

West Contra Costa Unified School District
Office of the Superintendent

Friday Memo
January 14, 2022

Upcoming Events – Dr. Kenneth C. Hurst, Sr.

January 14: End of Second Quarter

January 17: Martin Luther King Holiday

January 18: Secondary Work Day (No School Middle and High Schools)

Next Board of Education Meeting January 19, 2022– Dr. Kenneth C. Hurst, Sr.

Educational Services - LaResha Martin

Virtual Instruction Information - LaResha Martin

The following information was provided to WCCUSD from the Association of California School Administrators (ACSA):

As California is facing yet another COVID-19 surge, we have been receiving inquiries about what options Local Education Agencies have to serve students virtually.

Unlike last year, the rules for offering virtual instruction are different. Current California law does not allow schools to offer distance learning this year. Virtual learning can only be offered through independent study and families must choose to participate in the program. Statute specifically states students may not be required to enroll in independent study. Pursuant to Education Code Section 51747 (g) and 51749.6 (b), for the 2021-22 school year only, LEAs must obtain an independent study agreement for all students participating in the program. LEAs have up to 30 days after the commencement of independent study to obtain the agreement.

Despite the COVID-19 surge California is experiencing, in the absence of a state or local health order, LEAs do not have the explicit legal authority to shift to virtual learning outside of the independent study statute.

If an LEA does not have sufficient staff to open schools due to the impacts of COVID-19, they may seek a J-13A waiver. However, the rules are different this year and to qualify for the J-13A, the LEA must have a plan to offer independent study and demonstrate that they have exhausted all of their staffing options by consulting their County Office of Education and the state Superintendent of Public Instruction. See detailed guidance here: [2021–22 Form J-13A - Frequently Asked Questions - Principal Apportionment \(CA Dept of Education\)](#).

If an LEA does decide to close completely, existing law does allow an LEA to utilize built-in days (snow/smoke days) to shut down if they are included in collective bargaining agreements. This option allows an LEA to close completely without using the independent study program and make up those days later in the year. As long as the 180-day school year is maintained, there will be no negative impact on ADA.

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ACSA will continue working with the governor's office and health officials and will keep you updated as the COVID-19 situation develops.

Educational Services Committees - LaResha Martin

West Contra Costa Educational Services values input from various stakeholders to make informed decisions that create alignment, equity, access and excellence as it relates to student achievement. Committees were formed to make recommendations that will move forward quality academic programs, strategic priorities and strategic projects. The following committees were formed and led by various Directors for: Early Literacy, English Learner/MPEL, Pathways A-G, Report Cards, ELD/Textbook Adoption, TK Expansion.

We are currently working towards finalizing the TK Expansion Committee in partnership with Student Recruitment and Retention, and Facilities. Enrollment and TK expansion will be available for parents to enroll beginning January 18th.

Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment Early Learning/Elementary- LaResha Martin

Science for TK-6 Emergent Bilingual Students - Christi Roscigno & team

The Elementary Science Team and the Dept. of English Learner Achievement are pleased to share that the 2nd in a 4 part series around meeting the needs of our Emergent Bilingual student's Integrated and Designated ELD needs related to science is being offered this week!

[See Flyer for details.](#)

Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment Secondary- LaResha Martin (Gabriel Chilcott & team)

Report Cards (Gabriel Chilcott and Team)

Teaching and learning during COVID are making for a difficult end of semester, which is January 14. In order to provide more time for students to take finals, turn in assignments, or prove mastery in another manner, the marking period for Semester 1 is being extended. Teachers will have until January 24 to input grades and until February 3rd to get report cards into the hands of students and families. [The memo sent to leaders is here.](#)

Assessment Department (Stephanie Hearne and Team)

With attendance down across the district the assessment team decided to extend the Winter benchmark assessment windows by one week to close on February 18. The hope is that this will provide more opportunities to create the most optimal testing environment possible. This data will be used during the Data Summit at the March 1st Principal Meeting. In that meeting, principals will look at district and school data to reflect on how students are learning and improve practices that lead to better student outcomes.

