

West Contra Costa Unified School District
Office of the Superintendent

Friday Memo
January 6, 2023

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

January 10: DLCAPS Meeting

January 13: End of Second Quarter

January 16: Martin Luther King Holiday

Next Board of Education Meeting January 11, 2023– Kenneth Chris Hurst Sr., Ed.D.

Closed Session will begin at 5:00pm

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

Literacy Department and OAASA: Mission Critical 7

Earlier this school year the Office of African American Student Achievement (OAASA) determined a focus on seven schools to support literacy for African American/African Diaspora students. Site leaders at Bayview, Coronado, King, Lincoln, Nystrom, Peres, and Stege have since been collaborating with OAASA to make this happen. OAASA has hired five out of seven Academic Support Providers (ASP) that will work part time (15 hours a week) at each of those schools. The ASP's began January 3 and are being trained in SIPPS on January 10. They will be providing small group direct instruction, progress monitoring via Educlimber, and communicating with parents and teachers.

Black-Out Spirit Week

The Office of African American Student Achievement in partnership with our Black Student Unions, African-American Student Unions, Black Parent Resource Center, and the African American Site Advisory Committee is proud to present the first annual WCCUSD Black-Out Spirit Week.

Beginning Monday, January 30 and continuing through Friday, February 3, students and staff from TK-Adult Education are going to show solidarity in support of Black History Month by dressing according to a different theme each day of the week.

The themes were decided by BSU/AASU students and this will serve as a kick off to BSU/AASU students going to the Black College Expo on Saturday, February 4 at the Oakland Marriott Center.

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Upcoming Professional Learning

SIPPS 101/Launching SIPPS Professional Development 1/18/23, 3:15-4:45pm

This session is designed for teachers and administrators just getting started with SIPPS.

Literacy PD for TK/K Teachers, 1/10/23, 3:00-5:00pm

This session is specifically designed for TK/K teachers, and is facilitated by Teachers College Staff Developer Sarah Mann.

Literacy PD for 1st/2nd Grade Teachers, 1/24/23, 3:00-5:00pm

This session is specifically designed for 1st/2nd teachers, and is facilitated by Teachers College Staff Developer Sarah Mann.

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

Kennedy HS Students visit Richmond Fire Station #64

Kennedy High School's College and Career Counselor, Kevin Whitson, recently organized a study trip for students interested in exploring a career in public service as a firefighter. Students were able to hear firsthand from members of the Richmond Fire Department about the daily roles and responsibilities of a firefighter and to learn about salary and benefits associated with this career field. RFD members also explained the academic, mental, and physical preparation you need to qualify for the position. Students and staff alike were excited to learn that Captain Rico of RFD Station #64 is also a former WCCUSD student! Experiences like this are a great example of Work Based Learning experiences such as job shadows and how our College & Career counselors support students to learn about possible careers.



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

The K-12 EL Achievement Teacher Leader Community of Practice (CoP) is on Tuesday, January 10th. We'll be moving into our second instructional cycle using Ellevation Strategy Pathways for focused student support. Furthermore, the EL Achievement CoP is also a team of teachers that gives input to the updating of the Master Plan for English Learners.

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

The Expanded Learning Office staff met with the four student trustees over Winter Break to plan for the launch of All Student Congress on Thursday, January 26th. This first meeting will focus on building community and identifying priorities for the remainder of this school year.

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

The Office of School Climate is gearing up to assist schools with administering our mental health screener, mySAEBRS, for the second time this school year. mySAEBRS is a universal screener of student risk of social-emotional and behavioral problems for students in grades 3-12. It is designed to identify school-, class-, and individual-level social-emotional learning needs. After students take the screener, schools work in collaboration with the Office of School Climate to ensure students most at risk receive the support they need. The screening window begins on January 16.

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

On December 16, 2022, the organization “Following Francis” had a grocery give-away at King Elementary.

“Francis in Schools” volunteers and King staff distributed food to over 340 families... not people, families! Families took home whole chickens, ground beef, milk, cheese, butter, potatoes, pasta, pasta sauce, carrots, oranges, apples, and more!! The group worked with White Pony Express to get the food from several different grocery stores. In addition, they gave a small gift of cash to students.

