West Contra Costa Unified School District Office of the Superintendent

Friday Memo November 5, 2021

Upcoming Events – Dr. Kenneth C. Hurst

November 8: Citizens Bond Oversight Committee, 6:00 PM

November 9: Independent Redistricting Commission Meeting, 6:30 PM

November 11: Veterans' Day Holiday

November 17: Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 PM, DeJean Middle School

Next Board of Education Meeting November 17- Dr. Kenneth C. Hurst, Sr.

Closed session will begin at 4:30 PM.

Emergency Connectivity Fund approved \$3,971,702.13 - Tracey Logan, Chief Technology Officer

On August 4, 2021, the Board of Education approved WCCUSD's application for Round 1 of the federal Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) Program designed to help districts bridge the digital divide. We are delighted to report that WCCUSD has been funded a total of \$3,971,702.13 to help us bridge the digital divide in 2021-22. You may find the details below.

| ECF Round 1 Items for purchase | Total Cost | Cost funded by ECF |
|---|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 1,000 Acer chromebooks for new students and replacement of loss | \$357,790.10 | \$357,790.00 |
| 300 Lenovo staff laptops for new teachers and refresh | \$466,939.31 | \$120,000.00 |
| 1500 HP Chromebooks for support staff | \$608,692.13 | \$608,692.13 |
| Data lines for 12,000 student hotspots with T-Mobile | \$2,880,000.00 | \$2,880,000.00 |
| Data lines for 10 AT&T student hotspots in TMobile dead zones | \$5,220.00 | \$5,220.00 |

| Total upfront cost to WCCUSD (General Fund) | Total reimbursement by ECF | Total net cost to WCCUSD |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| \$4,318,641.54 | \$3,971,702.13 | \$346,939.41 |

As a reminder, WCCUSD also applied for a Round 2 of ECF funding, and we are still awaiting the funding results.

Contracts Update for the 11/17/21 Board Meeting – Business Services, Mary Kitchen

• Bay Area Community Resources – James Morehouse Project – El Cerrito High School The JMP strengthens student and family engagement and improves school climate through our Counseling/Case Management, School Climate & YD Programs at El Cerrito High School. This work strengthens young people and their families' sense of belonging and connectedness at school, and teachers' capacity to work skillfully with a diverse student population. The JMP provides targeted services to English learners, low-income students, and foster youth, including: Individual and Crisis Counseling; Therapeutic and Youth Development Groups; Parent/ELAC Support; Teacher & Staff Support, specifically around working with trauma-impacted youth; and Restorative Practices.

Link to Additional Information

• Bay Area Community Resources - Expanded Learning - Kennedy High School BACR will operate the school-based expanded learning Program at Kennedy HS. This Tier 1 program is funded to serve 132 students and will operate every day that school is in session from the end of the instructional day until 6:00 pm. The program offers homework supports 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. These carryover funds from the 2020-2021FY will allow BACR to bring in additional subcontractors to provide new work-based learning opportunities and social-emotional supports for students.

Link to Additional Information

• Bay Area Community Resources – BAYAC – Americorps – Lake Elementary School BAYAC AmeriCorps is a National Service program of BACR which places AmeriCorps members who commit to a service term at schools and community-based organizations providing youth in the Bay Area with opportunities for meaningful engagement, skill-building, and emotional/social development.

AmeriCorps members serve children and youth that are deeply impacted by the stressors and obstacles presented by poverty, disadvantaged neighborhoods and under-resourced schools. BAYAC AmeriCorps Members are an essential component in expanding our partners' capacity to meet the critical needs of our youth and community.

Link to Additional Information

• Bay Area Community Resources – Mental Health Trainees – Dover, King, Riverside, Farimont, and Montalvin Elementary Schools

BACR's Mental Health trainees will help to enhance the socio-emotional / behavioral health of students, families, and schools. Their restorative, culturally humble, and trauma-informed behavioral health services help youth and families cope with emotional/life circumstances and

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develop positive strategies so they can be successful and healthy in and out of school. They also work with caregivers to strengthen their ability to resolve problems and to support their youths' emotional and academic growth.

Each site receives 2 full days per week, 8:30 - 4:30; days are dependent on trainees' graduate school schedule. This program will serve 25 - 30 students per site for individual and group counseling services. This number may be increased by providing classroom education presentations or intervention (approximately 30 - 60 depending on how many classes desire support).

