

West Contra Costa Unified School District  
*Office of the Superintendent*

**Friday Memo**  
**January 31, 2020**

**Upcoming Events – Matthew Duffy**

February 1: Families Rising Together Event, DeJean MPR, 9-2  
February 4: Agenda Setting, Superintendent's Office, 4:30 PM  
February 4: Early Learning TK-2 STEM Night, Olinda ES  
February 6: Early Learning TK-2 STEM Night, Wilson ES  
February 6: Governance Committee, Alvarado, 5:00 PM  
February 6: MDAC, Helms, 6:30 PM  
February 7: MDAC, Kennedy, 9:00 AM  
February 11: Agenda Setting, Superintendent's Office, 4:30 PM  
February 12: Board of Education DeJean, 6:30 PM  
February 17-21: Presidents' Week Recess, Schools and Offices Closed  
February 24: Classes Reconvene

**Saturday Job Fair at DeJean - Matthew Duffy**

Due to uncertainty around our budget and not knowing exactly how many teachers will be needed for next year, we are postponing our job fair at DeJean for tomorrow, Saturday, February 1st. As we work through changes to our budget over the coming weeks, we will have a better idea of how many and what kinds of teachers we will need for next year. We have reached out to all who registered and are talking with them individually. We will have someone at the door there in case any others come to the fair. Thank you.

**K-8 Schools - Matthew Duffy**

At the last Board meeting, parents from a set of WCCUSD schools came to show their support for K-8 schools. We will be meeting with those schools again over the coming weeks and bring a final proposal on the 26th of February to the Board for a single school or multiple schools. This would be the last time we could decide to make the move for any school to K-8 to meet deadlines and timelines for next school year. Thank you.

**Black History Month - Matthew Duffy**

February is Black History Month. We are excited to have our students and schools further explore Black History and celebrate the rich history and legacy of the African American Community. Our Board celebration of Black History is set for February 26th. We will share more information about activities happening during the month including our first annual oratorical festival. Thank you.

**Friday Memo-Account Information Requested for Item C.2 at the January 29, 2020 Board of Education - Luis Freese**

At the Board meeting on January 29, 2020, the Board requested the full account code for all contracts listed for Board Item C.2. The table presented at the Board meeting has been updated to identify the full account code for all contracts. This format will be used for future reporting to the Board.

West Contra Costa Unified School District  
*Office of the Superintendent*

**News Articles of Interest - Marcus Walton**

The following news stories may be of interest. Copies of the articles are attached.

[https://www.sfchronicle.com/opinion/editorials/article/Editorial-Yes-on-California-Prop-13-1500322\\_1.php](https://www.sfchronicle.com/opinion/editorials/article/Editorial-Yes-on-California-Prop-13-1500322_1.php) - Editorial: Yes on California Prop. 13

**Budget Update - Matthew Duffy**

As our secondary schools begin the second semester of the school year, we are still deeply involved in trying to navigate our current budget challenge. I am writing to give you an update on our budget situation and share information on the next steps in the process.

All of the reductions that will be made are painful and will in some way change the way this District provides services. As we tackle this problem and search for solutions, I want you to know that we are keenly aware of the potential impact these decisions will have on the programs and services the District provides to students and families.

The budget deficit we face is \$47.8 million. We have made a commitment to reduce expenses by \$32 million in the 2020-21 school year and have decided to reduce the remaining \$16 million in the 2021-22 school year by utilizing a second year of our Fund 71 one-time reserves to attempt to minimize the impact of painful cuts while we advocate with Sacramento for more appropriate school funding. The use of reserves will allow us to make the reductions over two years. Doing so will allow us to understand what improvements to our budget may come next year with the new state budget and important initiatives on the ballot such as the "Schools and Communities First" measure to increase funding for education.

Our solution for the 2020-21 school year includes \$6 million in non-salary cuts, a \$2 million reduction in unrepresented central management personnel costs, \$2 million decrease in discretionary funds given to schools, and negotiating \$22 million in reductions from our four bargaining units.

