

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

**Friday Memo**  
**May 13, 2022**

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

May 16: Community Safety Forum 6:00-7:30pm, Zoom Link: <https://bit.ly/SafetyForumWCCUSD>

May 19: African American Honors Celebration 5:00-8:00pm, Contra Costa College

May 21: Middle College Graduation, 10:00am-12:00pm, Contra Costa College

May 23: Strategic Planning Meeting 5:30-7:30pm, Sylvester Greenwood Academy

May 24: Strategic Planning Meeting 5:30-7:30pm, Hercules Middle School

May 25: Strategic Planning Meeting 5:30-7:30pm, Helms Middle School

**Next Board of Education Meeting May 18, 2022– Kenneth Chris Hurst Sr., Ed.D**

Closed Session will begin at 4:00pm

**Educational Services - LaResha Martin**

Here is an update on [Summer Programming](#) for 2022 from the Educational Services and the Special Education Departments.

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

**Algebra II/Precalculus Compression Course**—As part of the district’s pursuit to ensure access to high quality instruction for all students and to providing avenues for acceleration in high school mathematics, the junior-year Algebra II/Precalculus course has been approved by UC as an A-G (Area C-Mathematics) course. This course ensures that STEM career-focused students have access to the college-level Calculus course as a senior. DeAnza High School will be the first school to offer the course, with additional high schools offering the course in the coming years. More information about how this course plays a role in secondary math course sequencing can be found [here](#).

**Professional Learning - LaResha Martin (Sarah Breed)**

Professional Learning opportunities will be provided to Classified and Certificated staff this summer on July 21-22 and August 4-5. Sessions will support the focal areas of WCCUSD’s Instructional Focus Plan and the WCCUSD Plan for Educator Effectiveness. All sessions will be virtual.

This summer’s sessions focus on:

- Programs that lead to effective, standards-aligned instruction
- Instruction and education to support implementing effective language acquisition programs for English learners
- Practices and strategies that reengage pupils and lead to accelerated learning
- Strategies to implement social-emotional learning and trauma-informed practices
- Practices to create a positive school climate

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

- Certificated teachers and specified classified staff are encouraged to attend and will be paid for attendance. The [Summer PD Schedule- Educator Effectiveness](#) is here.

Staff will enroll using the District's on-line SCHED system. The content of the sessions has been designed in partnership with the WCCUSD Educator Effectiveness committee and will be facilitated by WCCUSD staff and professional development providers.

**Contract Update for the 5/18/22 Board Meeting – Robert McEntire-Mary Kitchen & Team**

**Collaborative Classroom – Educational Services**

SIPPS Intervention materials are key to meeting the instructional needs of students who do not learn phonics well with the 1st round of Tier one instruction. The tools will be used for literacy intervention across elementary sites. The needs of our students in reading are significant, more so after the Pandemic. Materials will be used starting this summer for Professional learning, and in the Fall 2022 for intervention instruction. Under Public Contract Code 20118 the district will be utilizing a piggyback bid RFP #16-18 that was publicly bid through the National Cooperative Purchasing Alliance (NCPA). The Contract has been extended through August 2023

[Link to Additional Information](#)

**Common Vision – Expanded Learning – Dover, Ford, Nystrom, Obama, Sheldon, King, Peres**

Common Vision will be providing Summer gardening enrichment for Dover, Ford, Nystrom, Obama, Sheldon, King and Peres. Program will take place between June 21st thru July 21st and will serve up to 250 students.

[Link to Additional Information](#)

**Common Vision – Washington Elementary**

The original contract is amended as follows:

Services will be added at Washington Elementary School:

Common Vision's mission is to directly connect children with the living world around them. Common Vision works with school communities to build campus green spaces, develop hands-on outdoor learning programs and improve access to fresh foods. The programs' objectives are to 1) set up and maintain the physical infrastructure needed for a hands-on outdoor learning program; 2) provide all needed supplies and materials; 3) facilitate outdoor learning and stewardship activities, aligned with subject areas and instructional goals, with specialist instructors working alongside classroom teachers. Washington - 1 FTE, 180 hours.