Link to Additional Information

BACR will operate the school-based expanded learning Program at Richmond HS. This Tier 1 program is funded to serve 132 students and will operate every day that school is in session from the end of the instructional day until 6:00 pm. The program offers homework supports 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

Bay Area Community Resources – Expanded Learning – Richmond High School

opportunities for family engagement. These carryover funds from the 2020-2021FY will allow BACR to bring in additional subcontractors to provide new work-based learning opportunities and social-emotional supports for students.

Link to Additional Information

• Bay Area Community Resources – BAYAC – Americorps – Tara Hills Elementary School BAYAC AmeriCorps is a National Service program of BACR which places AmeriCorps members who commit to a service term at schools and community-based organizations providing youth in the Bay Area with opportunities for meaningful engagement, skill-building, and emotional/social development.

AmeriCorps members serve children and youth that are deeply impacted by the stressors and obstacles presented by poverty, disadvantaged neighborhoods, and under-resourced schools. BAYAC AmeriCorps Members are an essential component in expanding our partners' capacity to meet the critical needs of our youth and community.

Link to Additional Information

• Bay Area Peacekeepers – Richmond High School

Bay Area Peacekeepers (BAP) will serve 250 students at Richmond High School. Students will have access to groups and 1:1 mentoring. The expected outcomes are for students to decrease their high-risk behaviors, decrease their disciplinary, increase their attendance, decrease gang affiliation. BAP's goals are to help students create positive communication with their teachers, administrators, and CSO's. In addition, conflict mediation will be provided for students who have conflicts between their peers and/or staff. Bay area peacekeepers will evaluate the students by utilizing a survey and comparing their attendance/grades of life skills participants first quarter and

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last quarter to show improvement. 5 days a week, 9 am to 4 pm. Bap will provide two full-time site facilitator/intervention specialists and one part-time Spanish-speaking facilitator assigned to help support the international academy students, staff will be supported by a program manager for the duration of the project. The program aims to decrease violence and gang activity on campus, increase the attendance of participating students, empower students, and provide better communication amongst students, staff, and the community. Services will be provided at Richmond high. Additional AMOs: bay area peacekeepers will evaluate the students by utilizing a survey and comparing their attendance/grades of life skills participants first quarter and last quarter to show improvement

Link to Additional Information

• Be the Change Consulting – Expanded Learning

Bayview, Betty Reid Soskin, Chavez, Coronado, DeJean, Dover, Downer, Ford, Grant, Helms, Highland, Kennedy, King, Korematsu, Lake, Lincoln, Michelle Obama, Mira Vista, Montalvin, Murphy, Nystrom, Peres, Richmond, Riverside, Sheldon, Stege, Tara Hills, Verde, and Washington Schools

Be The Change will provide professional development and support for implementing the Building Intentional Communities curriculum at 30 Expanded Learning sites. Be The Change will host 2 virtual pieces of training in August, create 5 YouTube videos and provide 8 hours of group coaching for site coordinators. BTC will also facilitate climate reset training. BTC will implement a Leaders of Today community of practice (3 parts for a total of 6 hours) that includes a 10-step implementation guide. BTC will facilitate a Building Intentional Communities Training of Trainers for site coordinators (3 parts for a total of 6 hours.) Lastly, BTC will provide 20 hours of individual coaching. Up to 200 staff.

Link to Additional Information

• East Bay Center for Performing Arts - King, Mira Vista, Nystrom, and Sheldon Elementary Schools

East Bay Center's Mafanikio enrichment program provides arts instruction to all students enrolled in each school's after school Mafanikio program. Surveys to school staff and administration will be issued twice per year to measure overall program satisfaction and student growth, focusing the programs efficacy and positive impact on classroom culture, socio-emotional learning, and fostering student agency. Students will be assessed both formally and informally for skill development three times a year; these assessments will include virtual performances and share outs, where students will be able to demonstrate what they have learned. The Mafanikio enrichment curriculum is aligned with East Bay Center's "Deep Roots Wide World" Curriculum, which approaches teaching fundamental music skills through rich global traditions that builds upon the Center's 52 years of artistic training programs. In 2021-2022, we will focus on Afro-Diasporic culture and dance disciplines, including West African dance, Afro-Pop dance, Hip

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Hop, and Samba. All teaching artists are experienced and established Black artists who represent diverse cultures and backgrounds.