Professional Learning - LaResha Martin

Learning Walks - Sarah Breed

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Highlights from Principal Professional Learning in December included Learning Walks at Nystrom, Chavez, and Korematsu. Site principals and Executive Directors partner to host network principals at a site. Learning Walks build the capacity of principals on the California Professional Standards for Education Leaders (CAPSELS) with an emphasis on Standard Two, Instructional Leadership: *Education leaders shape a collaborative culture of teaching and learning, informed by professional standards and focused on student and professional growth.*

Prior to the Learning Walks, the host principal collaborates with their Executive Director to identify the teachers and classrooms that will be observed. The protocol for the Learning Walks includes an analysis of the task, the content, the teacher actions, and student engagement. Learning Walks focus on the rigor of teaching and learning, and provide an opportunity for site leaders and executive directors to reflect on culturally and linguistically responsive instruction and alignment to grade level standards. Feedback from principals indicates that Learning Walks are valuable. December comments included, *“Really enjoy the learning walks. It is inspiring to see what is happening at schools in our district....Great examples of the SIPPS program...Enjoyed continuing to learn from my peers in discussion...I thought that it was great and very helpful as a new Principal to see other schools and to have discussions with other Administrators. ...I (the host site) really appreciated the feedback from my colleagues. I know there was concern about the timing of the visit (right before break) but teaching and learning should still be happening and so I didn't mind the timing.”*

Educator Effectiveness Block Grant - Sarah Breed

The plan for the [WCCUSD Educator Effectiveness Block Grant](#) funds was approved by the Board on December 15, 2021. Our five-year plan outlines a focus for professional learning for certificated teachers, administrators, paraprofessionals, certificated and classified staff. The funds will enable Educational Services to provide centralized professional learning for ALL WCCUSD teachers during Summer Institutes. Our plan will provide funds for yearly Teacher Induction Institutes for all new certificated teacher hires and will provide centralized professional development for classified staff and paraprofessionals who work directly with students. We are gathering input from District staff to guide the planning for Summer Professional Development. EEF funds are one time funds that are expendable over five years, beginning in January, 2021. Annual data and expenditure reports are due in September of each year through 2026. Plans may be adapted annually based on the professional learning needs of the LEA.

College & Career - LaResha Martin

Real World Science Skills Come to Life in Pathways - Allison Huie & team

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WCCUSD Career and Technical Education courses provide students with opportunities to learn technical skills that solve real world problems in high need, high wage industry sectors in our state and local region. As an example, Juniors in Mr. Heyward's Principles of Biomedical Sciences class in the Health Pathway at Pinole Valley High School are learning gel electrophoresis: an important tool for use in Forensic Science. The gel separates particles into a matrix, which are then forced to move around by electricity, and get separated by size. Students practice first with colored dye, and then use actual DNA. Strands of DNA can be used to match DNA in a skeleton from known missing persons' DNA. This is a part of a unit on Identity, focusing on molecules and tissues, using [equipment kits from local industry partner Bio-Rad](#).

English Learner Achievement - LaResha Martin (Esaul Orozco & team)

Here is the English Learner Achievement [Monthly Review Update](#) for the month of December 2021.

Family & Community Engagement - LaResha Martin (Martine Blake & team)

Athletic Update - Tashaka Merriweather

Tuesday, January 4, 2022, the district athletic directors met with our safety team about the recent increase of COVID-19 cases due to the omicron variant and multiple confirmed cases among student-athletes at different sites. WCCUSD is postponing all athletic events for two weeks, until Tuesday, January 18, 2022. This does not include practices; teams are allowed to continue to practice among their cohort (JV, varsity, etc.), provided they continue to get tested through the district's existing athletic testing program.

Postponing all games for two weeks allows us to better know where we are at with positive cases on our teams. Teams are usually tested weekly, but in anticipation of the return from break are tested twice this week. Teams that have a positive case are required to sit out 10 days, so the two-week period also allows for any teams that have a positive case this week to return to action after January 18.

