

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

**Friday Memo**  
**March 11, 2022**

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

March 12: Last Volunteer Fingerprint Party of the 21-22 School year, 9-12pm, Dejean Middle School

March 14: CBOC Meeting, 6:00-8:00 PM

March 17: Open House MS

**Next Board of Education Meeting March 16, 2022– Kenneth Chris Hurst Sr., Ed.D**

Closed Session will begin at 4:00pm

**Contract Update for the 3/16/22 Board Meeting- Robert McEntire, Mary Kitchen & Team**

**Bay Area Community Resources – Expanded Learning at Fairmont Elementary**

Contract increase for the remainder of 21-22 ASES grant award at Fairmont Elementary. Bay Area Community Resources will transition into serving as the lead agency operating the after school program at Fairmont. These initial funds will allow the partner to onboard at least two new staff who can overlap with the site's current partner and ensure a smooth transition to full program operations on 1/3/22. At that point BACR will assume full operations of the Tier 1 program funded to serve 83 students. Program will operate every day that school is in session from the end of the instructional day until 6:00 pm. The program will offer homework support and enrichment activities ranging from STEM, visual arts, performing arts, social and emotional skill-building, health and wellness activities including structured physical activity, as well as opportunities for family engagement. 83 students. The program shifted its scope of work in light of distance learning and operated virtually in the 2020-2021 SY. It did not meet the AMO for attendance targets. The California Department of Education (CDE) has held all LEAs harmless for their 20-21SY attendance in light of COVID-19 and did not issue any grant reductions.

[Link to Additional Information](#)

**Catholic Charities of the East Bay – Community Engagement-Kennedy & Richmond High**

Catholic Charities of the East Bay in partnership with the City of San Pablo will provide the following In-kind and fee-based services: Experience Hope partners with people, schools, and communities to create restorative and trauma-responsive systems. We train, coach, and provide technical assistance so you can build relationships that can withstand and respond to the challenges and tasks of life. We focus on individual and community trauma. The techniques are preventative and can be applied to multiple fields including education, social services, public safety, and advocacy. Services at Richmond High: -Onsite restorative practice training series provided to teachers focusing on tier 1 practices. -Onsite/Online restorative practices coaching for teachers and support staff. -3 weekly tier 2 restorative student circles. -Coaching trained school staff in developing and delivering restorative interventions that address discipline, build community, and support a restorative school climate. -Individual restorative check-ins with students upon request. Services at Kennedy:- Full-time coordination and direction of KHS Health Center. -at least 2 weekly tier 2 restorative student

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circles. -Staff Training to support the creation of a restorative school community and supporting the successful implementation of groups and school-wide restorative practices. -Training modules include: Creating Restorative Trauma-Responsive Systems and Skills for Restorative and Trauma-Responsive Systems. -Restorative case management services are offered to at least 25 students through individual sessions. Case Management services will focus on aspects of a student's life that are interfering with school success. This contract was previously board approved on 12/15 for \$110,000, it has been refined to add services at Kennedy High School, it is coming back for approval of the additional \$65,000 and modification of funding for Richmond High.

[Link to Additional Information](#)

**East Bay Center for Performing Arts – Expanded Learning at Fairmont & Grant Elementary**

East Bay Center for the Performing Arts will provide modern dance classes at Grant Elementary. EBCPA will provide a teaching artist for three 1 hour sessions twice a week for a total of nine weeks between March 7th, 2022 and May 13th, 2022. East Bay Center will also provide a teaching artist at Fairmont Elementary for three 1 hour sessions once a week for a total of 14 weeks. 120 Students

[Link to Additional Information](#)

**Nichols Strategies – Superintendent's Office**

Nichols strategies, LLC will enter into an agreement with WCCUSD to provide the following services

- Strategic planning and advising
- Situation analysis and issues management
- Communication leadership and support
- Communication support
- Contract management and evaluation.

[Link to Additional Information](#)

**Playworks Education Energized – Community Engagement-Tara Hills & Grant**

Playworks mission is to improve the health and well-being of children by increasing opportunities for physical activity and safe, meaningful play. To improve the overall school climate by creating a safe, productive, inclusive, high-functioning recess.

Services will be provided at Tara Hills and Grant each will have one Playworks coach. Coaches work 40 hours per week. Most weeks, coaches will be on-site 35+ hours per week.. [Link to Additional Information](#)

### **The Regents of the University of California – College & Career Department**

The vision of the University’s Center for Educational Partnerships (“CEP”) on behalf of the Destination College Advising Corps (“DCAC”) is to make college a viable option for all students. In partnership with UC Berkeley Early Academic Outreach Program (EAOP), Destination College Advising Corps looks to achieve this by working collaboratively with target schools and partner programs focused on research-based best practices that enable underrepresented, low-income and first-generation college students to access post-secondary education.