[Link to Additional Information](#)

**Equal Opportunity Schools – College and Career**

Equal Opportunity Schools will provide professional development to increase participation rates in AP/IV/AICE classes in its incoming partner schools, EOS value transforms schools' cultures and teacher mindsets, ultimately increasing graduation and scholarship rates. EOS provides schools and districts with data, coaching, and action to ensure students of color and low-income students are fully included in your most

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

rigorous courses. The program consists of Action for Equity; Phase 1: Access Opportunity; is the first stage of the model, by increasing participation rates in AP/IB/AICE classes. Phase 2: Experience Success; this pathway is designed to follow a previous EOS partnership that focuses on equity of access to the advanced programs for historically underrepresented students of color and low-income students. Providing four workshops for up to 3 hours in addition to webinars. Services will be provided to staff in the following High Schools: Richmond High School (AP) DeAnza High School (AP) Kennedy High School (AP) El Cerrito High School (AP) Hercules High School (AP) Pinole High School (AP & IB )

[Link to Additional Information](#)

**Fagen Friedman & Fulfrost LLP – Business Services SELPA**

Increase current PO to continue receiving legal advice and act as legal representative for the WCCUSD on matters pertaining to Special Education Matters

[Link to Additional Information](#)

**Scientific Adventures for Girls – Expanded Learning – Ford, Obama, Nystrom, Dover**

Scientific Adventures for Girls will provide Summer programming at Ford, Obama, Nystrom, and Dover. Scientific Adventures for Girls will provide hands-on STEM enrichment for up to 200 students.

[Link to Additional Information](#)

**StudioFive10 – Community Engagement – Mira Vista**

The original contract is amended as follows: Adding Services at Mira Vista Elementary School: StudioFive10 is grounded in principles that are designed to create powerful relationships, which are essential to building thriving communities. The Restoration Coordinators provide direct services to students, staff, and families. Restoration Coordinators facilitate conflict mediation circles, community building activities, and social-emotional learning workshops, and provide restorative interventions with referred students. Restoration Coordinators will lead conflict mediation circles that bring all parties together to meet and settle on a plan to repair the harm. Students learn to resolve disagreements, take ownership of their behavior, and engage in acts of empathy and forgiveness. Services will be provided Monday-Friday 8:30 am to 3:00 PM, 1 FTE.

[Link to Additional Information](#)

**The Practice Space – Expanded Learning – King, Peres, Sheldon**

The Practice Space will provide Summer programming for 3rd thru 6th graders at King Peres, and Sheldon. The Practice Space will facilitate public speaking classes for up to 80 3rd thru 6th graders during the Summer program. 240 students total.

[Link to Additional Information](#)

**Toshiba Financial – Business Services**

Due to the age of 47 copiers throughout the district, Toshiba will no longer be able to support these machines. In order to maximize our funding and replace all 47 copiers, the district is looking to lease rather than purchase in order to upgrade the 47 copiers. The District will be piggybacking on a Toshiba Contract. The annual cost for the 47 copiers will be \$70,433.64. The term of the lease will be 60-months with a \$1.00

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

buyout. The total cost of the 60-month lease will be \$353,168.20. These 47 copiers will be added to the current Toshiba Service Contract.

[Link to Additional Information](#)

**WCC Public EdFund/Camp Achieve – Expanded Learning**

Camp Achieve will provide Summer enrichment programming at four sites: Shields Reed, Nevin, Parchester, and Booker T. Program will take place from June 15th thru August 5th and will serve up to 330 students Monday thru Friday except for district holidays.

[Link to Additional Information](#)

**WCC Public EdFund/Richmond CDF Freedom School – OAASA**

Freedom School includes five essential components: academic enrichment, family engagement, social action, intergenerational servant leadership, and nutrition/health. Richmond CDF Freedom School will serve k-8th grade students and all classes will be in small groups of ten students or less. The program is completely free, and students will receive two nutritious meals and a snack daily, as well as a book each week to keep and help build their home libraries. Freedom School aims to curb summer learning loss, enhance children's motivation to read, make them feel good about learning, and increase cultural knowledge and pride. Freedom School scholars engage in a research-based, multicultural Integrated Reading Curriculum that supports them and their families through five essential components: high-quality academic enrichment, parent and family development, Civic engagement and social action, Intergenerational servant leadership development and nutrition, health, and mental health. Each year, all Freedom Schools around the country choose a social justice topic to focus on throughout the summer and culminating in the National Day of Social Action. This focus on national and local social action encourages both youth and community organizing. The Freedom School program structure also included volunteers to serve as role models through daily read alouds and volunteers. This allowed students to interact with people from all walks of life who live in their local community and learn about various career paths- all centered around the importance of literacy.

[Link to Additional Information](#)

**WCC Public EdFund/Young Leaders – Downer Elementary**

The original contract is amended as follows: Change in effective dates, the original contract was to be effective from 8/23/21 to 12/13/21 which covered the amount of \$24,000.00 originally allocated. The new effective dates are from 12/13/21 to 6/8/22 for the additional amount of \$26,000.00. Services are provided as follows: Young Leaders' mission is to teach students Leadership skills through physical education classes, its junior coach program, and student mentorship program. To have a positive impact on student's physical/emotional health through fitness classes and in-school leadership opportunities for students. In support of goals 1 and 2 of the Early Literacy Support Grant, the program will provide targeted small group explicit and systematic foundational skills instruction in grades K-3. The Literacy Support Specialist from E.M. Downer will support our program to ensure academic success. The program will also offer Teacher/Staff PD so that teachers can implement structured P.E. activities/lessons during their mandated P.E. time. 5 days a week or 40 hrs/week

[Link to Additional Information](#)

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

## **Communications Update - Ryan Phillips**

### **Thursday, May 12, 2022**

#### **[San Leandro Unified renames Woodrow Wilson school - The Mercury News](#)**

Woodrow Wilson Elementary School has been renamed to honor the area's indigenous people.

