win Blue Whale vs Mosquito
- What Was the Age of the Dinosaurs

Sign up to help out before school or during lunch by adding your name to the [calendar by clicking here](#). Please also consider checking in with your classroom teacher(s) to see if you can help facilitate weekly or project-specific classroom visits. If it's something our kids are studying at BSFCS, there's a good chance we have a whole heap of books that can help.

Please keep your eyes peeled for some fun library events coming up in February, including a craft and decorate day (lunchtime) February 6th, a Library Committee Meeting February 7, another action-packed Library Work Day February 9, and (coming soon) a Stuffed-Animal Slumber Party. We'd love to have you join us!

### Library Volunteers Needed!

Sign up to help out before school or during lunch by adding your name to the [calendar by clicking here](#).

# Bulldog PTO Needs Your Help!

Parent volunteerism is vital to many of the programs that make Bellevue so special. Some of the programs that define our school are currently on pause due to a shortage of volunteers. We urge you to consider taking on a role in one of these important initiatives.

**Interested? Please reach out to [PTO@bsfcs.org](mailto:PTO@bsfcs.org)  
OR [complete this form.](#)**

## Annual Fundraiser Chair(s) 2024/25

This includes leading a committee team in planning and organizing the event, gathering donations, helping set up/break down, choosing a theme, and hiring vendors. This truly is the gift of giving. Our shared successes allow us to bridge the gap with funding and support extras for our kiddos at our school. It directly impacts our beloved programs such as Artist-In-Residence, electives, Garden, SciTech, science supplies, and many other school programs.

**Planning usually starts in January. We are in need of one or more parent volunteers to take the lead as soon as possible!**





## Visual Arts & Performing Arts (VAPA) Chair

The possibilities for the committee are wide open, but typically VAPA coordinates local artists and acts for assemblies, organizes the Spring Variety Show & Mock Rock, and brings other performance art opportunities to the school. This is an exciting opportunity for someone with a passion for the arts and a desire to expose our kids to our community's rich variety of art.

**All VAPA programs are on pause until this position is filled.**



## Landscape Committee Volunteers

The Landscape and Beautification Committee needs 1-2 additional volunteers for the Special Projects team. This team is dedicated to various campus landscaping tasks such as playground weed control and parking area upkeep, as well as pruning, planting, and more. Joining the team not only improves the campus aesthetic but also offers a sense of community and contribution.

**This team operates on an as-needed basis, without fixed monthly hours.**

## SciTech Volunteers

SciTech requires 3 volunteers every Monday and Friday for 1 hour from 12:10 p.m. - 1:10 p.m. on days when school is in session and a full day. The volunteers do not need any special science knowledge, and no one is required to handle the reptiles.

**The SciTech cannot open on days that we do not have 3 volunteers. To view openings and sign up [click here](#).**



# CAMPUS BEAUTIFICATION: Cultivating Beauty and Community



The Bulldog PTO's Campus Beautification Committee, led by dedicated chairs **Brad and Wendy Kreller**, has been making significant strides in enhancing the school environment. From keeping the landscaping clean to working hard on permanent improvements, the committee is doing big things to create an atmosphere that fosters both beauty and community engagement. We spoke with the Krellers to learn more about the motivation behind their involvement, the rewarding projects accomplished so far, and the exciting ventures the committee is currently pursuing.

### **What motivated you to take on the Campus**

**Beautification Committee?** We started taking care of the areas outside of Yellow Forum when we first got introduced to "things to volunteer for" at Back To School Night. From there, we wanted to do more, and when we were asked by the prior chairs of the Committee, we accepted, feeling it would be a good opportunity to see how the rest of the process worked, not just the areas around the Yellow Forum.

### **What has been the most rewarding thing you've done or**

**achieved so far?** Working with Mrs. Turk to get the concrete portion by the buddy bench done. The "point" outside of Orange Forum is soon to be done as well, so seeing outstanding projects get done is nice to check off the list and quite satisfying.

