

West Contra Costa Unified School District
Office of the Superintendent

Friday Memo
March 4, 2022

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

March 10: WCCUSD Teacher Virtual Recruitment Fair, 3:30-6:30pm on Zoom

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

Next Board of Education Meeting March 9, 2022– Kenneth Chris Hurst Sr., Ed.D

Closed Session will begin at 4:30pm

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

World Languages (Emily Hill & Team)

World language courses were determined by the curriculum team to be the next adoption. The process for selecting new instructional materials for High School Spanish instruction began with becoming familiar with the criteria for world languages materials put forth by the CDE. The group agreed that these criteria were in alignment with what they were seeking for materials to use within WCCUSD. After several presentations from publishers and analysis using the criteria, all programs were eliminated except for materials from Wayside and Vista Higher Learning. We then moved to the pilot phase. A group of teachers tested the Wayside materials with their students while another group tested the materials from Vista. Each group included teachers at different schools across the district. At the end of the pilot, the committee discussed the pros and cons of each program and how they compared to the criteria, and then voted unanimously to move forward with the materials from Vista Higher Learning for all HS Spanish courses. The Educational Services department will bring this adoption recommendation to the Board of Education in April.

Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) (Pat Martin & Team)

The VAPA department is happy to bring you an update on some of the wonderful arts related accomplishments this year. [Here is the link to the VAPA newsletter.](#)

Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment Early Learning/Elementary- LaResha Martin (Christi Roscigno & team)

Building Internal Capacity for Elementary Literacy

Professional Learning for District Level Literacy Lead Teachers with TCRWP's Director of Innovation, Colleen Cruz took place on March 1, 2022 with District Level Elementary Literacy Lead Teacher Leaders (D-ELTLs) participating in Professional Learning with our Partners from Columbia University. The emphasis of the session was on building the capacity of the D-ELTLs with [Coaching methods](#) to support teacher growth with literacy practices. 11 out of 14 of the D-ELTLs had substitute teachers and were able to participate in the full day training.

Student ages 12+ Vaccination Status Update (as of 3/2/22) - Tracey Logan

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Below you will find student ages 12+ vaccination status update as of March 2, 2022. Please note that the numbers have changed since our Board presentation which was based on data from February 28, 2022. This change is due to students turning 12 years old and changes in vaccination status. We are unable to provide ELD levels in this report at this time.

Vaccination Status by Ethnicity

	Fully vaccinated 1 dose	Fully vaccinated 2 doses	Medical excuse	No plan for vax	None but will	Unknown
American Indian or Alaska Native	5	71		2	3	11
Asian	21	1333		7	4	93
Black or African American	116	1465	1	14	25	458
Filipino	7	704		5	3	36
Hispanic or Latino	231	5531	2	26	47	769
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	7	96		2	1	23
Unknown/Decline	1	26				2
White	23	1287	2	6	5	115
Total	411	10513	5	62	88	1507

Vaccination Status by Ethnicity - 12th Grade Students

	Fully vaccinated 1 dose	Fully vaccinated 2 doses	Medical excuse	No plan for vax	None but will	Unknown
American Indian or Alaska Native	3	17				2
Asian	2	258		1		8
Black or African American	20	253		1	7	57
Filipino		103		2		5
Hispanic or Latino	27	864	1	4	8	96
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	1	22		1		4
Unknown/Decline		4				
White	4	192				12
Total	57	1713	1	9	15	184

Vaccination Status by Student Subgroup

	Fully vaccinated 1 dose	Fully vaccinated 2 doses	Medical excuse	No plan for vax	None but will	Unknown
EL	158	2707	1	10	24	398
Foster	4	41			2	9
FIT	17	294		7	13	80
SPED	71	1417	1	11	16	266
Total	250	4459	2	28	55	753

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Vaccination Status by Grade Level

	Fully vaccinated 1 dose	Fully vaccinated 2 doses	Medical excuse	No plan for vax	None but will	Unknown
5	2	15			1	17
6	75	685		6	12	253
7	64	1429	2	8	5	227
8	51	1457		3	6	177
9	54	1678	1	14	16	185
10	60	1708	1	11	14	237
11	48	1747		11	19	213
12	57	1713	1	9	15	184
13		81				14
Total	411	10513	5	62	88	1507

WCCUSD Food Service Celebrates National School Breakfast Week March 7-11, 2022- Robert McEntire (Barbara Jellison & Team)

WCCUSD is launching a delicious new initiative with Conscious Kitchen: [Project Cereal](#). The campaign sets students up for health and success while transforming school food supply chains to include more fresh and organic. Focusing on a bowl of cereal is a simple, measurable, achievable step schools can take to positively impact bodies and minds, climate, and local economies.

Why organic? Organic foods do not contain harmful pesticides and chemicals, use fewer petroleum-based inputs, create less externalities, have higher nutrition, and are better for people and the environment.

Project Cereal aims to further the organic movement in school districts across the state and country so that all students can enjoy healthy, nourishing starts to their day. Join the movement to ensure the resilience of our children, lands, and future — one bowl of cereal at a time.

Kicking off with an event on Monday, March 7th, and all week, WCCUSD and Conscious Kitchen will host breakfast daily with organic cereals and/or a special entrée, nutritious local organic milk, and farm-fresh organic produce.

National School Breakfast Week was launched in 1989 to raise awareness of the availability of the School Breakfast Program, a federally assisted meal program operating in public and non-profit private schools and residential child care institutions since 1975.

In addition to our National School Breakfast Week Celebration, please check out this informative article about organic meals in California schools. The article highlights WCCUSD Food Services’ journey through its partnership with Conscious Kitchen to get more fruits, vegetables, and meats from organic farms into meals served to our district’s students. Civil Eats is a daily news source for critical thoughts about the American food system.

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<https://civileats.com/2022/02/28/coronavirus-pandemic-disruptions-organic-school-food-meals-opportunity/>

For more information on WCCUSD meal programs, go to wccusd.net or call WCCUSD Food Services at 510-307-4580. For more information on Conscious Kitchen, go to consciouskitchen.org or call 415-289-1001.

Communications Updates- Ryan Phillips

WCCUSD in the News, week ending March 4, 2022

March 1st

Chevron Richmond Black History celebration embraces past, educates present and enriches future |

The Richmond Standard - Mike Aldax

After recalling the monumental achievements of African Americans throughout history, Williams lauded the achievements of four current students from the West Contra Costa Unified School District (WCCUSD) who earned scholarships as part of the Dr. William F. King Scholarship Program. Student winners this year are Olana Abraham of Middle College High (1st place, \$3,000 scholarship); Hillary Khuu of Hercules High (2nd Place, \$2,000); Malik Jones of El Cerrito High (3rd Place, \$1,750); and Irene Kou of De Anza High (4th Place, \$1,250).

March 4th

WCCUSD updates masking guidance | The Richmond Standard - Kathy Chouteau

West Contra Costa Unified School District (WCCUSD) Superintendent Dr. Kenneth Chris Hurst announced in a district communication this morning that, as of today, the district will no longer require students and employees to wear masks outdoors. They will still be required for both students and employees indoors and when passing periods, which the superintendent defined as “not considered outdoors.” The WCCUSD’s updated masking requirements come on the heels of Gov. Gavin Newsom’s [announcement](#) this week that the state’s mask mandate for schools will be lifted on March 12.