In recent weeks, other schools outside of our district have also been sporadically postponing games due to positive cases. We have been in contact with TCAL officials, who informed us that other schools are shutting down for two weeks.

Family Engagement Update - Martine Blake and Shakira Reynolds

In December, three of the district level PACs: DLCAPS, MDAC and AASAT held successful elections. The newly installed executive boards include a mix of seasoned parent leaders as well as new parents looking to get involved at the district level.

In preparation for the upcoming recommendation sessions, DLCAPS participated in Round 1 progress monitoring based on the 21-22 LCAP. This first round of progress monitoring consisted of an overview of which LCAP programs and services were implemented fully, partially, or not at all, their corresponding budget implications and how funds have been expended to date. AASAT was also provided an update on their resolution by OAASA.

At the next DLCAPS meeting on January 18th, the committee will receive a presentation on the efficacy of the programs and services as Round 2 monitoring. This will serve as a grounding before they begin the work of making new or updated LCAP recommendations.

Contracts Update for the 1/19/22 Board Meeting – Robert McEntire, Mary Kitchen

• **Christy White – Business Services**

Christy White Associates will conduct performance audits of Project #58/61796-00-009 (King Elementary), Project #58/61796-00-010 (El Cerrito Senior High), Project #58/61796-00-011 (El Cerrito Senior High Building E), Project #57/61796-00-051 (Pinole Valley High), Project #57/61796-00-049 (Kennedy High) and Project #58/61796-00-005 (Pinole Valley High Seismic) within one year of each project’s completion or termination date. The objective of the audit is the expression of opinions as to whether the District complied with the compliance requirements related to the projects outlined in the preceding paragraph. The objectives of the audit are to ensure compliance with Education Code Section 41024 for an LEA agency that receives any funds (commencing April 1, 2017) pursuant to the Leroy F. Greene School Facilities Act of 1998 (Chapter 12.5 (commencing with Section 17070.10) of Part 10 of Division 1 of Title 1 of the Education Code). [Link to Additional Information](#)

• **Christy White – Business Services**

Christy White Associates will conduct performance audits of Project #57/61796-00-044 (Peres Elementary Modernization), Project #57/61796-00-045 (Greenwood Academy(Gompers (Samuel)) Continuation Modernization), Project #57/61796-00-047 (Coronado Elementary Modernization) by the requested date of October 20, 2021 and Project #58/61796-00-008 (Helms Middle Seismic Apportioned) by the requested date of December 4, 2021. The objective of the audit is the expression of opinions as to whether the District complied with the compliance requirements related to the projects outlined in the preceding paragraph. The objectives of the audit are to ensure compliance with Education Code Section 41024 for an LEA agency that receives any funds (commencing April 1, 2017) pursuant to the Leroy F. Greene School Facilities Act of 1998 (Chapter 12.5 (commencing with Section 17070.10) of Part 10 of Division 1 of Title 1 of the Education Code). [Link to Additional Information](#)

- **East Bay Center for Performing Arts – Expanded Learning**

East Bay Center For the Performing Arts will provide performing arts classes at Dejean and Fairmont for 20 weeks. EBCPA provides classes such as Capoeira, Hip Hop Dance, Contemporary Dance, African Drumming and more. Classes will take place twice a week for two hours each day. Each class will be one hour long and can serve up to 20 students for each class. EBCPA will serve up to 40 students at each site.

Sites: DeJean Middle & Fairmont Elementary

[Link to Additional Information](#)

- **McCown & Associates – Human Resources & Business Services**

Increase purchase order to cover the professional services that we are receiving from McCown's & Associates. McCown & Associates have provided professional services to represent, advise, counsel, and act as a legal representative for matters to, but not limited to, immigration legal services.