As a first step in this process, the senior leadership team, as a result of feedback from multiple stakeholders, has identified more than [\\$6 million in non-salary reductions](#). This list will be discussed publicly at the February 12 board meeting and made public today. Many of our non-salary costs are fixed like electricity, insurance and others come from restricted pots of money for items such as special education services like transportation and specialized programs and also single use funds such as textbooks and instructional materials. This makes finding additional savings in this area a great challenge. Of the \$33 million in unrestricted non-salary expenses approximately \$24 - \$25 million of those fall into the "fixed cost" categories. The potential reductions of \$6 million represent almost a two-thirds reduction in support contracts. These cuts are very deep and for any that are not ultimately implemented a recommendation for a different cut will need to be presented to meet the target of \$6 million.

With a need to reduce \$32 million for the 20-21 school year, layoffs may be an unavoidable part of the solution. In an attempt to reduce the impact of any potential layoffs, the District is offering

West Contra Costa Unified School District  
*Office of the Superintendent*

permanent employees an early notification bonus if they notify us by February 14, 2020, of their intent to separate from District employment at the end of the school year. More details around this plan have been shared with District employees. It is my hope that early identification of employees who plan to leave the District will allow us to reduce the number of actual layoffs.

There have also been significant concerns about management reductions. The reductions in spending on management personnel are still being worked out and will be part of Board discussions in February. However, I want you to know that many of the rumors that have been spreading are untrue, such as the elimination of principals from our schools. Every school in the district will have a principal next year. All of our secondary schools will have assistant principals in some capacity. We will continue to work on the status of vice principals at the elementary schools which has been a new investment for us over the past three years.

Central office management staff will be significantly reduced next year in order to keep cuts away from the classrooms. Details of these central office management reductions will be shared both through upcoming updates and at our February Board meetings. These central office management cuts sadly will be severe. It is important for the community to know that the central office will sacrifice enormously in order to help balance our budget.

We are currently in discussions with the unions that represent District employees in an attempt to negotiate the more than \$22 million needed in reductions that are bound by contract. Because of this process, we will be unable to share certain information with the public although you may hear and see it from other sources. If you see information regarding potential reductions and have questions, we may not be able to answer them immediately in order to stay within the rules and norms about negotiations.

I encourage you to give your feedback either by [email](#) or at the next Board meeting. Additional information about the District's budget challenge can be found on our [budget information page](#).

