

West Contra Costa Unified School District
Office of the Superintendent

Friday Memo
November 30, 2018

Upcoming Events – Matthew Duffy

December 3: Special Education CAC, Cameron, 7:00 PM
December 4: African American Site Advisory Team (AASAT), DeJean MS, 6:00 PM
December 5: Board of Education Meeting, DeJean MS, 6:00 PM
December 11: Solutions Team, Stege ES, 11:00 AM
December 11: DLCAP, Kennedy Library, 6:30 PM
December 11: Area Music Festivals, DeJean, 7:00 PM
December 12: Board of Education Study Session, DeJean, 6:00 PM
December 13: MDAC, Helms, 6:30 PM
December 14: MDAC, Kennedy, 9:00 AM
December 19: Agenda Setting, Superintendent's Office, 4:00 PM
December 21: Minimum Day for All Schools
December 24 – January 4: Winter Recess
January 7: Classes Reconvene
January 8: Solutions Team, DeJean MS, 11:00 AM
January 9: Board of Education Meeting, DeJean MS. 6:00 PM

Next Week's Board Meeting – Matthew Duffy

Closed Session for the December 5 meeting will begin at 5:00 PM.

Former Fairmead Park Update - Lisa LeBlanc

As reported in the November 21, 2018 Friday Memo, Fairmead Park was maintained by the City of Richmond up until the summer of 2018. The City no longer has the ability to maintain the property as a park and it has now been transitioned to the District. In August, the City and the District have jointly removed 38 trees identified to be in poor health as well as removing a tree that fell into a neighbor's yard. The District has also initiated/completed the following maintenance items:

- Cut grass and brush on the fields at the site
- Cleaned up the debris around the site
- Contacted PG&E to trim trees and remove branches near power lines along the property. PG&E said the work would take place over the next 2 months

In addition, on November 28, 2018, Executive Director Julio Arroyo met with the Richmond Fire Chief and Fire Marshall to review the property for the purpose of including their recommendations in our upcoming scope of work, which includes:

- Remove approximately 3 additional trees identified in poor health within the coming week
- Reduce the brush and trees on the hillside of the park. We are in the process of receiving proposals to have this work completed by the Spring.
- Create a clearance along the District property border and the neighboring ho
- Communicating with the City Parks and Recreation Department to determine next steps for this property since it is no longer a City maintained park.

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El Cerrito Football Takes on Cardinal Newman Tonight -Marcus Walton

The El Cerrito High School football team travels to Santa Rosa tonight where it will play Cardinal Newman in the North Coast Section Division III semifinals. The game begins at 7 p.m. El Cerrito is ranked No. 4 and Cardinal Newman No. 1 in the division. Cerrito defeated Miramonte on Saturday night 42-1. Because this is an away game, it is important that you contact Darrin Zaragoza at dzaragoza@wccusd.net if you would like a pass.

Media Items of Note - Marcus Walton

The following articles may be of interest.

Two ECHS Students Commit to Gambling <https://richmondstandard.com/sports/2018/11/19/two-el-cerrito-baseball-players-commit-to-gambling-university/>

School Board Adopts Trustee Area Map <https://richmondconfidential.org/2018/11/19/school-board-approves-trustee-area-map/>

Public Records Log – Marcus Walton

Included in this week's memo is the log of public records requests received by the district. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Public Records Request Log 2018- 2019
Week Ending November 9 2018

	Date of Receipt	Requestor	Requested Records/Information	Current Status
56	3/22/18	Scott Rafferty	Communications regarding CVRA allegations	3/26/18 Email sent with DOCs & Links 3/27/18 Email sent with DOCs & Links Gathering/Reviewing Documents
181904	8/1/2018	Scott Rafferty	Communications, social media regarding trustee elections	8/6/2018- Acknowledgement letter sent Reviewing Documents
181908	8/30/2018	Nicole Bates- LSC	Referral, Suspension, Expulsion, Transfer, Arrest data	8/30/2018- Acknowledgement email sent
181909	10/8/2018	David Stephan	a. Invoices re: A method b. Number of teachers under various credentials c. UCP Complaints against Linda Delgado d. Form 700s submitted by Linda Delgado e. Purchase of 1400 Marina Way South	11/28/2018- PARTIAL FULFILLMENT Additional records anticipated no later than 12/14/2018
181911	7/16/2018	Denise Morgan CCSA	Prop. 39 and space allocations for charter schools	11/27/2018- COMPLETED
181912	7/19/2018	Denise Morgan CCSA	Facility use agreements with charter schools	11/27/2018- COMPLETED
181913	10/16/2018	Johanna Epperson Dun&Bradstreet		

