

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

**Friday Memo**  
**September 30, 2022**

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

October 1: Fingerprint Party, 9am-12pm, Lupine Hills Elementary

October 10: Columbus Day

October 10: CBOC Meeting, 6pm, 1400 Marina Way S, Richmond CA

**Next Board of Education Meeting October 5, 2022– Kenneth Chris Hurst Sr., Ed.D.**

Closed Session will begin at 4:00pm

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

**WCCUSD Awarded Health Professions Pathway Grant**

The California Health and Human Services Agency’s Department of Health Care Access and Information recently announced the list of awardees for their Health Professions Pathway Program (HPPP) grant funding. West Contra Costa Unified School district is named as an awardee for the amount of \$495,000.00.

WCCUSD is one of only twenty organizations to be awarded grant funding under this program and the only K-12 school District amongst the grantees. Other organizations earning awards include Universities and post-secondary medical training centers. WCCUSD’s grant application was scored in the top seven of all awardees and scored higher than several UCs/CSUs.

This grant is one of many that the College and Career Department applies for and manages each year in support of our Career and Technical Education pathway programs. The HPPP grant program was designed to support and encourage underrepresented and disadvantaged individuals to pursue health careers to develop a more culturally and linguistically competent workforce. This grant funding will allow us to fund paid summer internships for up to 20 high school students a year in community health centers, public health departments, public behavioral health settings, geriatric providers, and community-based initiatives that promote health equity.

**State Approval of \$4.2M School Facilities Program Dollars - Luis Freese**

On September 21, 2022, the State Allocation Board approved the apportionment of 4.2 million dollars for the Betty Reid Soskin MS (formerly Crespi) Modernization Project. The funding application was submitted to the Office of Public School Construction in 2019. At that time, the funding estimate for the submission was approximately 3.48 million dollars. The approved funding increased by more than 750 thousand dollars. The District has submitted the Priority Funding Certification for this project and anticipates receipt of the funds within the fiscal year. This increases the value of state facilities funding approval this year to 9.46 million dollars. The District will continue to aggressively seek all available State funding to augment our Bond and Facilities Program.

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**Contract Update for the 10/05/22 Board Meeting – Robert McEntire-Mary Kitchen & Team**

The following contracts are on October 5th Board Meeting Agenda for Board approval.

[Link to Contract Summary](#)

[Link to Contract Backup](#)

**Communications Update - Elizabeth Sanders**

**Wednesday, September 28, 2022**

**Pinole Valley High homecoming parade to prompt road closures - Richmond Standard**

The Pinole Valley High School Homecoming Parade will prompt road closures Friday afternoon. The parade will start at about 2 p.m. at Pinole Valley Park on Pinole Valley Road at Savage Avenue. It will then follow Pinole Valley Road northbound and conclude in the main drop off/pick up area of Pinole Valley High at 3 p.m.

**Tuesday, September 27, 2022**

**An SF high school forfeited a football game in the East Bay. Then the sniping began. - SFGATE**

The football team at [San Francisco's](#) Galileo Academy of Science and Technology has 21 players. The football team at Richmond High School is only marginally larger with 24 players. With roster sizes that small, forfeits are not uncommon; 11 players need to be on the field, and teams would like to have a stable of backups on-hand. Yet, Galileo's forfeit against Richmond last Friday prompted a public outcry, unusual for Bay Area high school football, that is spilling into this week.

**Monday, September 26, 2022**

**East Bay superintendent disappointed after game forfeiture over safety concerns at Richmond High | ABC 7 News**

West Contra Costa Superintendent Dr. Chris Hurst says he was disappointed to hear Galileo Academy of Science and Technology had to forfeit their game against Richmond High School over parent concerns for safety.

"We work so hard as a community and it was heartbreaking," Dr. Hurst said.

**Leaders, experts gather at De Anza High to discuss equitable water distribution | Richmond Standard**

If we build more homes, won't we also need more water? In the drought-prone state of California, the challenges of providing sufficient and equitable water distribution are daunting as providing adequate affordable housing.

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**Governor vetoes full-day and mandatory kindergarten bills - EdSource**

California won't be making kindergarten mandatory or extending the kindergarten school day, at least not any time soon. Gov. Gavin Newsom vetoed two bills that would have made it mandatory for parents to enroll their 5-year-olds in kindergarten, and for school districts to make kindergarten more than four hours long.