

West Contra Costa Unified School District
Office of the Superintendent

Friday Memo
November 17, 2023

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

November 17: Minimum Day All Schools

November 20-24: Thanksgiving Holiday No School

Next Board of Education Meeting December 6, 2023 – Kenneth Chris Hurst Sr., Ed.D.

College & Career - Sonja Neely-Johnson (Dr. Allison Huie & Team)

Please join us at our Winter Performing Arts Shows.

WEST CONTRA COSTA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

WCCUSD HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS

WINTER SHOWS 2023

DE ANZA HS

- 12/1, 12/2, 12/8, 12/9, Winter Play - A Christmas Carol - 7 pm
- 12/7 - De Anza Area Festival 6-7 pm
- 12/14, VAPA Showcase - 7 pm
- 2/15, VAPA Showcase for SPED students 8:30 am

EL CERRITO HS

- 12/8, Dance Concert, 7pm
- 12/9, Dance Concert, 7pm
- 12/15: Winter Band Concert - 7pm
- 12/17: Alumni Band Concert - 3pm

HERCULES HS

- 11/29, 11/30, 12/1, Fall Dance Showcase - 6 pm - 8:30 pm
- 12/13, Winter Concert - 7 pm

KENNEDY HS

- 12/14, Area Winter Band Concert - 7 pm
- *LOCATION: DeJean Middle School
- Participating Schools: Kennedy High School, DeJean Middle School,
- Elementary Schools: Coronado, Grant, Michelle Obama

PINOLE VALLEY HS

- 12/12, Winter Band Concert - 7-8:30 pm
- 12/13, Stewart Winter Band Concert - 7-8:30 pm
- 12/14 Winter Choir & Piano Concert - 7 pm

RICHMOND HS

- 12/6, Orchestra Area Festival - 6 pm
- 12/7, Band Area Festival - 6 pm
- 12/14, Winter Concert - 6 pm

Office of African American Student Achievement - Sonja Neely-Johnson (Sonja Bell, Ardarius McDonald & John Cable)

Here is OAASA's [November Newsletter](#)! We encourage you to pay close attention to the upcoming college deadline dates and mark your calendars for the AASAT meeting scheduled for 11/28 at 6 pm.

English Learner Multilingual Achievement - Sonja Neely-Johnson (Esaul Orozco & Team)

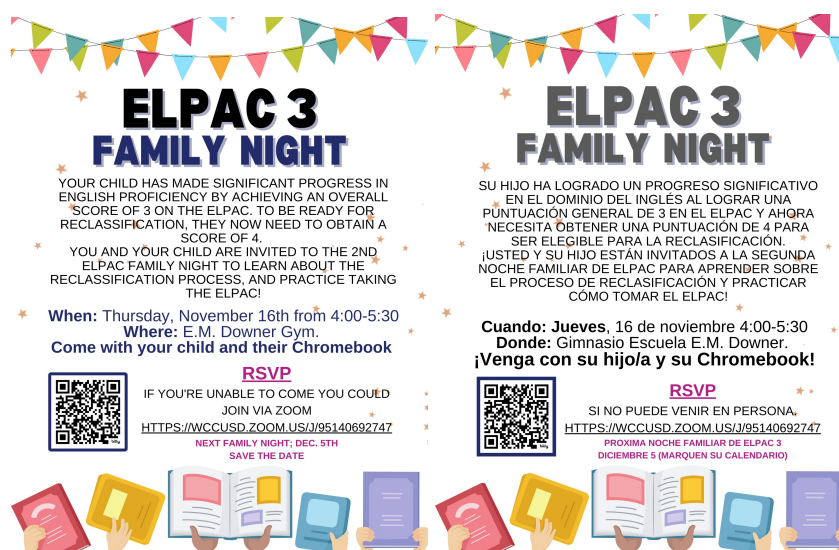
Reclassification Update and the Strategic ELPAC 3 Initiative

Last year's reclassification goal was to increase the number of reclassified students by 100, from 529 in 2021-2022 to 629 in 2022-2023. We met that goal by reclassifying 731 students. Meeting our 8% reclassification projection for 2022-23. This year's goal is to increase the number of reclassified students by 200 and/or 10%, from 631 in 2022-23 to 831 in 2023-24. As of 10-18-2023 there are 75 students reclassified and an additional 538 students currently eligible to reclassify this winter. That is a total of 613 projected to reclassify by this winter. We plan to meet our 821 reclassification goal with this year's Strategic ELPAC 3 Initiative.

The Strategic ELPAC 3 Initiative identifies ELs within 30-40 points of meeting an ELPAC 4 and offers focused support to increase their ELPAC performance with the goal of reclassifying before the end of the 2023-24 school year. This year there are 1806 (22%) ELs with ELPAC 3 in our district. Out of this group, 722 (40%) are within 30-40 points of reaching an ELPAC 4 and becoming eligible for reclassification. By implementing the following action items listed below, we can enhance instruction and increase ELPAC performance towards reclassification in the 2023-24 school year. Eleven schools thus far have partnered with this ELMA Initiative.

- Strategic ELMA Site Support (top 12 sites)
- After School Tutoring and Support ([Flyer](#)) 10 schools thus far
- [ELPAC 3 Teacher slide deck](#) and [ELPAC 3 Tutoring slides](#)
- Teacher Outreach and Support
- Interim ELPAC Test by mid January
- Summative ELPAC 3 Testing on the first full week of February

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WCCUSD SEAL (Sobrato Early Academic Language) Launch in 3 DLI Schools

Three participating schools (Washington, Grant and Dover) have just finished the first 3 intense DLI professional development sessions from SEAL. Training will continue in January. Teachers are learning and excited about implementing SEAL strong multilingual strategies in the classroom and enhancing DLI instruction for students.

Communications Update - Raechelle Forrest

News of the Week: None.

Legislative Updates:

[Focus on Learning Act](#)

A bipartisan Senate bill introduced last week proposes a U.S. Department of Education-led study on the effects that cell phone use in K-12 classrooms has on students' mental health and academic performance. The bill is to direct the Secretary of Education to conduct a study regarding the use of mobile devices in elementary and secondary schools, and to establish a pilot program of awarding grants to enable certain schools to create a school environment free of mobile devices. The study would include analysis of a pilot program — created by the legislation — to provide participating schools with secure containers to store students' phones during school hours, according to the bill from Sens. Tom Cotton, R-Arkansas, and Tim Kaine, D-Virginia. The pilot would make exceptions for students with health conditions or disabilities, and non-English speakers. **[Full Bill Language](#)**.