[Link to Additional Information](#)

- **Rich City Kids – Office of African American Student Achievement**

The program will support schools in achieving the annual measurable outcome by providing skill development assessments three times during the program's duration - at the beginning, mid year and at the end of year. Assessment results will be presented to participating school sites twice a year - midyear and at the end of the year. Surveys throughout the year will also be sent to families and staff members to complete twice a year. Parent and staff survey results will be presented to school sites twice a year - midyear and at the end of the year.

Sites: Nystrom, Mira Vista, Washington, Soskin Middle, King, Montalvin, Pinole Middle, Sheldon

[Link to Additional Information](#)

- **West Contra Costa Public Education Fund – Youth Code Now**

Youth Code Now will provide math, science and coding programming at 8 Expanded Learning sites. YCN will provide foundational support around mathematics to 4th-6th graders. YCN supports the growth and development of the whole child to promote an early interest in learning. YCN will prioritize enrollment for students who have scored low on math standardized tests. YCN consists of two program components 1) One hour of math enrichment 2) One hour of coding, scratch, STEM, website design, 3D design, 3D printing and robotics. YCN will serve up to 30 students twice a week for a total of 4 hours each week for 15 weeks. 240 Students.

Sites: Chavez, Coronado, Downer, Nystrom, Peres, King, Lincoln and Verde.

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[Link to Additional Information](#)

Communications Update - Ryan Phillips

Friday, January 14, 2022

[California schools get off to a shaky start after holiday break | EdSource](#) - Diana Lambert

The return to California classrooms after the winter holiday break has been rocky, as [Covid infection rates](#) continue to climb, schools run out of substitutes to take over classrooms for ill and quarantined teachers, and district officials and staff wrangle over safety protocols.

But lessons continue — although some are happening in merged classes held in auditoriums or gymnasiums — and teachers have adapted them with safety in mind.

[West Contra Costa Co. parents, teachers upset over handling of omicron surge | ABC7 News](#) - Amy Hollyfield and Ryan Curry

Parents and teachers in the East Bay are fed up with the district's handling of the [omicron surge](#). The West Contra Costa School District was up late into the night -- deciding how to handle a rise in COVID-19 cases. Schools are open for in-person learning and will remain open, but the public comments during Thursday night's school board meeting gave us a glimpse into how some parents are feeling about this surge. The board did not have any plans on the agenda to vote on whether to close schools. It was a special meeting just to listen to parents.

Thursday, January 13, 2022

[All-Bay Area News Group high school football, fall 2021: Defensive backs | The Mercury News](#)
Robert Freeman, El Cerrito, 5-8, 155, senior

Tri-County Athletic League Rock Division MVP. A three-star prospect, according to 247Sports. Finished the season with 21 touchdowns as El Cerrito won the league title. Played on varsity all four seasons and was the league's defensive MVP as a sophomore. "He made a huge impact and made it difficult for teams to scheme for him," El Cerrito coach Jacob Rincon said.

[Omicron surge forcing more restrictions in the Bay Area | KALW](#) - Sunni Khalid

[West Contra Costa Unified](#) is now requiring employees to wear KN95 masks and students to wear surgical masks. That district reopened Tuesday, closing schools for two days. Hayward Unified this week moved online for at least a week after more than 500 students tested positive and teachers were absent from more than half of classrooms.

[Letters: Why don't schools offer classroom and remote learning during omicron surge?](#) | San Francisco Chronicle

[Teacher sickouts continue at West Contra Costa Unified](#) | EdSource - ALI TADAYON

West Contra Costa Unified School District
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After a sickout protest by nine teachers Tuesday at West Contra Costa Unified's Korematsu Middle School, seven of Stege Elementary's 12 teachers on staff called out sick Wednesday and Thursday, district officials said.

No permanent full-time teachers were on campus Wednesday or Thursday; Wednesday had previously been scheduled as only a partial day at Stege. In addition to the seven teachers who called in sick Wednesday and Thursday, the other six were either in quarantine or on leave for other reasons, district spokesman Ryan Phillips said. Stege teacher Hannah Geitner said the teachers who are in quarantine are also supporting and participating in the sick-out action.

