

# CALIFORNIA WILDFIRES

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Hearing about the California wildfires can seem surreal. For many of us, it's hard to understand the devastation of such a catastrophe. People have lost homes, possessions, family, and friends. In a time of so much pain, there are still ways for mankind to come together and support each other. From the authorities handling the fires and chaos to unaffected students like you and me, we can all support those experiencing tragedy in California.

According to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, 337 wildfires have burned 57,636 acres, 16,244 structures, and most devastating, they have led to the death of 29 people. While mourning these losses, people have also been forced to leave their homes and find safety elsewhere. This year, the wildfires have left incredible devastation to the residents of California.



In the face of these travesties, people all over the country come together to support the cause. Brave first responders set out to contain and put out the fires. Donations are being sent from all over to help those who lost something in a fire recover. Everyone is sending prayers and their support to those affected by the fire and the first responders fighting it.

Here at Belleville East, we need to also do our part whether it is donating or just praying and sending good thoughts to those in the midst of this hardship. For more information about donations visit [redcross.org](https://www.redcross.org) or research other ways to give. Like all other devastating events, America will overcome these fires together.