

West Contra Costa Unified School District
Office of the Superintendent

Friday Memo
February 18, 2022

Upcoming Events – Kenneth Chris Hurst Sr., Ed.D

February 19: PVHS 3rd Annual Black History Month Commemorative Jubilee, Facebook Live

February 21-25: Presidents Week Recess (No School/District Holiday)

February 26: LifeLong Medical Clinic x WCCUSD to Hosts Community Vaccine Clinic 9-12:30pm,
LifeLong Brookside San Pablo Health Center

Next Board of Education Meeting March 2, 2022– Kenneth Chris Hurst Sr., Ed.D

LCAP Presentation data clarification - LaResha Martin, Luis Freese, Tracey Logan

[SLIDE 5] Fall 2021 County Williams FIT report: 21 out of 29 have Good/Exemplary facility ratings. Note that not all schools have Williams visits. Here is a [link to Williams page on the CDE](#)

Good/exemplary schools per Fall 2021 FITs (21):

1. Bayview
2. Chavez
3. Crespi
4. De Jean MS
5. Dover
6. Downer
7. El Cerrito HS
8. Helms
9. Hercules HS
10. Hercules MS
11. King
12. Korematsu
13. Lake
14. Lincoln
15. Obama
16. Murphy
17. Nystrom
18. Pinole Valley HS
19. Shannon
20. Tara Hills
21. Verde

Fair schools per Fall 2021 FITs (8):

1. DeAnza HS
2. Ford
3. Grant

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4. Kennedy HS
5. Mira Vista
6. Pinole MS
7. Richmond HS
8. Stege

[SLIDE 14] Chronic Absenteeism Rate: The mid-year Chronic Absenteeism data reported does not count the attendance code QC for Quarantine Care as an absence.

[SLIDE 14] Number of schools with attendance (ADA %) higher than 95% Totals below have been corrected and the specific schools are listed. Please note that we did not initially exclude the schools with different attendance systems when we should have, hence the correction.

Current: 2021-22 8/16/21 - 12/17/21 - **3 schools**

1. Kensington
2. Madera
3. Middle College

Baseline: 2019-20 8/19/19-12/6/19 - **23 Schools**

1. Dover
2. Fairmont
3. Grant
4. Hanna Ranch
5. Harding
6. Highland
7. Kensington
8. Lake
9. Lupine
10. Madera
11. Montalvin
12. Ohlone
13. Olinda
14. Riverside
15. Sheldon
16. West County Mandarin
17. Wilson
18. Korematsu
19. Helms
20. Hercules
21. De Anza
22. El Cerrito

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23. Middle College

Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment Secondary- LaResha Martin (Gabriel Chilcott & team)

Math Department (Mark Lobaco & Team)

The Math Department continues to work to align the math course sequence with recommendations from the CDE and considerations from the UC Board of Admissions. Common Core middle grades mathematics carries additional coherence and rigor that was missing in previous state standards. This coherence and rigor includes standards from Algebra I and Geometry that are now in Grade 8, adding to a solid foundation of skills and concept knowledge that best prepares students for high school mathematics. We aligned the district course progressions with the California Department of Education's (CDE) [Course Placement and Sequences](#). In addition, the new California Mathematics Framework is set to come out in May/June of 2022. A draft copy is available on the [CDE website here](#), and [Ch 7 reviews](#) tracking and 8th grade standards rigor.

Here is the district math website link to a page with additional information:

<https://www.wccusd.net/Page/11737>

When the standards shifted and Math 7 and Math 8 became more rigorous, it was determined that we were skipping over some very important areas of learning when we accelerated before 9th grade. For students that wish to pursue taking a course such as Calculus, there will be multiple acceleration points afforded to them in high school. Here is the [Math Parent Letter](#) with a couple of examples of High School Acceleration for reference. In addition, we are considering new advanced courses to offer pathways other than Calculus.

Science (John Iwawaki & Team)

Judging for the 2022 WCCUSD STEM Fair for students in grades 6-12 was held on Tuesday, February 15. Many of our 39 judges come from local industry partners such as UC Berkeley, Chevron, USDA, Bio-Rad and others. This year's fair has been entirely virtual. Nearly 100 students from 11 sites around the district presented their projects in Zoom breakout rooms, using Google Slides to show their work, and answer judges' questions. The Awards Ceremony was held via Zoom on Thursday, February 17. The top projects from WCCUSD will have the opportunity to move on to the regional Golden Gate STEM Fair, and the California Science & Engineering Fair.

African American Student Achievement - LaResha Martin (William McGee & Team)

Superintendent Dr. Chris Hurst will be speaking at the El Cerrito Branch of the NAACP meeting on Saturday, February 19, 2022, via zoom. To join the meeting, please contact Email Shirley Haney, Branch Secretary, to receive the invitation link: haneyshirley2@gmail.com.

Please join us for the Black History Month culminating ceremony Monday, February 28, 2022, at 6:00 pm via zoom.