[‘Sickouts’ Spreading Across Bay Area Schools, as Teachers and Students Decry Lack of Masks and Testing](#) | SF NEWS - JOE KUKURA

Last week's SF Unified and Oakland Unified School District sickouts were the shape of things to come at Bay Area schools, as Oakland teachers are pulling another one, as are many other East Bay schools.

Given the current [Omicron-variant walloping](#), it's difficult to tell whether [school district sickouts](#) are really labor action pushback, or if tons of students and teachers are legitimately out sick. But [San Francisco Unified's sickout last Thursday](#) — or a combination of the action and actual illnesses — did produce a [20% absence rate](#) among faculty. Oakland Unified teachers held their own sickout the next day, and forced the [closure of at least 12 schools](#).

Wednesday, January 12, 2022

[Contra Costa County school districts manage teacher absences](#) | KRON4 - Philippe Djegal

A rise in teacher absences continues to impact East Bay schools. The growing problem is tied to the pandemic and has been complicated by a shortage of substitute teachers.

KRON4 reached out to the three largest school districts in Contra Costa County and learned that two out of three are reporting a high number of teachers absent since school resumed from winter break.

“We did not experience a large number of staff absences. so, that was good news for us,” Superintendent John Malloy said.

[As omicron surges, more Bay Area school sickouts are planned for this week](#) | KTVU - By [Allie Rasmus](#)

There are teacher sickouts planned Wednesday at Hercules Middle School and Stege Elementary School in the West Contra Costa Unified School District, which just reopened after [two days of winter break](#).

And at Korematsu Middle School in El Cerrito, families got a similar note saying teachers would not be out until next Tuesday. They are also calling for KN-95 masks and increased testing.

Tuesday, January 11, 2022

[Contra Costa County officials urge schools to stay open amid omicron surge](#) | [Richmond Standard](#)

West Contra Costa Unified School District
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Contra Costa County's superintendent of schools and the County's deputy health officer on Tuesday urged schools to stay open amid the latest surge in COVID-19 cases.

"The county office of education continues to work with the health department and our school districts to maintain in-person learning and do it safely," Superintendent of Schools Lynn Mackey said in a joint statement.

Unlike last school year, California law no longer allows schools to engage in distance learning. While independent study is allowed, families must consent to participate in that form of learning, according to the West Contra Costa Unified School District (WCCUSD).

[Teachers at West Contra Costa Unified plan sick-out protests throughout the week | EdSource](#)

Groups of teachers at West Contra Costa Unified are planning sick-outs throughout the week in protest of what they believe are insufficient safety measures by the district. [Similar actions](#) were taken by groups of teachers in Oakland and San Francisco last week.

A number of teachers at Korematsu Middle School participated in the sick-out protest today, and teachers at Stege Elementary plan to protest Wednesday, said Stege teacher Hannah Geitner. According to the district, nine of 32 Korematsu teachers called in sick. All district schools were closed Monday and last Friday due to high numbers of Covid cases and staff shortages.

[West Contra Costa County schools reopen after COVID deep cleaning | KTVU](#) - James Torrez

Schools in West Contra Costa County are reopening on Tuesday after the district spent two "smoke days" to shut schools down and get a grip on the spread of COVID-19.

According to the latest numbers, Hercules High School is reporting about 29 students who have the virus; that's the second-largest number district wide. COVID cases more than doubled last week.

[West Contra Costa schools reopen Tuesday after closure due to COVID cases, staffing shortages](#) |

The Mercury News - Summer Lin

After West Contra Costa Unified School District closed its schools for two days due to a surge in staff absences and student COVID-19 cases during the spread of the omicron variant, campuses re-opened Tuesday with new masking requirements in place.

[The district announced last week](#) it was shutting its 54 schools on Friday and Monday after nearly a quarter of the district's students missed class. The district didn't offer online instruction during the temporary closure and they were considered "smoke days." Students were encouraged to get tested before returning to school and to stay home if they're feeling sick.

