

West Contra Costa Unified School District
Office of the Superintendent

Friday Memo
September 23, 2022

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

September 23: High Schools Only Minimum Day

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

October 5: Board of Education Meeting, 6:30pm, LoVonya DeJean

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

Gates Grant -- The WCCUSD Math Department is moving into Year 2 of its 3-year \$180,000 Effective Implementation Cohort Middle Grades Desmos/Illustrative Mathematics grant. This Gates Foundation-sponsored and ConnectED-provided program has expanded on an opt-in basis to 40 grades 6-8 teachers at 19 school sites across WCCUSD. In addition to being provided the [Desmos 6-8 math curriculum](#), teachers will be attending professional learning sessions throughout the school year, focusing on understanding content progression and embedded instructional routines, with an emphasis on increasing high quality student discourse during instruction.

Assessment Department (Stephanie Hearne & Team): The Fall Benchmark window is closing September 23. All schools are giving a reading and math assessment to students in grades K-11. The Fall data will be reviewed during the principal meetings and cycles of inquiry developed to align with the meeting after the close of each assessment window. The adopted assessment is STAR Renaissance, but there are 13 schools piloting iReady as a possible alternative to our current benchmark systems. Both assessments are highly rated and will be used as screeners and to monitor development toward our district growth goals.

Professional Learning - LaResha Martin-Huffman (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](#). 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 first District smoke day, October 10, 2022. Certificated and classified staff will be paid a daily honorarium for attending sessions.

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Principal Professional Learning- New Leaders for New Schools

An overview of the [NLNS Breakthrough Leadership Scope and Sequence](#) for the principals is attached here. Our next principal engagement with NLNS takes place on Tuesday, October 11, 2022. During this session we will explore what a strong and equitable school culture looks and feels like for all students. We will also focus on relationship building and caring for the well-being of staff and students, as well as what it means to leverage adaptive leadership to build the capacity of others.

Resources referenced in our September session included [Leading for Equity: Seven Circle Model](#), [Avoiding Racial Detours](#), and [The Opportunity Myth](#).

This article details our partnership with NLNS: [CEF partners with WCCUSD to expand leadership development for all principals, cohort of district leaders](#).

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

The Expanded Learning Office is continuing to move forward specialty enrichment provider contracts for elementary ASES and 21CCLC funded after school programs using ELO-P funding. These contracts include visual and performing arts as well as academic intervention. The goal of the ELO-P funding at our Title 1 sites is both to serve more unduplicated students as well as bring in boutique enrichment providers.

The [Expanded Learning Office is partnering with OAASA](#) and will be funding the elementary Mafanikio Programs from 2021-2022 SY and, under the direction of OAASA, expand the number of elementary Mafanikio sites. The elementary Mafanikio programs will continue to run autonomously under the operational infrastructure of their site's ASES and 21CCLC funded after school programs. The elementary Mafanikio programs will fall under the Expanded Learning's Districtwide Continuous Quality Improvement process using the [School Age Program Quality Assessment Tool](#) or [Youth Program Quality Assessment Tool](#), which has been the quality assessment tool for expanded learning programs since 2012. Mafanikio enrichment providers will have the opportunity to administer the youth survey created by the Expanded Learning external evaluator, Social Policy Research Associates (SPA).

The Expanded Learning Office is also [partnering](#) with the Athletics Director to support the expansion of the elementary sports league to all elementary Title 1 sites.

Lastly, the Expanded Learning Office will outreach to principals at non Title 1 elementary schools with the opportunity to bring fully funded after school programs for 84 unduplicated students to their sites. The priority schools are Lupine Hills, Shannon, Ohlone, Harding, Hanna Ranch, and Olinda. Program providers for these sites will also have the capacity to also serve students whose families could pay a monthly fee.

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Business Services- Robert McEntire

[Economic Drag Affects State Revenues](#)

Business Services- SB Club Budgets, Fundraisers, and Donation Process- Robert McEntire (Audit Team)

Communication email was sent to all school leaders reminding them a second time of the process for Fundraising, Donations, and Budget allocation for their Association Student Body, and the requirement to submit all planned events to the board of education in advance of said plans.

There are two processes we are required to follow when receiving ASB funds.

1. Fundraisers
2. Donations

Here is a list of documentation you must have in placed for Fundraisers:

- Approved Contract or agreement
- [Fundraiser Activity Application](#) (p. 50)
- [Fundraiser Revenue Potential & Evaluation Form](#) (p. 51)
- [Purchase Requisitions](#) showing pre-approval to purchase items for the fundraiser (p. 60) or club minutes specifying the expense.
- [Authorization for Payment form](#), if any reimbursements were issued or invoices were paid in relation to the fundraiser (p. 61)
- Tally Sheets, ticket sales, or copies of receipts
- [Dual Cash Count Sheet\(s\) showing cash collected](#) (p. 53), if needed
- Cash Box Request Form (p. 55), if needed

Remember **Lifetouch, Scholastics, Yearbooks, Senior Activities (prom, boat cruise, picnics, etc.)**, are considered Fundraisers and should follow the fundraising process. Additionally, these vendors are required to submit contract agreements to David Johnston. Please forward all contract agreements to David at djohnston@wccusd.net.

Here is the [Donation](#) process.

Communications Update - Liz Sanders

Thursday, September 22, 2022

['Where's my teacher?' Students and parents want to know why WCCUSD ... - Richmond Confidential](#)

Parents protested and teachers rallied against West Contra Costa Unified School District on Wednesday, expressing frustrations with how the teacher shortage is being handled and communicated to the community. A few dozen parents, kids and teachers gathered at Memorial Park in Richmond, directly

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across the street from the WCCUSD headquarters, to demand answers after a lack of teachers has forced some schools to combine classes, hire temporary substitutes or move teachers around to compensate for staffing shortages.