**CUPCCAA Projects**  
**November 2019 - December 2019**

Site Name	Description	Vendor Name	Effective Date	Contract Amount	FD	Resc	Obj	Site	Goal	Func	MGR	Y	Prog
DOWNER ES	SERVER ROOM HVAC REPLACEMENT	BAY CITY MECHANICAL	12/18/19	7,100.00	01	8150	5630	612	0000	8110	400110	0	0000
FORD ES	KITCHEN COOLER COMPRESSOR REPAIR	MASSONE MECHANICAL I	12/30/19	3,798.44	13	5310	5630	651	0000	3700	600170	0	0000
GRANT ES	EXTERIOR INTERCOM SPEAKER INSTALLATION	SOUND AND SIGNAL INC	12/10/19	4,955.00	01	8150	5630	612	0000	8110	400110	0	0000
SHANNON ES	TREE REMOVAL	BAY AREA TREE CARE	12/10/19	1,850.00	01	9200	5630	613	0000	8250	400110	0	0000
WILSON TEMP CAMPUS	FIRE LINE CONTROL VALVE LEAK REPAIR	BATTALION ONE FIRE P	11/15/19	3,038.00	01	8150	5630	612	0000	8110	400110	0	0000
DEJEAN MS	PARKING LOT FENCING FOR ADULT ED	DRYCO CONSTRUCTION I	12/05/19	45,354.00	11	0000	6170	408	4110	8500	200140	0	0000
DEJEAN MS	BIRD EXCLUSION INSTALLATION	FALCON SERVICES INC	11/22/19	2,680.00	01	8150	5630	612	0000	8110	400110	0	0000
HELMS MS	GAS REGULATOR REPAIR	MCKIM CO	11/22/19	39,557.00	01	8150	5630	612	0000	8110	400110	0	0000
PINOLE MS	FIELD TURF MAINTENANCE	FIELDTURF USA INC	12/17/19	850.00	01	9200	5640	612	0000	8110	400110	0	0000
DE ANZA HS	FIELD TURF MAINTENANCE	FIELDTURF USA INC	12/10/19	7,050.00	01	9200	5640	612	0000	8110	400110	0	0000
EL CERRITO HS	FIELD TURF MAINTENANCE	FIELDTURF USA INC	12/17/19	10,575.00	01	9200	5640	612	0000	8110	400110	0	0000
HERCULES HS	FIELD TURF MAINTENANCE	FIELDTURF USA INC	12/09/19	7,050.00	01	9200	5640	612	0000	8110	400110	0	0000
KENNEDY HS	FIELD TURF MAINTENANCE	FIELDTURF USA INC	12/09/19	7,050.00	01	9200	5640	612	0000	8110	400110	0	0000
KENNEDY HS	WELDING SHOP COMPRESSOR INSTALLATION	STREAMLINE BUILDERS	12/18/19	1,379.00	01	8150	5630	612	0000	8110	400110	0	0000
PINOLE VALLEY HS	TRANSPORT STREET LIGHT POLES TO FACILITY OF PINOLE	ANAYA, JESSE	11/06/19	5,000.00	01	8150	5630	612	0000	8110	400110	0	0000
PINOLE VALLEY HS	FIELD TURF MAINTENANCE	FIELDTURF USA INC	12/11/19	3,525.00	01	9200	5640	612	0000	8110	400110	0	0000
RICHMOND HS	MUSIC ROOM BOILER REPLACEMENT	CITY MECHANICAL INC	11/14/19	44,725.00	01	8150	5630	364	0000	8110	400110	0	8151
RICHMOND HS	LIGHTING INVERTER BATTERY REPLACEMENT	POWER SERVICES	12/20/19	19,722.00	01	8150	5630	612	0000	8110	400110	0	0000
RICHMOND HS	MUSIC ROOM BOILER ABATEMENT	SANDSTONE ENVIRON	11/14/19	16,800.00	01	8150	5630	364	0000	8110	400110	0	8151
FOC BUILDING	HVAC REPAIR	LEGACY MECHANICAL	12/11/19	3,950.00	01	8150	5630	612	0000	8110	400110	0	0000
FOC BUILDING	EXTERIOR DOOR REPLACEMENT	PINGUELO CONSTRUCTIO	11/05/19	13,052.50	01	8150	5630	612	0000	8110	400110	0	0000
NUTRITION CENTER	WALK- IN REFRIGERATOR REPAIR	MASSONE MECHANICAL I	12/30/19	3,247.22	13	5310	5630	651	0000	3700	600170	0	0000
NUTRITION CENTER	COMPACTOR REPAIR	SUPERIOR EQUIPMENT C	09/11/19	3,000.00	13	5310	5640	651	0000	3700	600170	0	0000

Fund 01 (RRM)	161,958.50
Fund 01 (MRAD)	37,950.00
Fund 11 (Adult Education Fund)	45,354.00
Fund 13 (Cafeteria Fund)	10,045.66
<b>TOTAL BY FUND</b>	<b>255,308.16</b>

## Chronicle Editorial Board

Jan. 26, 2020 | Updated: Jan. 26, 2020 9:24 a.m.



Yes on Prop. 13

Photo: Getty Images

The only statewide measure on the March 3 primary is a \$15 billion bond to build and repair schools, from kindergarten through its public colleges and universities.

Proposition 13, given the size of the bond and the importance of education to California's future, merits a close look.

