

West Contra Costa Unified School District
Office of the Superintendent

Friday Memo
September 16, 2022

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

September 22: Back to School Night High Schools Only

September 23: High Schools Only Minimum Day

September 24: Finger Print Party, 9am-12pm, Collins Elementary School

Next Board of Education Meeting September 21, 2022– Kenneth Chris Hurst Sr., Ed.D

Closed Session will begin at 5:00pm

Contract Update for the 9/21/22 Board Meeting – Robert McEntire-Mary Kitchen & Team

Bay Area Community Resources/James Morehouse Project -Bayview Elementary

James Morehouse Project under fiscal sponsor BACR will provide targeted services to English learners, low-income students, and foster youth, through their Counseling/Case Management, School Climate & Youth Development programs, and through Counseling Services at Bayview Elementary School for 2022-23.

Bayview services include individual and group counseling as follows:

Staff at Bayview: Clinical Intern .2 FTE (2 half days per week, 3.5 hours per day)

Days and Hours Program Offered at Bayview: 2 half days per week, 3.5 hours per day

2223-01 RFP (Request for Proposal) APPROVED

[Link to Additional Information](#)

Bay Area Community Resources - Fairmont Elementary

BACRs mission is to promote the healthy development of individuals and families, encourage service and volunteerism, and help build community. The Mental Health Intern Trainee Program offers; restorative, culturally humble and trauma-informed behavioral health services to help youth and families develop positive coping skills and resiliency that strengthen their ability to navigate life and school challenges and to develop positive strategies to be healthy, successful and thriving in and out of school. BACR provides a range of services including individual, group and family therapy, family support, case management, crisis intervention, assessment and referral when needed, and classroom education on relevant behavioral and mental health topics. It also includes consultation with school personnel about individuals and the overall school social-emotional environment. Clinicians connect regularly with caregivers to conduct family sessions, assess resource needs, connect them to various community resources, and help them to navigate challenges.

Services will be provided at Fairmont Elementary school:

1 FTE for 2 full days per week; 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

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[Link to Additional Information](#)

West Contra Costa Unified School District
Office of the Superintendent

Bay Area Community Resources - Richmond High School

BACR RHS Crisis Counseling and Health Center Admin objective is to enhance the socio-emotional/behavioral health of students, the Crisis Counselors respond to the many emotional stressors students at RHS have including traumatic events, grief and loss, peer and partner problems, violence, home issues and more. The Crisis Counselors (CC) address the initial issue presented by assessing, providing immediate and solution-focused counseling intervention, and referring to a therapist or outside agency if ongoing therapy is indicated or to other resources as indicated. The CCs may see students several times to address the current crisis. BACR also consults with school personnel about individuals and works closely with the Wellness Center Manager and Administrative support for the benefit of the students and to integrate services in the Wellness Center. The Administrative Support person helps to enable the logistics of services, referral process, and tracking for the CC services.

Staffing includes 2 Crisis Counselors and 1 Administrative Support Staff:

A. CC: .60 FTE - 3 days per week

B. CC: .60 FTE - 3 days per week

C. Admin support Full-time - 5 days per week

Please note that the work days are approximately 8 hours per day. The clinicians will be off-site Tuesday afternoons (3 - 5) for BACR staff meetings and clinical consultations.

Other rare, periodic off-site trainings and meetings may be scheduled with adequate notice to the school site.

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[Link to Additional Information](#)

East Bay Center for the Performing Arts - Expanded Learning (Chavez, Riverside, Sheldon, Verde)

East Bay Center's Mafanikio enrichment program is anchored by an interdisciplinary global approach and complements Mafanikio's mission through our shared commitment to building historical/cultural knowledge as well as skill development and the engagement of each child's imagination. In 2022-2023, the Center will work with 4 sites in an after school setting, utilizing experienced faculty to focus on Afro-Diasporic culture and dance disciplines. EBCPA teaching artists will teach classes once or twice per week, totaling 2 hours each at each site. Classes will include Hip Hop, West African Dance, Afro-Peruvian Music and Dance, and Afro-Pop Dance. The program will serve approximately 20 students per site and 80 students total.

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[Link to Additional Information](#)

East Bay Center for the Performing Arts - Expanded Learning (Chavez, Riverside, Sheldon, Verde)

The East Bay Center for the performing arts will provide performing arts classes at four elementary school sites for 2022-23. EBCPA teaching artists will teach classes once per week for 3 hours at each site during the fall from October 3rd, 2022 thru December 16th, 2022. Classes will include hip hop, west African dance, afro-pop dance, among other art forms. 45 students per site and 180 students total.