### **What are the current/upcoming projects and/or goals**

**the committee is working on?** Concrete the "point" outside of Orange forum where the old picnic benches will be placed under brand new shade structures while new picnic benches will be ordered to go where the old sit now. Continued maintenance, pruning, and overall upkeep on the flower beds, shrubs, etc. A multi-year "Izzy Project" is in the



*Wendy & Brad Kreller,  
Campus Beautification Committee Chairs*



*The committee is responsible for the upkeep  
of campus landscaping and improvements*

## COMMITTEE SPOTLIGHT

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works, albeit slowly. We hope to help raise funds to transform the amphitheater into a beautiful, interactive piece of art in remembrance of Izzy and her beautiful life. We are working with her parents with overall concept (they already have the plans) and various fundraising ideas to try to get some of the work done over the next few years.

**What would you say to someone who is considering participating in a project or joining the committee?** We would highly encourage involvement of any kind for any project/committee/volunteer opportunity. You really feel like you're a part of the Bellevue community when you get involved. We did not go into Bellevue with that type of mentality. As a matter of fact, we felt we would stay on the sidelines and just get Emree to and from class, but there is a sense of duty when you see what a great school it is and once you get involved, at least for us, there was no other way to go about it. We feel we must do our part after seeing so many other parents at the school do their parts! Our advice is to just get involved in something and see how it goes. If it doesn't meet expectations, try something else! There are so many opportunities to help in one capacity or another.

### **What are the current volunteer needs?**

The Landscape and Beautification Committee needs 1-2 additional volunteers for the Special Projects team. This team is dedicated to various campus landscaping tasks such as playground weed control and parking area upkeep, as well as pruning, planting, and more. This team operates on an as-needed basis, without fixed monthly hours.

Some projects include:

- Pruning the reachable branches of the tree outside Orange Forum
- Planting native species around the campus

### **BUDDY BENCH AREA IMPROVEMENT**

**For the recent cement improvement around the Buddy Bench, the committee worked with Ms. Turk to obtain competitive bids from multiple vendors to secure a cost-effective solution. Over the winter break, the curbing, stairs and cement around the bench were complete creating a beautiful and more safe area for our students to move around between classrooms and the playground. No additional fundraising was required for the project due to the generous PTO allocation that supplemented the school budget allocation and private donations.**



**INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN A CAMPUS BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT?**

**Volunteering is on an as-needed basis with no set hours!**

**Please Contact Brad and Wendy Kreller at [kreller2124@aol.com](mailto:kreller2124@aol.com)**



# EVENTS CALENDAR

## Restaurant Day/Night at Woodstock's Pizza

**Monday, February 12th**

12:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

1000 Higuera Street,  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

**February Restaurant Day/Night will be at Woodstock's Pizza. Monday, February 12.** This restaurant day/night will be in conjunction with the Newsies wrap party. Feel free to come in for lunch or join the cast for a celebration dinner.

**Mention "Bellevue" when you place your order and Bulldog PTO will get up to 25% of sales!** 🍕🐾

## PTO Meeting

**Monday, February 26th**

**7:00 p.m.**

Via Zoom

**Our February PTO Meeting will take place on Monday, February 26th at 7 p.m. via Zoom. All are welcome and encouraged to attend!**

PTO Meetings are held every other month, usually on the third Monday of the month. All parents and staff are welcome and encouraged to attend.

## Parents' Wine Mixer at 15 degrees C

**Thursday, March 7th**

6:00 p.m.

3590 Broad Street,  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

**Join us for a Bellevue Parent Mixer at 15 degrees C! It's an opportunity to unwind, socialize, and connect with fellow Bellevue parents in a relaxed setting.**

No tickets to buy as this is a social event, but **please RSVP** here so we can make sure the venue can accommodate our needs. Let's raise a glass to friendship and community spirit!

## Social Hike

**Saturday, March 10th**

Time & Location TBD

**Mark your calendars for our next social hike on Saturday, March 10th. Time and location TBD.**

Embrace the beauty of our home as we explore a scenic trail together. Keep an eye out for details on the location and time, and let's make the most of that extra hour of sunshine!

## Restaurant Day/Night at Raku Ramen

**Tuesday, March 19th**

11:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

799 Foothill Blvd,  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93405

**Indulge in savory delights at Raku Ramen on March 19th for Restaurant Day/Night!**

**Use the code BFCSS24 when ordering at the kiosk or online, and Bulldog PTO will receive 20% of sales!**



# About Bulldog PTO

## ABOUT US

The Bulldog PTO is a non-profit 501c3 responsible for raising funds for the benefit of the Bellevue-Santa Fe Charter School. Every parent and teacher is a member of the Parent Teacher Organization. We rely on parent volunteers to accomplish these goals through our PTO committees, special events, and fundraisers. For more information, visit [bulldogpto.org](http://bulldogpto.org).