In addition, King gave away coats and shoes throughout the day to parents for students in need. These wrapped gifts had been donated by coordinating with our sister school, Sycamore Valley Elementary in Danville. Every King student received a handmade bookmark by Sycamore students and candy canes.



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

Math Department (Math Lobaco & Team)

In part through the generosity of the Cowell Foundation and grant writing assistance from the EdFund, we have been able to secure a district elementary math coach position! Cowell is also funding districtwide Zearn School Licenses to all elementary and K-8 sites.

Anne Brockoff starts this week and her target sites will be Coronado, Grant, and King. She will have other districtwide coaching duties as well, but one of her focuses will be providing math support to these sites, primarily around Zearn Math, but will also include improving instructional practices. Anne already comes to this job with WCCUSD math coaching experience as she was part of the Mathematics Coaching Collaborative from some years back.

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We expect that Anne's presence will help continue building your vision of great, fun, and engaging math teaching and learning at your site.

Contract Update for the 1/11/23 Board Meeting – Robert McEntire-Mary Kitchen & Team

Contracts Summary - Business Services

The following contracts are on the January 11th 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

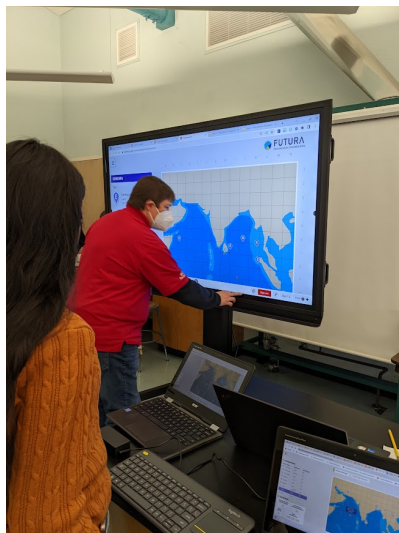
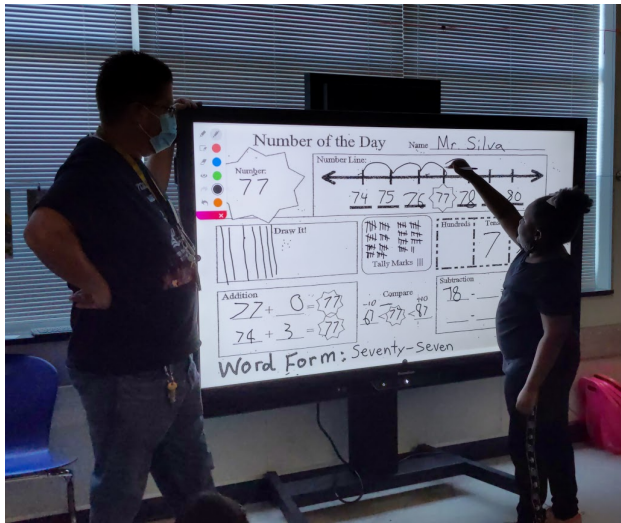
[Link to Procurement Summary](#)

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

Classroom Projection in WCCUSD: The Promethean ActivPanel Pilot continues! - Tracey Logan (Laurie Roberts)

Since August, we've had over 100 teachers at 16 different sites use a Promethean ActivPanel in their classrooms for at least a month each. We are still collecting the evaluations of those who have used the ActivPanels, and we have several more to come with a new rotation starting next week at six of the schools.

- Collins, Grant, Harding, Lupine Hills, and Sheldon have been piloting since the end of August with three ActivPanels each and are in their third of four rotations.
- Ford and Riverside (three ActivPanels each) and Hercules Middle, Hercules High, Kennedy, and Soskin (five ActivPanels each) have been piloting since the end of October and are about to rotate to their second of four rotations.
- Lincoln, Montalvin, Verde, and Chavez have one ActivPanel per teacher.
- DeAnza has eleven ActivPanels.

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