2223-01 RFP (Request for Proposal) APPROVED

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West Contra Costa Unified School District
Office of the Superintendent

Improve Your Tomorrow, Inc. - College & Career (DeAnza & Kennedy)

Improve Your Tomorrow's mission is to increase the number of young men of color (YMOC) to attend and graduate from colleges and universities. The following services will be provided at 2 High Schools, Year 1 and serve 150 students:

IYT College Academy operates both during the school day and after school and has a physical space dedicated at each campus. Young men of color (YMOC) in the program attend weekly study halls, workshops, tutoring (weekly and one-on-one), and mentorship sessions. Core Service 1: Mentorship - Each IYT student works with a Mentor Fellow and engages in weekly mentorship sessions (depending on the student's needs) to review grades, attendance, college advising, and personal issues and to strengthen the mentorship/mentee relationship. In year 1, IYT will hire six Mentor Fellows (25-30 hrs per week) to work with 150 students. A full-time Manager supervises the Mentor Fellows. Core Service 2: Student and Career Development - Students have access to workshops aimed at improving life skills, college knowledge, and leadership skills. IYT will invite guest speakers and host career-oriented visits to corporations and government entities. Core Service 3: College Preparation and College Tours - IYT also provides opportunities for exposure to and exploration of college campuses, including Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Hispanic-Serving Institutions). Core Service 4: Tutoring - Students participate in weekly group and one-on-one tutoring with Mentor Fellows who have subject matter expertise. Core Service 5: Internships- IYT also emphasizes hands-on learning and employment and will seek paid internship opportunities for students. Core Service 6: Family Engagement IYT holds parent meetings, town halls, and conferences with teachers.

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[Link to Additional Information](#)

Michael's Transportation - Business Services (WC Mandarin)

Michael's Transportation will provide transportation for students Monday through Friday who are enrolled at WC Mandarin. The bus service helps ensure that students from all areas of the District, including low income students, can have equity of access to enroll at West County Mandarin School. District reached out to 7 transportation companies and 6 companies were not able to provide the required service. \$54,000 of the contract is paid for by the District to subsidize the cost of low income/FRL-eligible students to ride the bus. The remaining \$107,100 of the contract is not paid by the District and is instead paid through fees collected from parents of non-FRL-eligible students that ride the bus. Board approved the budget during budget adoption on June 29, 2022.

[Link to Additional Information](#)

Mindful Life Project - Grant Elementary School

The Mindful Life Project empowers underserved children, families, and school site staff through mindfulness and other transformative skills to gain self-awareness, confidence, self-regulation, and resilience, leading to lifelong success. Mindful Life Project will deliver two regular school day direct service programs as well as staff and family mindfulness, services will be provided at Grant Elementary as follows:

- Mindful Community: Whole class mindfulness programming is facilitated once a week for 25 minutes for each class within a partner school.

West Contra Costa Unified School District
Office of the Superintendent

- Rise Up: The MLP Coach will work with students grades 6-8 in small groups of 8 twice a week for 45 minutes to weave mindfulness into expressive arts, yoga, and performing arts.
- Teacher Sessions: The MLP Coach will provide weekly mindfulness for teachers that supports their personal wellbeing.
- Family Sessions: The MLP Coach will provide family sessions once a week to support the building of mindfulness practices for parents and guardians
- Hours worked weekly: 1 FTE work 8-4:00 Monday-Friday, for a total of 40 hours a week during the school year

More program detail information attached.

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[Link to Additional Information](#)

Project Wayfinder - Positive Schools Climate

Project Wayfinder inc. Will partner with WCCUSD and provide SEL formative assessment tools, core digital curriculum, and access to classroom libraries as well as site-by-site onboarding support for all elementary and secondary WCCUSD sites.

PCC 20118.3. The governing board of any school district may purchase supplementary textbooks, library books, educational films, audiovisual materials, test materials, workbooks, instructional computer software packages, or periodicals in any amount needed for the operation of the schools of the district without taking estimates or advertising for bids.

[Link to Additional Information](#)

School Based Reimbursement Partners LLC - Special Education

Prepare and submit LEA Medi-Cal claims for payment. Perform Medi-Cal eligibility checks on students receiving services. Follow-up on updated claims for final adjudication. Communicate with Fiscal intermediaries as necessary. Maintain accurate billing records. Maintain clinical records in so far as they are germane to billing. Forward to client any relevant information regarding program changes/updates. Forward to client financial reports/breakdowns as requested.