The school will now be called Halkin Elementary. San Leandro is part of the Bay Mewuk Ohlone and Chochenyo traditional homeland, known as Halkin.

The new name, chosen after a two-year community process, was approved by the San Leandro Unified school board on Tuesday. In February 2020, the board of the West Contra Costa County Unified School District removed Wilson's name from an elementary school in Richmond. The school is now named after former First Lady Michelle Obama.

#### **[San Francisco Unified picks Hayward superintendent to lead schools - CBS News](#)**

The San Francisco Board of Education announced Thursday that Hayward Unified School District superintendent Dr. Matt Wayne has been named the finalist for the next superintendent of the city's public schools. According to the district, Wayne earned his undergraduate degree at UC Berkeley, masters degrees at Columbia and a doctorate in educational leadership at Berkeley. Wayne began his teaching career in 1997 in New York City and has also served as assistant principal and principal in the West Contra Costa Unified School District.

#### **[SFUSD announces new school superintendent - KTVU](#)**

Wayne, who is fluent in Spanish, began as an English Language Arts teacher in 1997 at The Riis Upper School at PS 126 in New York City. He also served as an assistant principal and an elementary principal in West Contra Costa Unified School District.

#### **[S.F. school district picks new superintendent, who seeks to end divisive politics](#)**

San Francisco Chronicle

Wayne, 48, lives in Berkeley with his wife and son, who attends El Cerrito High School. His daughter is a junior in college.

### **Wednesday, May 11, 2022**

#### **[BUSD administrator leaves for superintendent job in St. Helena district - Berkeleyside](#)**

Rubén Aurelio is the second high-level administrator to take a superintendent job at another district next year. A second high-level administrator will be leaving Berkeley Unified for a superintendent position at another school district in California.

Rubén Aurelio, Berkeley's chief academic officer, has been named as the finalist for a superintendent position in Saint Helena School District, pending board approval May 19.

Aurelio has worked in East Bay schools for much of his education career. He held administrative roles at San Leandro Unified, West Contra Costa Unified, and Oakland Unified after beginning as a teacher and elementary school principal.

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

**Tuesday, May 10, 2022**

[Bay Area schools see families leave cities, flock to suburbs - The Mercury News](#)

The Mercury News

Most districts haven't researched where departing families are moving to. West Contra Costa Unified, however, has managed to track where some families are going. The district found that slightly more than half of the 1,206 students that left last year went to a different district, while about 14% enrolled in charters, 13% enrolled outside the state and 8% enrolled in private schools. West Contra Costa Unified saw an enrollment drop of 18.5% from 2000 to 2019. And Oakland Unified lost more than 30% of its enrollment during that period, while expenses increased.

**Monday, May 9, 2022**

[WCCUSD superintendent announces delay in COVID-19 vaccine requirement | Richmond Standard](#)

The West Contra Costa Unified School District (WCCUSD) has pushed back its student vaccination date requirement by one year, aligning with recently revised state guidelines, Superintendent Dr. Kenneth Chris Hurst announced in a [community message](#) Sat., May 7.

Students will not be required to get the COVID-19 vaccine before July 1, 2023.

[Bay Area Schools See Families Leave Cities, Flock to Suburbs | KOED](#)

Vallejo City Unified and most other districts haven't researched where departing families are moving to. West Contra Costa Unified, however, has managed to track where some families are going. In a report presented at Wednesday night's school board meeting, the district found that slightly more than half of the 1,206 students that left the district last year went to a different district, while about 14% enrolled in charters, 13% enrolled outside the state and 8% enrolled in private schools. The students enrolled in neighboring Vallejo City Unified and Oakland Unified, as well as Antioch Unified farther east in Contra Costa County.

[Bay Area schools see families leave cities, flock to suburbs | EdSource](#)

West Contra Costa Unified itself saw an enrollment drop of 18.5% between 2000 and 2019. Nearby Oakland Unified lost more than 30% of its enrollment during that period, while expenses increased. Oakland Unified's decades-long budget woes prompted the district's school board, in February, to approve a proposal to [close, consolidate and merge 11 schools](#) to adjust to the enrollment drop. The decision was met with hunger strikes and other ongoing protests and actions by members of the community and the local teachers union, the Oakland Education Association.