Link to Additional Information

• Ellevation – English Learner Achievement (Multilingual and Multicultural)

Ellevation is a supplemental instructional technology solution focused exclusively on improving the language proficiency and academic content achievement of ELs, offering technology and professional development to help educators enhance their instruction, productivity, and collaboration.

Link to Additional Information

• Expanded Learning – Bay Area Community Resources, Love Learn Success and YMCA Bayview, Chavez, Coronado, Dover, Downer, Ford, Grant, Highland, Lake, Lincoln, King, Obama, Mira Vista, Montalvin, Murphy, Nystrom, Peres, Riverside, Sheldon, Stege, Tara Hills, Verde, and Washington Elementary Schools.

This Tier 1 youth development program will provide participating children and youth a safe environment to engage in a range of academic enrichment activities from Book Nook, a reading intervention program, to tutoring and structured homework support. Additionally the program will provide youth with a range of enrichment offerings which will include some of the following: physical activity; social and emotional skill development; 21st century skills; visual and performing arts; nutrition education; gardening and cooking classes; and STEM. Program will be open to participants from the end of the instructional day and until 6pm every day that school is in session. This increase is to provide additional funding to support staff professional development. All elementary and K-8 programs will receive a contract increase of \$7,000 in carryover funds. Four Love Learn Success sites (Grant, Lake, Peres & Verde) will receive a contract increase of \$7,000 from Kids Code funding to offer coding class.

Link to Additional Information

• Kiraa Easter – Richmond High School

With the overall academic success of students at the forefront, the facilitator will provide psycho-education and guidance to students in cohorts; determined by grade and readiness at Richmond high school.

Onsite cohort workshops include:

- Three cohort workshops per week (9th gr cohort, 10th-11th gr cohort, 12th gr cohort). Each cohort will serve ten students each for6-wks sessions. Subsequent cohorts of new students will begin after each 6-wks-week period. There will be a total of 180 students served by the end of school 2021-2022.
- One weekly check-in and/or strategy meeting with administrators or staff leads.
- One quarterly check-in at staff meetings.

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Student cohort group: the weekly groups are designed to help students develop the comprehensive skills necessary to manage both intrapersonal and interpersonal relationships. Students will learn how to express themselves in an effective manner. They will also learn how to implement grounding techniques in moments of distress. Through psycho-education, students will learn how to identify their needs as it pertains to emotional wellness. Groups will foster community, self-reflection, and self-progression; which in turn will create healthier learning environments. Staff check-ins: quarterly check-ins with staff will allow space for the facilitator to survey the needs and effectiveness of workshops. Measures of success: increased classroom engagement as measured by the teacher and student surveys; improved communication and emotional regulation skills as measured by staff/student surveys and attendance reports.

Link to Additional Information

Love Learn Success – Montalvin and Verde Elementary School

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 and Montalvin Manor K8 will partner to support students, 575 students Kindergarten through 8th grade during unstructured time at recess and lunch to provide students with a caring adult that can support them to solve conflicts on the yard and engage in healthy eating and playing behavior in the cafeteria. Link to Additional Information

Mary's Help DBA Bay Area Transitional Services – DeJean Middle School

Mary's help dba bay area transitional services will provide a full services school director (FSCS) at DeJean middle school. The FSCS director maintains responsibility to initiate, facilitate and coordinate programs and strategies that are aligned with the school plan. The FSCS director develops, promotes & works with school Administrators to systematically establish the best use of school and community resources that will create & maintain optimal positive impact on school operations and service. The FSCS director is tasked with enhancing school, community & partner assets, meeting critical human service needs, and promoting long-term solutions & sustainability for the school site. The FSCS director will work with community stakeholders to maximize available resources, identify new partnerships and grant opportunities, and manage philanthropic relationships. The FSCS director will also work in close collaboration with site partners and staff to target & deliver appropriate student supports in & out of the classroom, with a focus on engaging parents & community members in that process. The strategic methodology in which the FSCS director will meet the program criteria selected in this section ore outlined in the attached proposal, specifically on pages three through seven of the proposal. All additional & relevant annual measurable outcomes are outlined in the FSCS director proposal attached herewith. The proposal clearly outlines & charts how the assigned FSCS director, bay area transitional servs. Sets forth to monitor & evaluate the implementation & effectiveness of the program position. The methodology & frequency of assessment is also outlined in the attached FSCS director proposal.