[Link to Additional Information](#)

School Services of California (SSC) - Business Services - Charter Schools Financials

One-time agreement with School Services of California to review and recommend changes on our current fiscal impacts of the agreements executed with Charter Schools.

[Link to Additional Information](#)

Scientific Adventures for Girls - Expanded Learning

Provide Girls STEM programming at 11 school based after school programs: 1. Chavez, 2. Coronado, 3. Downer, 4. Nystrom, 5. Grant, 6. Michelle Obama, 7. Murphy, 8. Sheldon, 9. Tara Hills, 10. Washington; 11. Nystrom from September - May 2023. The programs will run 27 weeks at each school. Classes will be held once a week for approximately 60 minutes, depending on the school schedule. The curriculum for the session will be Biology, Product Design and Engineering, Space Science. The girls will be introduced to a

West Contra Costa Unified School District
Office of the Superintendent

female STEM role model during the session to learn about careers in engineering, Chemistry and Environmental Science

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[Link to Additional Information](#)

Social Policy Research - Expanded Learning

Social Policy Research Associates will conduct an evaluation study of 16 summer programs and 30 afterschool programs at West Contra Costa Unified School District. Key services include surveys, CMS analysis, and reporting.

[Link to Additional Information](#)

StudioFive10 - Betty Reid Soskin Middle

StudioFive10's mission is to provide communities with the essential techniques for processing and managing emotions and the objective is to reduce suspension, office referrals, and student conflict.

Restoration Coordinators provide direct services to students, staff, and families. Restoration Coordinators facilitate conflict mediation circles, community building activities, and social-emotional learning workshops, and provide restorative interventions with referred students. Restoration Coordinators will lead conflict mediation circles that bring all parties together to meet and settle on a plan to repair the harm. Students learn to resolve disagreements, take ownership of their behavior, and engage in acts of empathy and forgiveness.

Services will be provided at Betty Reid Soskin:

The program offers up to 3 staff members on-site depending on the school's budget. Each staff member will be on-site from 8 am-3 pm Monday-Friday.

2223-01 RFP (Request for Proposal) APPROVED

[Link to Additional Information](#)

StudioFive10 - Community Engagement (Hercules Middle & Hercules High)

StudioFive10's mission is to provide communities with the essential techniques for processing and managing emotions and the objective is to reduce suspension, office referrals, and student conflict.

Restoration Coordinators provide direct services to students, staff, and families. Restoration Coordinators facilitate conflict mediation circles, community building activities, and social-emotional learning workshops, and provide restorative interventions with referred students. Restoration Coordinators will lead conflict mediation circles that bring all parties together to meet and settle on a plan to repair the harm. Students learn to resolve disagreements, take ownership of their behavior, and engage in acts of empathy and forgiveness.

Services will be provided at Hercules Middle and Hercules High:

The program offers up to 3 staff members on-site depending on the school's budget.

Each staff member will be on-site from 8:30 am - 3:00 pm Monday-Friday (Hercules High)

Each staff member will be on-site from 8:30 am - 3:00 pm Monday, Wednesday, and Friday (Hercules Middle) 2223-01 RFP (Request for Proposal) APPROVED

[Link to Additional Information](#)

UC Berkeley Center for Education Partnerships - College & Career

CEP programs lead the University of California, Berkeley's efforts to:

West Contra Costa Unified School District
Office of the Superintendent

Improve the academic achievement of students who face significant barriers to college.
Increase the diversity of students who enroll and succeed in higher education.
Empower schools and districts to promote and foster college aspirations through building a college-going culture. Support collaborations and partner with K-12 and post-secondary colleagues.
Create tools to partner with educators, families, and communities to inspire and advocate for our students' successful futures. Services will be provided at ECH, HHS, JFKH, PVH, RHS, and DAH.
2223-01 RFP (Request for Proposal) APPROVED

[Link to Additional Information](#)

WCC EdFund Youth Code Now - Expanded Learning (Stege Elementary)

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, to structured homework support. Additionally, the program will provide youth with a range of enrichment offerings which will include some of the following activities: physical activity, social and emotional skill development, visual and performing arts, nutrition education, gardening and cooking classes, and stem. Programs will be open to participants from the end of the instructional day until 6 pm. 71 students.

[Link to Additional Information](#)

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

Math (Mark Lobaco & team): Zearn Math – All elementary and K-8 school sites have been provided a Zearn Math school license for the 2022-23 school year. Full digital access to all the materials of this [top-rated](#) curriculum includes Zearn's unique Independent Digital Lessons (IDLs) for teachers to use as a complement to their core instruction. These IDL's provide self-paced, scaffolded, and [mathematically rigorous](#) instruction that are intended to provide an additional point of access to grade-level work for all students. Rich data is provided to teachers and administrators to help build additional intervention support for those students most in need. Ongoing professional learning sessions to be provided throughout the school year.