[Bay Area school district reopens after deep cleaning, teacher shortages persist | KTVU](#) - Rob Roth

West Contra Costa Unified School District
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At Korematsu Middle School in [El Cerrito](#) Tuesday, school was back in session after a four-day weekend where the district had each school deep cleaned. But how much actual learning went on is an open question.

"I just volunteered all morning and kids were telling me half the teachers are here," said Laila Comolli, the mother of an eighth-grader. She wasn't sure what to expect when she first arrived this morning.

[West Contra Costa schools reopen Tuesday after closure due to COVID cases, staffing shortages](#) |

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[Cloth masks will no longer be accepted at West Contra Costa Unified](#) | EdSource - Ali Tadayon

West Contra Costa Unified will not allow students to wear cloth masks after Jan. 17, following [suggestions by medical experts](#).

Though California Health and Human Services Director Mark Ghaly has encouraged the wearing of well-fitting, higher-grade masks, the state has stopped short of requiring them. The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is considering updating its mask guidance to recommend that people use N95 or KN95 masks, the [Washington Post reported Monday](#).

The district will provide each student with a new surgical mask every day. Employees will be required to wear KN95 masks, and will be provided with two each week.

[Schools 'nearing their breaking point' as Bay Area districts grapple with staffing, testing and ...](#) |

San Francisco Chronicle

[One thousand Oakland, California students plan strike in opposition to deadly school reopening](#) |

WSWS - [Sebastian Greene](#)

In nearby El Cerrito, teachers at Korematsu Middle School sent out an open letter on Monday detailing the horrid situation faced by students and staff at the school. They explained: "The district has failed to respond to this situation with any sort of urgency or available resources for our immediate needs. They have failed to increase testing, secure substitutes and are unable to provide KN95 masks to our students. We do not feel they are providing a safe learning environment for students."

They added, "Due to the rising COVID cases, lack of safety protocols and staff shortages, teachers at Korematsu Middle School will not be coming to school tomorrow, or the rest of this week." They go on to say, "We feel it is better for everyone to rest ... than for more staff and students to get sick this week."

West Contra Costa Unified School District
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The letter reported that about one third of both teachers and students are out sick with COVID with nearly every teacher subbing at least one period.

Monday, January 10, 2022

[West Contra Costa Schools Distribute 15000 In-Home Testing Kits to Students - Post News Group](#) |

By Oakland Post - Post Staff

WCCUSD is making strides to slow the spread of COVID-19 in the community and keep students safe. District staff and volunteers hosted two drive-in distribution sites on Sunday at Pinole Valley High School and Kennedy High School for families to receive a free in-home testing kit for students before returning to school on Monday, Jan. 3.

The West Contra Costa Unified School District (WCCSD) staff and volunteers distributed approximately 15,000 COVID-19 test kits to families on Sunday, Jan. 2, enabling more students to get tested before returning to school.

More than 5,000 cars at the two drive-through locations lined up to receive a testing kit.

[West Contra Costa Unified Set to Reopen Campuses After 2-Day Districtwide Closure ...](#) | NBC Bay Area

The West Contra Costa Unified School District reopened campuses Tuesday after a two-day districtwide shutdown spurred by a COVID-19 outbreak last week.

About 28,000 students were headed back to class, minus those who are sick or quarantining, after their schools were closed Friday and Monday for deep cleaning. District officials decided to close all campuses after several students at multiple schools tested positive for COVID-19.

During the impromptu break, the district superintendent sent out an email to families with the following instructions to help make it a successful return to in-person learning:

[COVID-19 live updates: West Contra Costa Co. Unified schools closed today - ABC7 News](#)

5 a.m.

West Contra Costa Co. Unified schools closed today

Schools in West Contra Costa Unified will be closed today because of the spike in omicron cases. When classes resume tomorrow all staff will be required to wear a medical grade KN-95 mask. Each person will be provided one new mask every week through the end of the school year. All schools got a deep cleaning on Friday. Students and staff are asked to get a COVID test before returning to class, although this is not a requirement.

