

West Contra Costa Unified School District
Office of the Superintendent

Friday Memo
December 2, 2022

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

December 6: DLCAPS Meeting, 6:30pm via Zoom

December 12: CBOC Meeting, 6:00pm, FOC Building

December 13: 7-11 Committee Meeting, 6:00pm via Zoom

Next Board of Education Meeting December 7, 2022– Kenneth Chris Hurst Sr., Ed.D.

Closed Session will begin at 5:00pm

Contract Update for the 12/7/22 Board Meeting – Robert McEntire-Mary Kitchen & Team

Contracts Summary - Business Services

The following contracts are on the December 7th Board Meeting Agenda for Board approval.

[Link to Contract Summary](#)

[Link to Contract Backup](#)

Procurement Summary - Business Services

This is a new summary that will be utilized going forward to present goods, equipment, special education, and other services that do not have AMOs

[Link to Procurement Summary](#)

[Link to Procurement Backup](#)

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

Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment STEM- LaResha Huffman (Gabriel Chilcott & team)

Math Department (Mark Lobaco & Team)

Math Teacher Practices--Since 2018, the WCCUSD Math Department has emphasized [5 key practices](#) for all K-12 math educators: ensure lessons are standards-based and grade/course-level, check for understanding frequently, communicate high expectations, provide opportunities for collaborative student discourse, and incorporate balanced math rigor and multiple methods. The guide has been used by teachers, coaches, and administrators to help inform next steps in professional learning/growth, incorporates many of [NCTM's Effective Teacher Practices](#), and are aligned to multiple [CSTP standards](#). Connections can be made between these practices and the WCCUSD Instructional Focus Plan.

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**Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment Early Learning/Early Literacy/TK-12 Literacy-
LaResha Huffman (Elizabeth Henry & team)**

WCCUSD Literacy Professional Development

The WCCUSD Literacy Department recently hosted two days of professional development for district lead teachers and school site administrators led by Amanda Hartman of Teachers College. Teachers and administrators were immersed in the aspects of effective student driven writing workshops in order to inspire and cultivate ideas through writing. Reading and writing workshops are deliberately designed to offer a simple and predictable environment so that the teacher can focus on the complex work of observing student progress and teaching into their needs.

WCCUSD Literacy Team “Spotlight at the Site”

Shout out to Mrs. Erika Avina, 5th grade teacher and Principal Davis at Ohlone Elementary School for creating this magnificent book vending machine! Students earn tokens to spend at the machine based on the 4B's: Be respectful, Be safe, Be ready to learn, Be responsible, (bonus: Be kind) and by earning "student of the month".



College & Career - LaResha Huffman (Allison Huie & team)

Winter Performances for Visual and Performing Arts

As we move into the winter season, our Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) students and teachers have been hard at work preparing for their annual winter showcase events. There are at least 23 performances scheduled during the months of November through January for all to enjoy. Current performance dates can be found on the [VAPA Department's website calendar](#).

Trades Week with Alameda County Office of Education

WCCUSD CTE students and teachers were invited to attend any of the virtual sessions being offered by the Alameda County Office of Education this week in honor of Trades Week. Each session offers participants the opportunity to learn more about various aspects of careers in the trades, including virtual tours of the panelists' facilities. CTE teachers, please be on the lookout for additional invitations from the College & Career office.

ALAMEDA COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

TRADES WEEK

November 29 - December 1, 2022

The Alameda County Office of Education, in collaboration with Earn & Learn, invites you to enjoy our career exploration sessions focused on Skilled Trades and Manufacturing!

These three, one-hour virtual sessions will shed light on the opportunities in a variety of industries for your learners; as well as showcase opportunities to train and learn in your area. Hear from professionals about their journeys; see their work, and understand more about the impact of Trades and Manufacturing on our everyday lives and communities.

To enhance the virtual experience of Trades Week, we are employing the use of a special tool called **Matterport** that creates a 3D scan of physical environments. These scans will be paired with a step by step virtual tour of the panelist's facilities where students will be able to interact with and see where they work in a unique 3D experience.

