

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

**Friday Memo**  
**April 23, 2021**

**Upcoming Events – Matthew Duffy**

April 26: Academic Committee Meeting, 4 p.m.  
April 27: Agenda Setting, 4 p.m.  
April 27: DLI Committee Meeting, 4 p.m.  
April 27: DLCAP Meeting, 6:30 p.m.  
April 28: Board of Education Regular Meeting, 6:30 p.m.  
April 29: MDAC Meeting, 6 p.m.  
May 3: Safety Committee Meeting, 4 p.m.  
May 3: CAC Committee Meeting, 5:30 p.m.  
May 5: Board of Education Regular Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

**Next Board Meeting April 14 – Matthew Duffy**

Closed Session will begin at 5 p.m..

**Updated COVID Dashboard now live on District website - Tracey Logan and Bobby Jordan**

The District will update a daily COVID dashboard that reflects positive cases on school sites for both students and adults. In the spirit of transparency and instilling community trust, the dashboard is updated at **5 p.m. daily Monday through Friday, starting today on the District's website**. The dashboard includes totals at the top, as well as a breakdown of daily cases by school (positives and false positives) by using the filters. The website location is [www.wccusd.net/return2school](http://www.wccusd.net/return2school).

**Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment - Rubén Aurelio (Gabriel Chilcott)**

**Math Department (Mark Lobaco & Team):**

Math Teacher Practices--Since 2018, the WCCUSD Math Department has emphasized [5 key practices](#) for all K-12 math educators: ensure lessons are standards-based and grade/course-level, check for understanding frequently, communicate high expectations, provide opportunities for collaborative student discourse, and incorporate balanced math rigor, multiple methods, and good math syntax. The guide has been used by teachers, coaches, and administrators to help inform next steps in professional learning, incorporates many of [NCTM's Effective Teacher Practices](#), and are aligned to multiple [CSTP standards](#). Connections can be made between these practices and Roadmap 2.0's Essential Tier I Learning Experiences for Students.

**Communications/Events (Bobby Jordan and team):**

Celebration Events -- The Communications team is working with several departments to plan upcoming virtual celebrations. The first celebration is the annual Reclassification Ceremony. Communications and the Multilingual and Multicultural teams are planning the virtual event for 6 p.m. Monday, May 24 via Zoom and social media. The public can view the celebration on the District's Facebook Page, starting at 6 p.m. More details about the event will be available in the next week or two.

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

Communications is working with the Office of African American Student Achievement on the annual African-American Students of Honor Ceremony. The Ceremony is virtual and is at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, May 25 via Zoom. The public can view the Ceremony on the District's social media channels. Again more details about the event will be available in the next week or two.

Lastly, Communications and Human Resources are planning the return of the Employee Celebration scheduled for 6 p.m. on Friday, June 4 via Zoom and social media. This year's celebration will recognize employees from each school and cabinet department as well as the Ed Fund's Teaching Excellence Award winners, Classified Employees of the Year, Retirees from 2020-21 and 2019-2020 school year and the Years of Service Award from 2020-2021 and 2019-2020.

The Annual State of the Schools Address will be held in the Fall of 2021 to allow for the appropriate collection and analysis of data due to the Covid-19 pandemic. A date and time has not been set.

**Contracts Update 4/23/21 – Tony Wold (Mary Kitchen)**

Richmond High School is bringing forward 1 contract

- Bay Area Community Resources:

Increase existing contract to provide support. Terry Mitchell will be the High School Health Center Lead and will provide support to the other high school CSDs (especially Adnan and Dennis). He will also help the team in exploring additional potential community-based resource providers.

[Link to Additional Information](#)

The Business Services Department is bringing forward 3 contracts:

- Contra Costa College – Gateway to College

This is a renewal of the 3-year agreement to provide instructional services for the alternative high school called Gateway to College on the campus of Contra Costa College. The contract term begins on 7/1/21 and will continue for 3 years.

[Link to Additional Information](#)

- Jonah Crawford

Having already mapped and correlated key district data points across SEIS, SIS, CTC & ERP, this proposal builds upon the successful outcomes of our first data unification initiative. The project, which has proved useful to staff throughout its proof of concept and modeling phases is scheduled to end late June. Already this has yielded success relieving staff in multiple portfolios of several laborious multi-annual data-merges. With unified data junior and senior administrators alike have a more accurate

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

and up to date picture of the district's current state across all its data vendors. The contract term begins on 7/1/21 and continues for 1 year.

[Link to Additional Information](#)

- Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Rudd and Romo

Increase existing contract for AALRR for providing legal services as required by the district relating to, but not limited to, human resource matters. The District budget was built upon this amount, but the District does not bring forward the full authorization immediately to ensure proper monitoring of budgetary expenses. This purchase order increase is within the operational budget. This increase is for the final quarter of the school year.

[Link to Additional Information](#)

Special Education Department and Business Services are bringing forward 1 contract:

- First Student

First Student provides transportation for students from home to school and from school to home. With the district moving to full in person instruction in the fall it is imperative that we have this contract in place. During the term of this 5 year contract First Student will start changing their fleet over to Electric vehicles while still staying within the terms of our contract and at no additional fees. For the 2021/2022 School year the negotiated increase in cost is 1.5%. We are exercising the right to extend our existing contract for an additional 5 years.

[Link to Additional Information](#)

The Community Engagement Department is bringing forward one contract:

- West Contra Costa Public Education Fund

The West Contra Costa Public Education Fund assisted the district in writing grants for us. They wrote the California Full Service Community Schools grant (\$8,000) and the Federal Full Service Community Schools grant that were due in March. They also assisted in writing grants for the Richmond Fund for Children and Youth Grant for the Families in Transition program.

[Link to Additional Information](#)

West County Mandarin School is bringing forward one contract:

- Aceera Language School will provide high quality language tutoring for African American students. The program will be offered to small groups as students are available. Program will be provided by Njeri Kamau-Devers. Njeri is a UC Berkeley graduate with a focus in Chinese language. She has traveled extensively in China and received language training from Beijing

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

Normal University. Njeri will offer services via Zoom for students in small groups, 3-5 hours/week. Students at WCMS that are not of Chinese descent have had a particularly challenging time learning Mandarin in the Distance Learning format. One of our current African American parents has already been piloting Aceera Language School for their children. The parent reported that her children were much more engaged in learning the language from a Mandarin speaker and role model who is also of Black/African American descent. The owner of Aceera Productions/Aceera Language School, Njera Kamau-Devers, is the Mandarin tutor who would provide the services for our students.

[Link to Additional Information](#)