Professional Learning - LaResha Martin (Sarah Breed)

Teacher Professional Learning- Educator Effectiveness

The Educational Services Department will be offering [Wednesday Afternoon PD sessions](#) for teachers to support focal areas of the [WCCUSD Instructional Focus Plan 22-23](#). Participation in the sessions will support teacher professional learning in service of advancing student outcomes. Sessions are facilitated by WCCUSD Educational Services staff and professional development providers. In addition to the Wednesday PD series, the Departments of Early Learning, Special Education, and College and Career are offering professional learning sessions. Details about sessions are included in our [WCCUSD Teacher Professional Development Overview](#). The Educational Services Department will also be providing paid professional learning for Classified and Certificated staff on the District smoke days: October 10, March 31, and May 26th. Certificated and classified staff will be paid a daily honorarium for attending.

West Contra Costa Unified School District
Office of the Superintendent

Principal Professional Learning- New Leaders for New Schools

Principals engaged in professional learning with New Leaders for New Schools (NLNS) during our monthly principal professional learning time on Tuesday, September 13. All principals are participating in the monthly New Leaders for New Schools Community of Practice (CoP). The theme for this month is “Transformational Leadership- Change Begins with Me.” Leaders focused on naming and addressing behavioral and linguistic bias and beliefs that hinder the cultivation of an equitable school culture. This article details our partnership with NLNS: [CEF partners with WCCUSD to expand leadership development for all principals, cohort of district leaders](#)

Twelve WCCUSD principals are participating in the NLNS Breakthrough Leadership Cohort. Through participation in the monthly sessions and follow up coaching, these principals will be supported to:

- Diagnose strengths, areas of opportunity, and identify next steps in personal leadership to ensure practices are equitable, increase leadership capacity, and maximize impact
- Establish an instructional leadership team and use distributed leadership to scale best practices and build the capacity of others
- Use 4-Part Action Planning to diagnose, set goals, create action plans, and monitor/adjust plans in order to drive instructional excellence and equity
- Coach their instructional leadership team and teachers to improve their equitable instructional practices
- Apply the Instructional Core to improve upon instructional excellence and equity

Communications Update - Ryan Phillips

Wednesday, September 14, 2022

[\\$300K CEF grant to provide training for WCCUSD principals, other leaders](#) | **Richmond Standard**
[West Contra Costa Unified School District](#) (WCCUSD) principals and a group of central office leaders are going to receive some instruction of their own, thanks to a \$300,000 grant from the [Chamberlin Education Foundation](#) (CEF) that will provide them with professional development. The funding will support foundational Leading and Learning workshops by [New Leaders](#) for all WCCUSD principals, in addition to added leadership support and coaching for 12 principals designated by the chief academic officer and her team. Expanding professional learning opportunities to 10 central office leaders is another facet of the overall plan. In all, the professional support will encompass 54 school leaders and 10 in the central office.

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

[EMK Mentors, Rich City Rides roll out free Afterschool Tutoring Program](#) | **Richmond Standard**

On the heels of a successful Back to School Book Bag Giveaway last Saturday at Unity Park, EMK Mentors is partnering with Rich City Rides again to roll out a free Afterschool Tutoring Program for Richmond students. EMK Mentors is currently accepting registrations for Richmond students in Kindergarten through 12th grades for its upcoming Afterschool Tutoring Program, which will be offered free of charge Mondays through Fridays from 2:30-5:30 p.m. at Rich City Rides, 1500C Macdonald Ave. in Richmond. Students are expected to participate in the program daily; snacks and beverages will be provided.

West Contra Costa Unified School District
Office of the Superintendent

Sunday, September 11, 2022

[Region 1 Leadership Conference Cultivates the Leader Within and Brings Renewed ...](#) | CTA - California Teachers Association

This weekend's Region 1 Leadership Conference, which had about 300 in attendance, was filled with energy, unity, and recommitment to fight for the support our students deserve. Leaders across Region 1 learned skills to effectively bargain, build a stronger union, organize for the common good, encourage democracy, and promote equity and justice for all students and communities.

John Zabala, who is a Bilingual School Psychologist and used to work at Grant Elementary School in the West Contra Costa Unified School District, was really excited to attend after just having his first month under his belt as the United Teachers of Richmond President.