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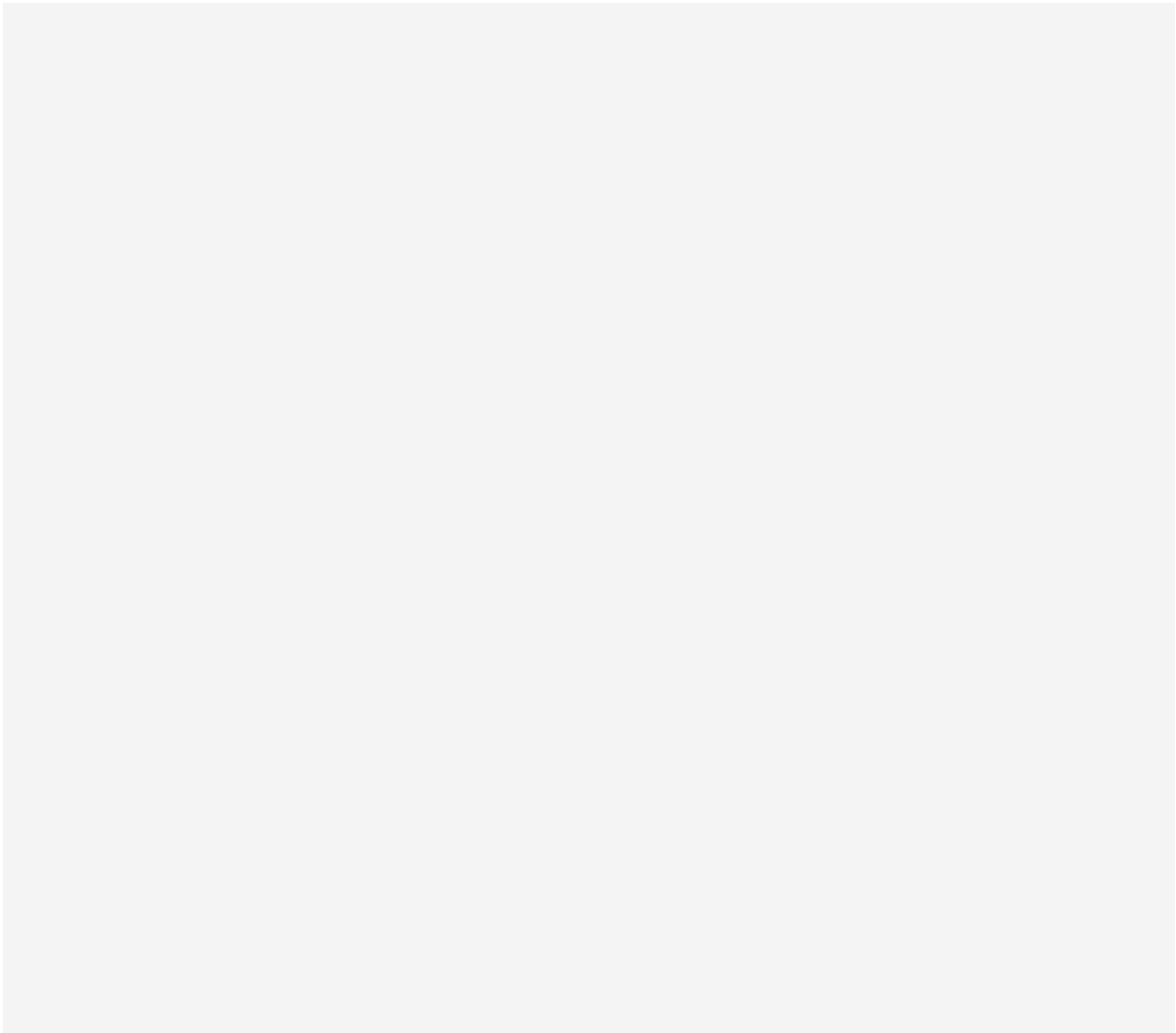
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Richmond Confidential



School board approves trustee's a map

The final map will divide the district into five separate voting areas, each of which will elect one board member in future elections. This area-based system will replace the current at-large elections where school board winners are determined by a district-wide

Proponents of trustee-area elections argue that they will provide stronger minority representation. Trustee-areas can potentially also diminish special interest group influence over elections. A grass-roots campaign may be more possible when a candidate only needs funding to run in one smaller geographical area, as opposed to covering the entire district.

Opponents argue that redistricting may have little to no impact on representation. Some see the flurry of similar lawsuits as indicative of lawyers looking to cash in. Losing school districts can be required to pay the legal fees of the plaintiff—as is the case here.

The Nov. 6 election, although it was at-large, resulted in the election of three Latina members—Stephanie Hernández-Jarvis, Valerie Cuevas, and Consuelo Lara.

Early in the year, Rafferty, the plaintiff's attorney, had noted that three of the five

“When I look at these maps, I see chaos,” Gosney said.

Gosney noted that the three map planning meetings were held in centrally located areas—Riverside Elementary School, Stege Elementary School and The Latina Center—resulting in a lack of participation from other district communities.

Gosney also complained about the lack of overlap in the trustee-area maps with school attendance areas. The current maps under consideration allow board members to represent areas with different demographics from their school zones.

He urged the board to slow down.

“Nothing can go into effect until the next election, yet the board and staff seem so anxious to recklessly rush to a decision,” Gosney said.

Board members Kronenberg and Block favored leaving the map selection to the incoming board.

But district school Superintendent Matthew Duffy and board member Panas argued that the pressures of the situation were more financial than legal.

Panas made the motion to accept the Oct. B map because substantial time and money had already been spent on the lawsuit that he believed would be better used to support students.

“We’re in the middle of a lawsuit, and even worse, we’re paying the lawyers on both sides of the case,” Panas said.

“I think we should stop investing staff time in this case and start investing staff time in supporting our students.”