## PTO MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to allow the Teachers and Administrators to focus their energies on the academic opportunities and achievements of our students, while providing a platform for parents and community members to lend support and be involved. Our purpose is to enhance and support the educational experience of our students by:

- Developing and promoting a sense of school spirit and community
- Providing volunteer opportunities
- Providing financial assistance through various fundraising opportunities

## PTO COMMITTEES

The Bulldog PTO includes four Board members and 12 committee chairs who, along with our wonderful parent volunteers, are all united by a shared passion for enhancing our school community.

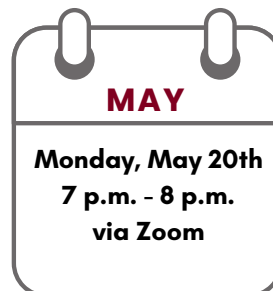
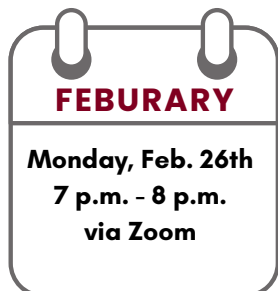
All of our committees are in need of volunteers. Our committees include:

- Annual Fundraiser
- Campus Beautification
- Garden
- Library
- Marketing
- Ongoing Fundraising
- SciTech
- Social
- Staff Appreciation
- Visual & Performing Arts
- Yearbook

To learn more about how you can get involved with a committee please go to [bulldogpto.org/get-involved](http://bulldogpto.org/get-involved)

## PTO MEETING DATES

PTO Meetings are held every other month usually on the third Monday. All parents and staff are welcome and encouraged to attend! Please mark your calendars for these meeting dates for the 2023-2024 school year.



# PTO DIRECTORY

## PTO Board Members

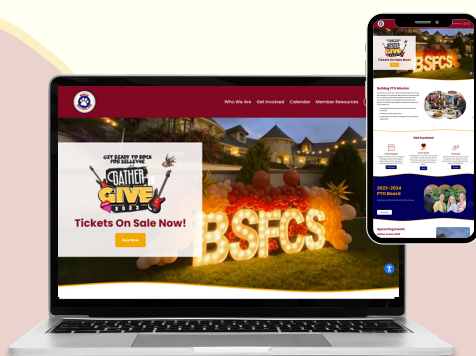
<b>President</b>	Mike Z. Robinson	bulldogptopresident@gmail.com
<b>Vice President</b>	Genie Kim	mrs.geniejkim@gmail.com
<b>Secretary</b>	Amanda Hughes-Martinez	hughes.amandam@gmail.com
<b>Treasurer</b>	Shena Hinds	shenahinds@gmail.com

## Committee Chairs

<b>Annual Fundraiser</b>	Chair Position Open for 24/25 event - Contact PTO@BSFCS.org if interested	
<b>Campus Beautification</b>	Brad & Wendy Kreller	kreller2124@aol.com
<b>Garden</b>	Elaine Elmore	elmorehome2010@gmail.com
<b>Library</b>	Stephanie Purvis	bsfcslibrary@gmail.com
<b>Marketing</b>	Dee Anna Paredes	bulldogPTOmarketing@gmail.com
<b>Ongoing Fundraising &amp; Social Committee</b>	Amber Idell	araecill@gmail.com
<b>SciTech</b>	Mike Morris	michaelmorris727@gmail.com
<b>Social Media</b>	Elaine Garcia	ballelaine@gmail.com
<b>Staff Appreciation</b>	Kristen McKiernan	kristen@accuzip.com
<b>Visual &amp; Performing Arts</b>	Chair Position Open - Contact PTO@BSFCS.org if interested	
<b>Yearbook</b>	Rosa Clark	rosaclark365@gmail.com

## Visit Our PTO Website!

[www.bulldogpto.com](http://www.bulldogpto.com)



- Get to know PTO members
- Learn about initiatives
- Find ways to get involved
- Latest PTO news
- Events calendar
- Member resources
- And more!





**Bulldog PTO**  
*Belleverne Buzz*

Buzz Editor-in-Chief: Dee Anna Paredes

For submissions, questions, feedback:  
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