[Milpitas Schools Return to Online Learning Amid Omicron Surge | KPIX](#) - Shawn Chitnis

West Contra Costa Unified School District was able to close school for two days beginning on Friday by moving around non-student days in the academic calendar and remain closed on Monday. Testing at district sites will be available again on Monday before schools reopen on Tuesday.

West Contra Costa Unified School District
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WCCUSD hopes this long weekend will not only give them time to deep clean their schools, but also let students and staff recover from any COVID infections.

[Milpitas schools will be in-person this week after county urges districts to avoid remote learning](#) | The Mercury News

West Contra Costa Unified announced last week that it would close school until Jan. 11 — and not offer remote learning options. And on Jan. 7, [more than 500 Oakland teachers staged a “sick-out” protest](#) demanding more safety measures be put in place.

[Milpitas schools will be in-person this week after county urges districts to avoid remote learning](#) | East Bay Times

Other school districts around the region [are responding to the omicron surge to varying degrees](#). West Contra Costa Unified announced last week that it would close school until Jan. 11 — and not offer remote learning options. And on Jan. 7, [more than 500 Oakland teachers staged a “sick-out” protest](#) demanding more safety measures be put in place.

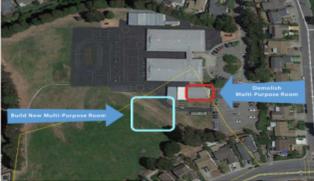
Saturday, January 8, 2022

[Schools in West Contra Costa School District close as COVID-19 infections rise](#) | Telemundo

The district superintendent asked students and individuals to self-quarantine as much as possible over the weekend.

Bond Program Critical Need Project Budget Increase for Hercules HMS & Shannon ES - Luis Freese

At the upcoming Board meeting on January 19, 2022, staff will recommend increasing the bond-funded project budgets for two Critical Need Projects at Hercules Middle/High School and Shannon Elementary School. The table below includes a summary of the current project scope and Board approved budget, as well as, the proposed budget increase and related scope of work.

	FMP Scope of Work	Recommendation
<p>Hercules Middle & High</p> 	<p>Hercules Middle & High - Critical Needs Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replace portables and build modern science building shared by Hercules Middle and High School <p>Budget: \$14.7M</p>	<p>Building 8 labs with supporting spaces and reducing the number of portables on site.</p> <p>Continue to look for additional cost savings.</p> <p><u>Increase Budget \$5M</u></p>
<p>Shannon Elementary</p> 	<p>Shannon Elementary - Critical Needs Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replace portable multipurpose room in a new location. <p>Budget: \$7.1M</p>	<p>Maintain the stage, dining, kitchen, and serving areas.</p> <p>Continue to look for additional cost savings.</p> <p><u>Increase Budget \$2M</u></p>

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The 2016 Facilities Master Plan (“2016 FMP”) budgets included reasonable assumed escalation costs at the midpoint of construction. Since the 2016 FMP, COVID, extreme weather conditions, disruptions to the supply chain, and other factors have led to labor and material shortages. All of these factors have significantly increased construction costs. Currently, the bond fund balance excluding Measure R, has more than 14 million dollars available. Staff recommends utilizing 7 million dollars from the fund balance to increase the project budgets.

Measure R Bond Fund Project Budget Allocation for Kennedy HS Pressbox, Bleachers, and Field Project - Luis Freese

At the upcoming Board meeting, staff is recommending the allocation of the first Measure R project budget of 6.6 million dollars for the Kennedy High School Pressbox, Bleachers, and Field Project. The project's scope includes replacing the home bleachers with new aluminum bleachers that incorporate an integrated pressbox, and the addition of new visitor bleachers to increase the capacity to 1000 seats. The press box will feature an intercom, internet, and fire alarm connection to the concession building and the local broadcast system for field events. The project also includes a new scoreboard, replacement of the track surface and the artificial field, as well as, the relocation of the field events to meet the District standards. The approval of this project budget will kick start the Measure R improvements at Kennedy.