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The African American Student of Honors celebration will be held on Thursday, May 19, 2022. The ceremony will be held in person for all eligible students grades 7-12. The criteria for this year's ceremony is as follows:

- Elementary Eligibility– ALL African American/Black elementary students will be recognized this year. Teachers will be asked to add a special recognition (attendance, behavior, above average test scores, etc.). If the special recognition for the elementary student is provided, it will be reflected on your child's certificate of achievement.
- Middle and High School Eligibility– Students with a cumulative unweighted grade point average of 3.0 and higher through the first three quarters of the school year will be recognized.

Please be on the lookout for school district, trustee area, AAPAC listening sessions. Along with the AASAT executive committee, the OAASA will be hosting sessions to learn and listen to our Black/African American families and students. The plan is for us to compile the information and present it to the AASAT as a whole and then the WCCUSD school board.

Richmond CDF Freedom School Community Showcase

Richmond CDF Freedom School is a culturally enriching summer literacy program aimed at preventing summer learning loss for K-7th students in West Contra Costa Unified School District with preference given to African-American students, Richmond residents and those on free and reduced lunch. The program strengthens academic, civic, and socioemotional skills in a creative, fun way with an emphasis on African-American history and culture. Children engage in learning, social justice, and intergenerational servant leadership taught by caring young adults who reflect the diversity of our community. **SPACE IS LIMITED, APPLY TODAY!!**

Join us for a zoom info session and program demonstration:
Thursday, February 10, 2022
6:30-7:30pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88367833073?pwd=ZjhOTG8wczVzR0c0aGc4MjdmVkJNbnZz09>
 Meeting ID: 883 6783 3073 Passcode: 8tT87IY93L

One tap mobile: +16699006833, 88367833073#,...*7328099435# US (San Jose)
 +13462487799, 88367833073#,...*7328099435# US (Houston)

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 +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Sponsored by:   A Fiscal Project of:  

Scan here for program details and the application! 

Questions? Contact:
 RichmondCDFFreedomSchool@gmail.com



BLACK COLLEGE EXPO

OAKLAND BLACK COLLEGE EXPO™

- GET ACCEPTED TO COLLEGE ON THE SPOT*
- RECEIVE SCHOLARSHIPS ON THE SPOT*
- COLLEGE APPLICATION FEES WAIVED*
- PLUS SURPRISE CELEBRITY GUEST APPEARANCES

*NOT APPLICABLE TO ALL COLLEGES
 *TRANSCRIPTS NEEDED; SOME SCHOOLS REQUIRE ACT/SAT SCORES

JOIN IN DURING OUR SEMINARS:

- 411 FOR THE STUDENT ATHLETE
- HOW TO FIND MONEY FOR COLLEGE
- HOW TO START A BUSINESS
- WHY ATTEND AN HBCU
- PLUS, WIN SCHOLARSHIPS, CASH, AND PRIZES

SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE: 2/14

BRINGING A GROUP?
 EMAIL US AT GROUPS@NCRFOUNDATION.ORG

FEBRUARY 26, 2022
 @ OAKLAND MARRIOTT
 10am-3pm Expo and 3-5pm Aftershow

  

Register today at NCRFoundation.org

Contract Update for the 03/02/22 Board Meeting- Robert McEntire-Mary Kitchen & Team

• **Altshuler Berzon LLC – Superintendent's Office**

Increase existing purchase order to continue receiving independent legal counsel for the Redistricting commission, including providing independent legal advice and helping with setting the agenda for Commission meetings and Brown Act compliance, when requested.

[Link to Additional Information](#)

• **Collingwood Research – Superintendent's Office**

Consultant will work with the Commission to develop a proposed Trustee Area map (or maps) for public review and input. Following such input, the Commission will be responsible for approving the map. That map will then be used in 2022, 2024, 2026, 2028, and 2030 Board elections. The consultant will provide mapping, demographic analysis, and community engagement support for the WCCUSD Independent Redistricting Commission's 2020 Census Board of Education Trustee Area Redistricting process that meets Federal and California Voting Rights Act requirements. Consultant's work under this Agreement shall be performed by Loren Collingwood, Sean Long, and other research associates who work with Collingwood Research under direct supervision of Loren Collingwood.

[Link to Additional Information](#)

• **Love Learn Success – Community Engagement – Verde and Montalvin Elementary Schools**

Love Learn Success (LLS) will provide services at Montalvin and Verde Elementary. The purpose is to connect the after school program and the day school program LLS at Verde Elementary and Montalvin Manor K8. They will partner to support students during unstructured time at recess and lunch to provide students with a caring adult that can support them to solve conflicts in the yard and engage in healthy eating and playing behavior in the cafeteria.

Montalvin Services: 3 after school program leaders and one site director will be on-site supporting between 2 and 2.5 hours a day weekly on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. These will be the same leaders and site directors that already serve our students during the after-school program and know the students daily. 4 days a week Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 10:30-1:00 PM

Verde Services: 4 after-school programs leaders and one site director will be on-site 3 hours a day. These will be the same leaders and site directors that already serve our students during the after-school program and know the students daily. 5 days a week Monday- Friday from 10:45 am - 2:30 PM at Verde Elementary.

