

West Contra Costa Unified School District
Office of the Superintendent

Friday Memo
October 8, 2021

Upcoming Events – Dr. Kenneth C. Hurst

October 10-16: Week of the Administrators

October 11: Citizens Bond Oversight Committee, 6:00 PM

October 11: No School (reserved day)

October 13: Board of Education Study Session, 6:30 PM, DeJean Middle School

October 18-22: Digital Citizenship Week

October 20: Board of Education, 6:30 PM, DeJean Middle School

Next Board Study Session Meeting October 13 – Dr. Kenneth C. Hurst, Sr.

Closed session will begin at 5:00 PM.

Bottle Filling Stations & Water Distribution - Luis Freese

Maintenance and Facilities continue to work together to complete the purchase and installation of bottle filling stations throughout the District. The Maintenance department has retrofitted more than 200 drinking fountains with bottle fillers. In partnership with labor, the District is under contract with two contractors to expedite additional installations throughout the District. The main challenge continues to be the availability of the materials and equipment necessary to complete the installation. To that end, staff purchased the equipment concurrent with the bidding process to expedite the schedule.

Currently, boxed water is available as part of the no-cost meal program at all middle schools and high schools. In addition, the warehouse delivers water to the sites. Unfortunately, the unpredictable supply chain challenges continue to cause shortages and we have run out of water. The purchasing and nutrition services teams are working together closely to navigate the ongoing supply shortages in an effort to ensure that there is a supply of water available at our sites.

AB-367 Menstrual Products - Luis Freese

Staff is actively engaging with community advocates to learn more about concerns related to period poverty. Based on recent recommendations from the community, the Staff has identified some additional product options for future distribution. Staff will continue to follow the proposed legislation and bring forward any updates.

Updating the Bond Program Management Plan - Luis Freese

The Bond Program Management Plan (Plan) documents the internal controls and ongoing process implementation to ensure compliance and consistency in the management of the Bond Program. The strength of the Plan lies in the ability to implement the Plan, which is a living document intended to be updated and refined over time. The Board adopted Plan is available on the [District website](#). Staff has

West Contra Costa Unified School District
Office of the Superintendent

made minor updates to the Plan to reflect modifications since the Board’s adoption earlier this year in June. A summary of the minor revisions is available below and is also available on the District website:

Date	Section Impacted	Description of Change/Update
9/24/2021	Coversheet	Added webpage where BPMP and updates are available.
9/24/2021	Fiscal 3.1.3	Revised Appendix reference
9/24/2021	Appendix 1.1	Updated Org Chart
9/24/2021	Appendix 1.6.3	Updated PACF with 2021-2022 version
9/24/2021	Appendices 1.7	Added 1.7.6 Negative Change Order Entry Instructions
9/30/2021	Appendices 1.8	Added 1.8.2 Invoice Rejection Correspondence
9/30/2021	Approvals	Excerpt from BOE 8/25/21: Dissolve Facilities Committee
9/30/2021	Appendices 2.2	Audit Guide

Communications Update - Ryan Phillips

Thank you to the Board of Trustees for your engagement with the communications department during our presentation at the most recent school board meeting. We are looking forward to working with you on a much-improved District website. We also want to make sure that we answer all of your questions we did not answer on Wednesday. Trustee Smith-Folds asked how many languages are spoken in WCCUSD. The communications department reached out to Chris S. Pham, the District’s Bilingual Assessment and Registration Technician. He provided us with the following information. Based on District data, there are 70 languages spoken in WCCUSD. Communications Director Ryan Phillips will email each Trustee the list of languages.

WCCUSD in the News: Week ending October 8, 2021

October 4, 2021

Richmond Standard

[WCCUSD Superintendent warns of violent TikTok challenge](#)

Kathy Chouteau

Dr. Kenneth Chris Hurst warned the school community of a “Devious Licks” TikTok challenge encouraging youth “to engage in violent and destructive behavior on campus.” “The safety of our staff and students is our top priority and we take any possible threats very seriously,” stated Superintendent Hurst., who called it a dangerous challenge. The superintendent said in his message that since the district takes such threats so seriously, they wanted to make sure the WCCUSD community was aware of the current TikTok challenge.

October 6, 2021

Education Week

[‘Test to Stay’: New Approach Keeps COVID-Exposed Students in Class](#)

West Contra Costa Unified School District
Office of the Superintendent

Catherine Gewertz

Fed up with mass quarantines, districts are looking for new approaches. Companies that set up large-scale testing programs say more school districts have expressed interest in surveillance testing since the Delta variant took hold in late summer. Last month, the district changed testing providers, and now does weekly rapid-antigen testing, with results in 15 to 30 minutes. Currently it's home-quarantining all close contacts, but intends to move soon to twice-weekly testing, and will allow those with negative results to come to school, Hurst said. But the promised 48-hour turnaround time for results stretched into as much as five days. That gap created a window of risk: people who'd been exposed were in school, circulating among others for several days, while they waited for results. "If I had it to do again, I'd go right to rapid-antigen tests" Hurst said.

October 7, 2021

The Richmond Standard

[Richmond school 'Self Care Day' aims to support mental health amid pandemic](#)

Mike Kinney

RichMinds joined a comprehensive coalition of local organizations in putting on a "Self Care Day" for students and parents at Nystrom Elementary... providing both lunch and resources to about 250 to 300 parents and students. The event featured the WCCUSD Rollin' Cafe Food Truck serving its new organic burgers, along with the raffling off of four bicycles and the donation of 20 gift cards from Target.