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The program will service will be available to the entire student population & their families. It is projected that 100%s of the student at DeJean MS population will be impacted by the service delivery either indirectly or directly. One director 4 days, 30 hours per week.

Link to Additional Information

• New Life Movement – Office of African American Student Achievement Kennedy, Hercules, Pinole Valley, Richmond, El Cerrito, Greenwood Academy, DeAnza High Schools

New Life Movement School Engagement mentorship program will support students facing chronic truancy and help students get back on track. New Life will do this by conducting an initial interview including questions from Tripod 7 C's Framework, measures on self-esteem. self-efficacy and resilience, and a holistic approach to identifying other barriers to academic re-engagement. New Life will connect with the school care team in addition to intentional monitoring phase which includes tracking attendance, grades, homework and project due dates, and other critical academic responsibilities. 2 mentors with 25 students at 7 different school sites. Mentors help establish goals and monitor student improvement.

Link to Additional Information

• Peacemakers - Coronado and King Elementary Schools

Services will be offered 5 days/6 hrs p/w. Goals for this contract include

- 1. ATTENDANCE DECREASE 3%: Creating accountability partnership with parents. Home visit to unravel family's issues that may be affecting attendance such as community resources: food, clothing, shelter, medical/dental, etc.
- 2. Reduce referrals/Suspension 5%: SEL 1:1 teaching power of SELF-LOVE to self-respect, pride & responsibility, pre-RJ circles as well as the inclusivity of parent participation to create accountability.
- 3. Participation 85%: Engage leadership qualities of responsibilities around at times being timekeepers, presenter, topic selection, and meeting caller all with the goals of ownership as a member of the SEL group circle. Finally hiking to be in nature and learning power of Stillness
- 4. Participant Growth 85% -Compliments & recognition for minor major accomplishments such as 3 days perfect attendance Call home each day is a huge example of motivation/encouragement to increase significant accomplishments one step at a time.
- 5. Satisfaction 85%-Bridging consistent communication with parents regarding child's progress, bridging the teacher as recognizing support person, of course, student.

 <u>Link to Additional Information</u>

• Rich City Kids – Office of African American Student Achievement Bayview, Pinole Middle and Stege Elementary School

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The program will provide high quality tutoring services in English Language Arts and Math in a small setting using material and resources aligns with the common core standards. The program will also work collaboratively with school site teachers and administration to track assessment outcomes and grades to better measure student's success and progress.

Link to Additional Information

• Ro Health – Special Education Department

Provides hard to fill licensed vocational nurse and health aide serves to students with medical needs per the IEP. Provides staff in hard to fill positions and highly specialized CDE certified programs to fulfill IEP services to ensure that students with disabilities have appropriate and legally services on the first day of instruction.

Due to Student Protection Act no attachments will be provided for NPA/NPS services

• School Specialty – Business Services

Procurement Contract #R191815 19 (OMNIA Partners Piggyback). The district will procure 300 air purifier units for classrooms throughout the district. The district will utilize the OMNIA contract through School Specialty.

Link to Additional Information

• West Contra Costa Public Education Fund – Expanded Learning

Jennifer Johnson Lynch will be providing support for projects related to operations and systems development.

- (1) Operations Design an annual process for WCCUSD Expanded Learning (EL) Team to utilize and share with partners that ensures all sites are meeting compliance standards creating a strategic approach to Federal Program Monitoring. Elements will include processes as well as site visit schedules and observation lists for EL Team to use. Includes development of 2 slide decks will be produced to be used for training of Site Coordinators and staff.
- (2) Request for Qualifications Process Will work with WCCUSD EL Team to revise and align the existing RFQ process to the YPQA Form B. Will create a deck to be used for future bidders' conferences.
- (3) ELO and 21CCLC Coaching Support. Will work with WCCUSD EL Team to streamline central systems to support the expansion of after school and summer programs. Will provide support to the team on development of a comprehensive vision for summer using braided funding sources and in alignment with the three separate sets of operational and programmatic requirements.

Link to Additional Information

Educational Services - Committees - LaResha Martin

West Contra Costa values input from various stakeholders to make informed decisions that create alignment, equity, access and excellence as it relates to student achievement. The main objective of these

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committees is to make recommendations that will move forward quality academic programs, strategic priorities and strategic projects. The following committees are being formed: Early Literacy, English Learner/MPEL, Pathways A-G, Report Cards, ELD/Textbook Adoption, TK Expansion.