PRESENTED BY

ALAMEDA COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

EARN & LEARN

Learn More: info@earnlearn.us

SCHEDULE

Tuesday, Nov. 29th
Comm. College Pathways
8:30 AM - 9:30 AM

Wednesday, Nov. 30th
Exploring Unions
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Thursday, Dec. 1st
The Future of Construction
10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

CLICK THE TITLES ABOVE TO REGISTER FOR EACH SESSION!

COLLABORATING PARTNERS

IdeaBuilder LABS

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

In our first week back from Thanksgiving break, it was our pleasure to partner with Kennedy High School on their second cycle of Academic Conversation strategies to improve EL and student literacy.

We are also excited about next week's districtwide English Learner K-12 PD opportunities. On Tuesday, December 6th our WCCUSD K-12 EL Achievement Teacher Leaders will participate in their Community of Practice (CoP) and on Wednesday, December 7th, Part II of the Academic

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Conversation from the EL Toolkit of Strategies PD is open to all teachers district wide. Educators can join via their calendar invite or using the zoom link in the [PD calendar](#).

Family & Community Engagement - LaResha Huffman (Martine Blake & team)

Extended Learning - Kasey Blackburn-Jiron

Extended Learning is partnering with Community Engagement to cover funding for [School Smarts \(formerly Parent University\)](#) for Title 1 TK-6 sites. Funding will include School Community Outreach Worker (SCOW) or facilitator overtime, curriculum, supplies, and the possibility of food and babysitting (kids under 5) support funds. The requirements for this funding are as follows:

- Title I K-6 site or K-8 site
- Classes must operate between end of school day and 6pm
- Families who participate MUST have a child enrolled in the after school program (families can enroll their child to just attend on workshop days)
- We are looking to train facilitators in January or early February, recruit parents for 3-4 weeks and then run the programs through May

The District's 32 school based after school programs participate in an annual continuous quality improvement (CQI) process led by the Expanded Learning Office. This process includes a Fall external assessment/site visit using the research-based and validated quality youth development tool the [School-Age Quality Assessment Tool](#) (elementary programs) or the [Youth Program Quality Assessment Tool](#) (secondary programs); a Winter self-assessment using these same tools; and a late spring external assessment. More information about the annual CQI process can be found [here](#).

Positive School Climate - LaResha Huffman (LaShante Smith and team)

Just before Thanksgiving break, schools completed their first of three mental health screenings for students in grades 3-12. Students were asked a series of questions related to social, emotional, and academic behaviors. After completing the questions, students were assigned a risk level - *High Risk, Some Risk, Low Risk*. The Office of School Climate is currently triaging high risk students to be sure support is in place for each student. The goal is to ensure students who are at highest risk are connected to an adult for further assessment and resource connection. Once triage for high risk students is in place, students who were rated at some risk will be addressed. Students will be screened again after Winter Break and then again in the Spring. We will continue to monitor this data, and allocate resources to school sites based on the need.

TK-12 Schools - LaResha Huffman (Keisha Joyner, Koy Hill & Summer Sigler)

Please give a warm welcome to Mr. Juan C. Alvarado, the new Principal of Washington Elementary School. His first day at Washington Elementary School was December 1, 2022. We are excited to have him join the WCCUSD family.

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Communications - Liz Sanders (Raechelle Forrest, Sam Beltran, Nixon Diaz)

Monday, November 28, 2022

[El Cerrito, Pinole Valley High Schools win respective NCS titles - Richmond Standard](#)

The West Contra Costa Unified School District (WCCUSD) is showing its football might this season after the El Cerrito and Pinole Valley High teams won their respective North Coast Section football titles on Friday. It's the first time in WCCUSD history that two district schools won NCS titles the same year, according to Contra Costa County Supervisor John Gioia, who is an El Cerrito High graduate.

Wednesday, November 30, 2022

[WCCUSD Schools Participate in Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day - Richmond Standard](#)

At 8:00am on Monday, Nov. 14, students, staff and families from two WCCUSD schools walked to their respective school in honor of Civil Rights icon Ruby Bridges, according to WCCUSD Superintendent Dr. Kenneth Chris Hurst's latest [newsletter](#). King Elementary students, families and staff met at the Richmond Courthouse on 37th and Bissell Avenue, while Ellerhorst students and families began their walk from Amber Swarz Park in Pinole.