

West Contra Costa Unified School District
Office of the Superintendent

Friday Memo
October 21, 2022

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

October 22: Fingerprint Party, 9:00am-12:00pm, DeJean Middle School

November 1: Elementary Conference Day, No School

November 2: Board of Education Regular Meeting, 6:30 pm, DeJean Middle School

November 5: Fingerprint Party, 9:00am-12:00pm, Helms Middle School

Digital Citizenship Week - Tracey Logan (Laurie Roberts - Ed Tech)

Digital Citizenship is the thoughtful and responsible use of technology. Our students are online more than ever before, so teaching them how to use technology thoughtfully and responsibly is an essential part of their social and emotional development and academic success. [Here you will find](#) Common Sense Media lessons for 2022-23 and more, including lessons connecting race, justice, and digital citizenship.

Community Data Session - LaResha Huffman & Morgan Matthews (Research & Reporting)

Research & Reporting and Ed Services will be holding a Community Data Session on Tuesday, October 25th from 6-8pm. The flier is available [at this link](#). The objectives of the session are as follows:

- Respond to community requests for data availability and transparency
- Increase our ability to read, understand, and use data
- Develop a shared understanding of student outcomes
- Gather questions for follow-up

Board members will participate in a similar session, Board Student Data Session, at the November 2nd board meeting. The board data session will have similar objectives, and board data topics will include:

- Academics
 - Annual State Testing - CAASPP (California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress, including Smarter Balanced (SBAC) and California Science Test (CAST)
 - Graduation
 - English Learner Reclassification
- Social-Emotional Learning & Culture / Climate
 - Student, Staff, and Family CHKS Surveys (California Healthy Kids Survey)
 - Chronic Absenteeism
 - Suspensions

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

California Proposition 28, the Art and Music K-12 Education Funding Initiative, is on the ballot in California as an initiated state statute on November 8, 2022.

A "yes" vote supports this ballot initiative to:

- require an annual source of funding for K-12 public schools for arts and music education equal to, at minimum, 1% of the total state and local revenues that local education agencies receive under Proposition 98;
- distribute a portion of the additional funding based on a local education agency's share of economically disadvantaged students; and
- require schools with 500 or more students to use 80% of the funding for employing teachers and 20% to training and materials.

A "no" vote opposes requiring an annual source of funding for K-12 public schools for arts and music education equal to, at minimum, 1% of the total state and local revenues that local education agencies receive under Proposition 98.

[Yes on 28 - Californians for Arts and Music in Schools](#) is leading the Vote Arts and Minds campaign in support of the initiative. The campaign has received endorsements from former Superintendent of Los Angeles Unified School District Austin Beutner, former U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan (D), the California Teachers Association, and several celebrities and musicians. Beutner and Duncan said in a joint statement, "Only 1 in 5 public schools in California has a dedicated teacher for traditional arts programs like music, dance, theater and art, or newer forms of creative expression like computer graphics, animation, coding, costume design and filmmaking. This initiative is timely as our country seeks to create a more just and equitable future for all children. A boost in arts and music education will help ensure the future workforce in media and technology properly reflect the diversity of the children in our public schools." The campaign reported receiving over \$9.3 million in contributions according to its latest campaign finance filings.^[4]