The need across the state is widespread, but it is not evenly distributed. Anyone who has visited a variety of campuses, at any level, know there are examples of both impressive

administrative support — with a formula designed to send the greatest resources to those serving the students with the most challenges.

## Unlimited Digital Access for 95¢

Read more articles like this by subscribing to the San Francisco Chronicle

SUBSCRIBE

As Tony Wold, an associate superintendent for the West Contra Costa Unified School District, put it, the allocation favors “districts with the most need, not the most lobbyists.”

In assessing requests, the Department of General Services would be required to establish priorities in the order of seismic risks; remediation of lead in water; order of applications; severe overcrowding; and consideration of the district’s tax base, proportion of English learners, students on free and reduced-cost meals, and foster youth. As part of its scoring, the department also would give weight to projects with a labor agreement.

The bond revenue would provide matching funds to school districts willing to cover at least 60% of modernization projects and 50% of new construction.

Here’s how the spending breaks down:

**Preschool and K-12, \$9 billion:** The largest portion would go toward updating school facilities (\$5.2 billion), followed by new construction (\$2.8 billion) and \$500 million each for charter schools and facilities for technical education.

**Colleges and universities, \$4 billion:** Of that money, \$2 billion would go to the California State University system and \$2 billion to the University of California and Hastings College of Law.

**Community colleges, \$2 billion:** The money would go toward capital projects.

About 70% of California’s K-12 school buildings are 25 years old or older. In some cases, the buildings at the state’s public colleges and universities are even older. The need is



---

of matching funds would be lower than that of wealthier districts.

State Sen. Steve Glazer, D-Orinda, one of the architects of the plan, said he was especially focused on higher education — which has not been the beneficiary of a statewide voter-approved bond since 2006. During that time, overall state support has been decreasing. As part of this deal, the UC and CSU systems would be required to adopt five-year affordable housing plans.

Glazer also noted that this measure drew bipartisan support in the Capitol. Gov. Gavin Newsom signed the legislation to put it on the ballot.

The bond repayments are expected to add about \$740 million a year to the state budget for the next 35 years. The spending is accompanied by annual independent audits and public hearings, so taxpayers can track where their money is going.

The main opposition to the ballot measure has come from the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association, which, naturally, is none too pleased that this tax-raising measure has the same number as the landmark tax-cutting measure of 1978. One of its substantive criticisms is that this Prop. 13 nearly doubles the limit on what a local school district can borrow.

A well-educated workforce is essential to California's future economy — and bringing the state's many substandard school facilities is critical to creating a learning environment. This is a big investment, but it is a wise investment.

We recommend a yes vote on Proposition 13.

*This commentary is from The Chronicle's editorial board. We invite you to express your views in a letter to the editor. Please submit your letter via our online form: [SFChronicle.com/letters](https://www.sfchronicle.com/letters).*

**Sign up for the Opinion Central newsletter**

[TOP](#)

## ABOUT

<a href="#">Our Company</a>	<a href="#">Terms of Use</a>
<a href="#">Privacy Notice</a>	<a href="#">Careers</a>
<a href="#">Your California Privacy Rights</a>	<a href="#">Advertising</a>
<a href="#">Interest Based Ads</a>	

## NEWSROOM

<a href="#">Ethics Policy</a>	<a href="#">Anonymous Sources Policy</a>
<a href="#">Correction Policy</a>	<a href="#">Endorsement Process</a>
<a href="#">Visual Ethics Guidelines</a>	<a href="#">News Tips</a>

## CONTACT

<a href="#">Customer Service</a>	<a href="#">Newsroom Contacts</a>
<a href="#">FAQ</a>	<a href="#">Homepage Redesign Feedback</a>

## CCPA

[Do Not Sell My Info](#)

## SERVICES

<a href="#">Profile</a>	<a href="#">Membership</a>
<a href="#">Subscriber Services</a>	<a href="#">Store</a>
<a href="#">e-edition</a>	<a href="#">Subscription Offers</a>
<a href="#">App</a>	<a href="#">sfgate.com</a>
<a href="#">Archives</a>	