Membership Makeup:

District-wide representation from teachers, instructional coaches, principals, on a voluntary basis. Department representatives (e.g. Special Education), district directors, and executive directors are required. Parents will be consultants during various stages of the process.

Who should apply to the Selection Committee?

- Teachers and Principals who are knowledgeable about Phonics, Curriculum Adoption, Early Literacy, ELD, TK Programs, Facilities Expansions, Pathway Programs and A-G.
- Teachers and Principals who are equity focused and data-driven.
- Teachers and Principals with sufficient teaching and leading experience (3+ years) to be able to coherently address the needs of both students and teachers for several grade levels in a thoughtful and articulated way
- Teachers and Leaders with strong backgrounds in special needs/special education, EL/ELD, advanced learners, newcomer programs, bilingual/dual immersion programs, alternative education or intervention
- Teachers and Leaders who have an equity-lens and understand the curricular, programmatic, and instructional shifts needed for student achievement.

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

Our monthly newsletter can be found on www.wccusd.net/oaasa which is electronic and mailed via USPS. This is in support of the resolution to increase the academic achievement of Black/African American students





Office of the Superintendent

Thank you Trustee Smith-Folds for attending all of our parent/guardian engagement workshops.

We hosted an AAPAC delegate training Monday, October 25th and a workshop jointly hosted with the special education department to assist parents with navigating the educational system with Dr. Mary Bacon on Tuesday, October 26th.

English Learner Achievement - LaResha Martin (Esaul Orozco & team)

Here is the English Learner Achievement Monthly Review Update for the month of October 2021.

Communications Update - Ryan Phillips

WCCUSD in the News: Week ending November 5, 2021

November 1, 2021

KRON4 - Student brings pellet gun to Pinole Middle School: police - Liz Jassin

An investigation is underway Monday after a Pinole Middle School student was found with a pellet gun on campus, according to police. On November 1, at 8:58 a.m., school officials contacted the Pinole Police Department regarding a student who possibly brought a gun to school. While police conducted an extensive search for the gun, a suspected student was held in the administration office. The lockdown has since been lifted, and police confirmed that no one was injured.

The Richmond Standard - Pinole Middle student found with pellet gun after campus lockdown - Mike Aldax

Pinole Middle School was temporarily locked down Monday morning and a student was found in possession of a pellet handgun, officials said. "While officers responded, the school administration detained the student in the administration office, placed the campus on lock down, and conducted a search which located a pellet gun in a backpack," police said.

No one was injured, the lockdown was lifted and there is no threat to public safety at this time

The Mercury News - Lockdown at middle school in Pinole after student brings pellet gun to campus: police - Rick Hurd

A middle school student in Pinole caused a campus lockdown on Monday after allegedly bringing a pellet gun to the school, police said. School officials also are investigating. West Contra County Unified School District spokesman Ryan Phillips said school policy defines any replica gun as a weapon.

The school is expected to discipline the student.

California News Time - Lockdown at middle school in Pinole after student brings pellet gun to campus a junior high school student in Pinole caused a campus blockade on Monday after bringing a pellet gun to school. Lieutenant Matt Avery, a Pinole police spokesman, said in a statement that police were investigating the case. The Pellet guns were never fired, and the incident did not result in any injuries. School officials lifted the blockage by 12:30 pm

November 2, 2021

West Contra Costa Unified School District Office of the Superintendent

KTVU - Pinole Middle School student brought pellet gun to campus - KTVU Staff

Classes will resume Tuesday morning at <u>Pinole Middle School</u> after it was forced into lockdown because a student brought a pellet gun to campus. Police say someone reported seeing the gun, which they said appeared to be a real semi-automatic weapon. Police located the gun in a student's backpack. One student said the boy brought the gun to school because of a previous altercation with another student. "He just pulled it out of his pants," the student said. "He just pulled up his jacket a little and I saw it." The student said he didn't notify an adult because the other boy "was threatening to shoot me. He was threatening to shoot all the other kids that he told about the gun. He told one of my friends that he was also going to shoot him if he told the teachers or anything." Investigators say the student was detained for questioning and no one was injured.

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