DCAC increases the college-going rate of students at El Cerrito High School, Hercules High School, John F. Kennedy High School, Pinole Valley High School, Richmond High School, and De Anza High School and provides comprehensive college awareness, mentorship, resources, preparation, advising, and information through the efforts of a dedicated College Adviser Fellow at each school site.

EAOP PCA funding for summer 2022: \$49,000 to continue PCA programming for 84 WCCUSD students. Recruitment and planning begins in August 2021.

The Pre-College Academy (PCA) is a six-week college-preparatory summer program hosted by the Early Academic Outreach Program (EAOP) at the University of California, Berkeley. For over 30 years, PCA has provided intensive academic enrichment for EAOP students from partner high schools in the Bay Area. PCA prepares students for their academic and professional future by providing them with the opportunity to participate in the University of California’s tradition of educational excellence and diversity.

As part of a community of college-bound scholars, PCA students take two courses: a theme-based College Writing course and choice of a Math (Geometry, Algebra II or Pre-Calculus). Co-curricular weekly activity sessions include team building, leadership activities, and college advising. One-third of PCA’s student enrollment is from WCCUSD. PCA enrolls 250 students from 18 partner high schools in the Bay Area.

[Link to Additional Information](#)

### **WCC Public Ed Fund – West Coast Chess – Expanded Learning for Coronado, Dover, Downer and Grant Elementary Schools**

West Coast Chess Alliance will conduct chess classes at four sites in WCCUSD's after school programs. Each site will receive three 1 hour chess classes. Each class will consist of 20 students rotating for one hour of instruction for nine weeks total from the week of March 7th through May 20th, 2022. There will be one instructor per site. Two sites will be served on Monday and Wednesday. Two sites will be served on Tuesdays and Thursdays. 240 Students.

[Link to Additional Information](#)

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## **Communications Update - Ryan Phillips**

### **Thursday, March 10, 2022**

**[No layoffs for WCCUSD teachers after board votes down most proposed job cuts ...](#)** | **Richmond Confidential** | **Julie Bisharyan**

Amid backlash from burnt-out teachers, the West Contra Costa Unified School District board voted against cutting about 93 teachers and 100 other school employee positions during a special meeting Wednesday night. A resolution to lay off three principals and two assistant principal positions passed with only one no vote, from Trustee Jamela Smith-Folds. The layoffs were part of \$34.8 million in budget cuts intended to address a deficit that likely will prompt the Contra Costa County school superintendent to intervene to sort out the district's finances and keep it from running out of cash.

### **Wednesday, March 9, 2022**

**[West Contra Costa Unified school board to vote tonight on layoffs](#)** | **EdSource** | **Ali Tadayon**

A week ahead of the [state-mandated March 15 deadline](#) to formally notify school employees who could be out of work next year, West Contra Costa Unified's school board were to vote at a [special meeting Wednesday night](#) on \$12.5 million in staff cuts.

**[Richmond Promise application deadline extended](#)** | **Richmond Promise** | **Kathy Chouteau**

The Richmond Promise scholarship application deadline has been extended to April 13, almost a month past the original application deadline.

The extra time comes in the wake of Cal Grant's extension of financial aid application deadlines to March 31 for students attending schools within the West Contra Costa Unified School District (WCCUSD), according to Richmond Promise.

### **Monday, March 7, 2022**

**[Ed Fund names Teaching Excellence Award finalists](#)** | **Richmond Standard** | **Kathy Chouteau**

The West Contra Costa Public Education Fund (Ed Fund) has announced the eight finalists of its 2022 Teaching Excellence Award. Nominations came in from throughout the West Contra Costa Unified School District (WCCUSD) and the Ed Fund identified the eight teachers who "represented the best of the district."

### **Saturday, March 5, 2022**

**[Court activity on Feb. 7: Jiayang Wu vs West Contra Costa Unified School District](#)** | **Northern California Record**

The Contra Costa Superior Court reported the following activity in the suit brought by Jiayang Wu against West Contra Costa Unified School District on Feb. 7: 'Case Management Conference Statement Filed By West Contra Costa Unified School District'. Case number MSC19-02703 was filed in the Contra Costa Superior Court on Dec. 31, 2019.