

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

**Weekly Memo**  
**March 10, 2023**

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

March 10: 36th Annual You Make a Difference Awards 7:00pm, DeJean Middle School

March 16: Open House Middle Schools

March 17: Middle Schools Only Minimum Day

March 17: St.Patrick's Day

**Next Board of Education Meeting March 15, 2023– Kenneth Chris Hurst Sr., Ed.D.**

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

**Math Department (Mark Lobaco & Team)**

**Administrators–Parent and Teacher Resources for CAASPP Preparation**–As site administrators and testing coordinators build out CAASPP communications plan for their stakeholders and prepare their site for the CAASPP, the WCCUSD Math Department has provided a curated list of links for their teams to work from:

- An editable slide deck from the CDE: [Talking to Parents About the CAASPP](#)
- [This updated site](#) has sample test questions with solutions and useful external links to [demonstration videos](#) and [parent roadmaps](#).
- [Sample Items from Smarter Balanced](#) has items with answer keys and printable features.
- [CAASPP Online Practice Tests](#)–for students to get to know the test features and work out some problems, along with their [Practice Tests Scoring Guides](#).

Along with the resources above, here are links/ideas for teachers using Math Interim Assessment Blocks (IABs) and Focused IABs (FIABs):

- [IAB Practice Suggestions](#) (with directions and student practice handout)
- [Optional Student Handout to collect additional data](#)
- [Student Practice Tests \(including Performance Tasks\)](#)
- [Finding and Using IAB Results](#) (Analyzing results by student, item, key distractor)
- [Data Analysis and Action Plan](#)
- [SBAC's 2022-23 IAB Overview](#) (math starts on p 14)

**Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment - Early Learning/TK-12**

**Literacy/Humanities/OAASA- LaResha Huffman (Elizabeth Henry & team)**

**Mission Critical Seven**

Learning Walks continue with the Literacy Team! We partnered with Peres and Bayview Elementary Schools to take a look at their foundational skills and how each site approaches literacy for their students.

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



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

Last week, EL Achievement in partnership with Downer Elementary and the Special Education Department provided a student, parent, teacher Read & Write workshop. All were excited to learn and practice how the Read & Write program could be used in school and at home to increase learning and achievement on assessments such as the ELPAC.



Next week, on Thursday, March 16th all teachers and site leaders are welcome to participate in an Elevation training on how to complete English Learner (ELL) and Reclassified English Fluent Proficient (RFEP) monitoring forms and how to better document and communicate support for English Learners in the classroom within our district systems. Folks can join via [Zoom](#).

**Positive School Climate & OAASA- LaResha Huffman (LaShante Smith & Team)**

OAASA is holding their first annual BSU/AASU Youth Summit on March 25 from 1-7pm at Dejean Middle School. The Summit's theme is Revolutionary Change and aims to promote

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

student leadership and voice. The event will include food, student panel discussions, guest speakers, and raffles. The event will end with a dance!

This is the last week for schools to complete the Student Resource Survey. The data will be used to identify areas of student need and to determine how those needs can best be met. The link can be found here: [Student Resource Survey](#).

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

**Kennedy High School Welding**

Kennedy Welding Instructor, Ben Carpenter, spoke to prospective welding students and showed them one of last year's student-made capstone projects. At Kennedy High School, CTE Instructors hosted a Pathway Fair where current 9th graders could learn about the various Career Pathway options they can choose from in 10th grade, including welding, information technology, building and construction trades, and healthcare.



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

The Expanded Learning Office (EXLO) is partnering with the Forum for Youth Investment to transition the District's 33 school based after-school programs from the Youth Program Quality Assessment (YPQA) tool to the [SEL Program Quality Assessment \(SEL PQA\)](#). This new tool makes more explicit the connections between staff youth development practices and youth SEL

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

skill development along with setting a higher level of rigor for after school activities. Expanded Learning partners went through a [deep dive of the tool](#) at the monthly Directors' Meeting on March 8th and will be working with the EXLO team on the PD schedule to support programs in the 2023-24SY.

On March 7th, student trustees had a meet and greet with Creative Change Collaborative (CCC), a non profit who builds capacity in restorative justice and youth voice. During this time, student trustees asked questions to learn how ASCs function in other districts, and learn about strategies to recruit and retain ASC members. CCC members shared their experiences as ASC members and student trustees in OUSD. This meeting was the first step to develop a partnership with CCC, so they can support ASC members through community building and defining its values as a foundation to solidifying ASC processes moving forward.

EXLO met with admin and the CSD from Soskin to explore supporting middle school transitions for students from Highland, Murphy, and Sheldon. We are going to be reaching out to elementary principals to discuss an after school field trip for 5/6th graders to Soskin that would include an opportunity to tour the school, meet the faculty, have some hands-on experience in the Fab Lab and visit the Soskin Farm and after school program.