[Link to Additional Information](#)

• **Love Learn Success – Ford Elementary School**

Love Learn Success will provide the following services at Ford Elementary School:

The goal of the Tier 2 small group intervention program is to give 1st-3rd grade students small group instruction and implement academic interventions. Love Learn Success is to give struggling students small group instruction to help them grow in English Language Arts in order to help them meet their school academic goals.

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This program has 2 staff members, working Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 11:00-2:00, for 2.5 hours a day, 4 days a week. Staff work with 4 groups a day for 30 minutes.

[Link to Additional Information](#)

• **McCown & Associates – Human Resources**

Increase existing purchase order to cover the professional services that we are receiving from McCown's & Associates. McCown & Associates provide professional services to represent, advise, counsel, and act as a legal representative for matters to, but not limited to, immigration legal services.

[Link to Additional Information](#)

• **StudioFive 10 – West County Mandarin**

The original contract is amended as follows: Adding Services at WC Mandarin

There will be one full-time employee at WC Mandarin. Monday-Friday from 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM.

StudioFive10 is grounded in principles that are designed to create powerful relationships, which are essential to building thriving communities and will provide the following services at Pinole Middle: Restoration Coordinators provide direct services to students, staff, and families. Restoration Coordinators facilitate conflict mediation circles, community building activities, social-emotional learning workshops, and provide restorative interventions with referred students.

The StudioFive10 Restoration Program aims to reduce suspension, office referrals, and student conflict. Restoration Coordinators will lead conflict mediation circles that bring all parties together to meet and settle on a plan to repair the harm. Students learn to resolve disagreements, take ownership of their behavior, and engage in acts of empathy and forgiveness.

[Link to Additional Information](#)

Communications Update - Ryan Phillips

Thursday, February 17, 2022

[High school basketball: Results and schedules for NCS and CCS playoffs](#) | SF Chronicle | Mitch Stephens
2 Salesian (10-8) at Pinole Valley HS. No. 6 Benicia (20-7) at No. 3 Redwood (24-5). Division III.
Tuesday's opening round. Friday's quarterfinals.

[American Canyon High boys basketball team advances with win over Cardinal Newman ...](#) | [VALLEJO TIMES-HERALD](#) |

The Wolves (20-6) will travel to Pinole Valley High on Saturday to face No. 2 Salesian in the North Coast Section Division II quarterfinals. The Pride (10-8) edged No. 15 Las Lomas 56-53 in the first round.

Wednesday, February 16, 2022

[Richmond author taps into love of thrillers with debut book](#) | Richmond Standard | By Kathy Chouteau
What began as a childhood passion for Richmond native Latuan Wheaton—tapping out stories on her kiddie typewriter—has blossomed into a writing career and the debut of her first book, [The Turn](#). The El

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Cerrito High School grad, who was part of the school's fiftieth graduating "Golden Class" in 1989, already has plans to publish another compilation of horror/suspense stories in her next book.

Tuesday, February 15, 2022

[Richmond resident's science team honored with Presidential Award](#) | Richmond Standard | By Kathy Chouteau

Dominique Carias, a Richmond resident and Pinole Valley High School junior, is among a group of students participating in California Academy of Sciences' [Careers In Science](#) Intern Program to have been honored with the [Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring](#) (PAESMEM). The Careers in Science program will be recognized with a citation signed by President Joe Biden, plus a \$10,000 award from the National Science Foundation (NSF). The group was recognized on Fri., Feb. 11 during a [live streamed virtual announcement](#).

[Should Bay Area schools turn excess land into new housing? - The Mercury News](#) | By [LOUIS HANSEN](#)

School districts in every Bay Area county have shown a willingness to develop housing for educators, including San Jose, Oakland, San Francisco and West Contra Costa unified districts, according to researchers.

Schools have already been hard hit by [declining student populations](#), as fewer couples are having families and settling in the high-cost region. Several school districts, [such as Oakland Unified](#), are considering shutting or merging campuses.

Monday, February 14, 2022

[Pinole Valley High to host alumni at dedication of Performing Arts Theatre](#) | Richmond Standard | By Kathy Chouteau

Pinole Valley High School (PVHS) has a new, state-of-the-art Performing Arts Theatre, and together with The Pinole Community Players, is welcoming school alumni to a dedication ceremony to honor teacher David Clark.

[COVID vaccine hesitancy remains in Bay Area's Black, Latino families - The Mercury News](#)

The West Contra Costa school board put the district's Feb. ... In Oakland Unified, about 35% of the district's 15,160 kids 12 and up have not ...

Friday, February 11, 2022

[Teacher Job Fair Planned For Pinole, Hercules Area Schools - Patch](#)

The pandemic has taken a toll on the teaching profession with distance learning, mask requirements, vaccine mandates and COVID testing. Finding enough regular and substitute teachers has put a strain on Pinole and Hercules schools and districts throughout the Bay Area.

In response, the Contra Costa County Office of Education has scheduled a county-wide Certificated Job Fair on Saturday, Feb. 26.