

West Contra Costa Unified School District
Office of the Superintendent

Board Weekly Memo
March 8, 2024

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

March 8: 37th Annual You Make a Difference Awards Ceremony, 7:00-9:00pm,

Lovonya Dejean Middle School

March 11: CBOC Meeting, 6:15-8:15 pm - FOC Building

Next Board of Education Meeting March 20, 2024 – Kenneth Chris Hurst Sr., Ed.D.

Communications Update - Raechelle Forrest

News of the Week:

[Celebrating Black History in Richmond: Tony Thurmond Hosts Influential Elders at DeAnza High](#) | BNN

In a vibrant tribute to Black History Month, California's State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Tony Thurmond, orchestrated an oral history presentation at DeAnza High School in Richmond. This event brought together a diverse audience, including students from across the West Contra Costa Unified School District, to learn firsthand about the African American impact on Richmond's development and political landscape.

[Four WCCUSD educators earn Ed Fund Teaching Excellence Awards](#) | Richmond Standard

The West Contra Costa Public Education Fund (Ed Fund) recently surprised four educators with 2024 Teaching Excellence Awards.

The winning teachers are Isabel Gil-Garcia, 12th grade Government, 11th-12th grade Gender and Women's Studies at Richmond High; Ethan Sorscher, 5th grade Science and Math at Montalvin K-8; Pilar Alvarado, 6th grade English Language Arts (ELA) at Lincoln Elementary; and Akinwale Sean Ajayi, General Ed. Pre-school at Lincoln Elementary.

Legislative Updates:

*These legislative updates are only meant to be informative to our Board and community so they are aware of legislation that may affect them and our community.

Protect Black Women & Girls Act (HR 7354)

To establish an Interagency Task Force to examine the conditions and experiences of Black women and girls in education, economic development, healthcare, labor and employment, housing, justice and civil rights, to promote community-based methods for mitigating and

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addressing harm and ensuring accountability, and to study societal effects on Black women and girls, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep Robin Kelly (D-IL-2)

Status: Reintroduced to US House

[Full Bill Text](#)

Pregnancy Leave for Educators Act (CA AB2901)

The bill would require a public school employer to, for a certificated employee or an employee in the classified service of the public school employer, and would require a community college district to, for an academic employee or an employee in the classified service of the community college district, provide up to 14 weeks of a leave of absence with full pay for an employee who is required to be absent from duty because of pregnancy, miscarriage, childbirth, termination of pregnancy, or recovery from those conditions. The bill would authorize the paid leave to begin before and continue after childbirth if the employee is actually disabled by pregnancy, childbirth, termination of pregnancy, or a related condition. The bill would prohibit a leave of absence taken pursuant to these provisions from being deducted from other leaves of absence, as provided.

Sponsor: Assemblymember Cecilia Aguiar-Curry, D-Davis

Status: Introduced to CA Assembly

[Full Bill Text](#)