

West Contra Costa Unified School District
Office of the Superintendent

Friday Memo
May 25, 2018

Upcoming Events – Matthew Duffy

May 26: Middle College Graduation Ceremony, Richmond Convention Center, 10:00 AM
May 28: Memorial Day Holiday, Schools and Office Closed
May 29: Safety / Climate Committee, DeJean Library, 4:00 PM
May 29: LCAP Meeting, Kennedy Library, 6:30 PM
May 30: Board Study Session, DeJean, 6:30 PM
May 31: Transition Program Graduation Ceremony, Vista Hills, 11:00 AM
June 1: End of Year Employee Celebration, Richmond Auditorium, 4:00 PM
June 2: Tech Future Academy Graduation, El Cerrito Theater, 3:00 PM
June 4: Adult Education Graduation Ceremony, Richmond Auditorium, 7:00 PM
June 5: DeAnza Graduation Ceremony, Richmond Auditorium, 7:00 PM
June 6: Agenda Setting, Superintendent's Office, 5:00 PM
June 6: Kennedy Graduation Ceremony, Richmond Auditorium, 7:00 PM
June 7: Last Day of School, Noon Dismissal
June 7: Richmond High Graduation Ceremony, Richmond Auditorium, 7:00 PM
June 8: Alternative Education Graduation Ceremony, Richmond Auditorium, 7:00 PM
June 9: Pinole Valley Graduation Ceremony, Richmond Auditorium, 11:00 AM
June 9: El Cerrito Graduation Ceremony, Richmond Auditorium, 3:00 PM
June 9: Hercules High Graduation Ceremony, Hercules Football Field, 6:00 PM
June 13: Board of Education Meeting, DeJean, 6:30 PM
June 16: Juneteenth Parade, Richmond, 10:00 AM

Next Week's Board Meeting – Matthew Duffy

Closed Session for the May 30 Study Session will begin at 5:30 PM.

Summer School (Extended Learning) 2018--Nia Rashidchi

At this time of the year, we usually share with board members a summary of our summer school program. We have one of the most robust summer programs throughout the county, and we are proud to provide a safe and engaging learning environment for our students in June and July. The following program outlines our base elementary, middle, and high school programs. We will share our other partnership programs in next week's Friday memo.

Elementary Summer Program

Currently, over 1,500 kindergarten through 5th grade students are enrolled in WCCUSD's Extended Learning program at five different sites: Bayview, Grant, Highland, Lincoln, and Riverside.

During the summer session, k-5 students at Bayview, Grant, Highland, and Riverside will participate in standards-based, engaging, technology-integrated learning. The Literacy block is built upon the elements of Balanced Literacy and will deeply immerse students in Reading, Writing, Language, and Speaking and Listening instruction. Students will participate in a Lucy

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Calkins Writing Unit of Study and Writing Workshop instruction. Reading skills will be strengthened through Epic Books, an on-line, curated set of reading books, which also test comprehension and allow students to read at individualized, adaptive reading levels. The Common Core-aligned WonderWorks curriculum will serve as the foundation. The Mathematics block will target the development of number sense through engaging Math Units of Study.

This summer WCCUSD will participate in NGSS aligned Science instruction. Students will explore phenomenon and engage with [Mystery Science](#), a digital platform that takes students through an inquiry process in Science and culminates with hands-on Science learning.

All teachers will be trained in growth mindset strategies to support student growth during the summer. On the Lincoln Elementary campus, instruction will be delivered by Teach for America interns supported by district teachers.

Middle School Summer Program

This summer we bring a new approach to our 6th-8th grade students, by offering Themed Summer Academies at Helms and DeJean Middle School, which include 6th grade students on the middle school campus for summer learning!

DeJean-- [DeJean STEM Academy](#)

DeJean's Summer STEM Academy will focus on digital design and fabrication. Students will have the opportunity to creatively design, and fabricate their designs using Fab Lab resources. In the fabrication class, students will explore the Science of Sound through an inquiry approach to NGSS instruction, culminating in the development of a final product- the fabrication of their own speakers.

Helms-- [Helms Tech Academy](#)

Helms' Summer Tech Academy will focus on project based learning that inspires critical thinking and creativity. In the Project Based Learning (PBL) class, students will be guided through a passion project where they will investigate topics of interest, while learning skills using their tablets. Students will learn coding, the gateway skill to tech jobs. Code.Org and Common Sense Media resources will support instruction in coding and digital literacy.

Both academies will also provide classes in standards based English and Mathematics instruction via Accucess, an Edmentum platform that provides individualized learning paths for students to develop needed literacy and numeracy skills.

High School Summer Program

As always, the focus for high school is credit recovery and grade elevation. Edmentum will provide online content in areas of need, while teachers will utilize blended learning for direct instruction. All classes will require 1:1 tablets. The IT department and Teaching, Learning, and Leading are working collaboratively to ensure that access is not a barrier to summer learning and academic progress.

Extended Learning Instructional Resources:



[Code.Org](#)



[Common Sense Media](#)



[Epic Books](#)



[Mindset Works](#)



[Mystery Science](#)



[Edmentum](#)