

Dear West County Mandarin School Community,

I want to thank you for your patience while we are working to provide a permanent solution for the WCMS family. We aim to ensure that all students receive the best support, and thrive in a safe environment that promotes high academic achievement.

In spite of the local and global challenges that we have faced within the past two and a half years together, I commend the West County Mandarin School (WCMS) family for continuing to rise to the occasion and face the challenges with unity and strength. I am extremely proud of the WCMS students and staff, and thank you for showing the State that our students are thriving and will continue to shine through any obstacle.

Upon my arrival to the district, I learned that there were commitments made to the WCMS community, and I want to assure you that we are working towards meeting your requests to provide more support for students and staff.

The District has planned a temporary solution to serve the needs of the WCMS community this fall. We will continue to discuss the outstanding items and areas of support, and plan to present a permanent solution for the WCMS community in January 2023.

I want to share the updates that we have implemented, and plan to implement for the 2022-23 school year:

Classroom and Office space solutions

- This fall, the district will provide classroom space to support students in K-5. We identified and will provide 18 classrooms for teachers, and pull out space for the RSP teacher, as requested for the start of the 2022-23 school year.
 - All classrooms will be able to be co-located in the A building by converting the WCMS Library and office back into classrooms.
 - Additional space has been identified to accommodate the RSP teacher in the A Building Administrative Suite
- The WCMS and PMS administrative and clerical staff will operate in a shared location in the A Building Administrative Suite. Additional space for the WCMS is the result of establishing a Wellness Center in the B Building, which allows the PMS administrative office to be reduced and consolidated in one portion of the suite.
- West County Mandarin School and Pinole Middle School will share the textbook storage room and library.
 - WCMS and PMS will share the library based on a flexible schedule determined by the administrative staff.
- The multipurpose room is also a shared space for dining that will continue to predominantly support activities and after school programs for West County Mandarin School.
- Pinole Middle School will continue to be the primary user of the gymnasium, to accommodate the secondary education requirements for physical education, sports, and additional activities.

Bell Schedules and Traffic:

- The District and principals have held joint meetings with the City of Pinole to discuss possible solutions for traffic in and around the campus. We are working to reduce the overlap in the bell schedules to support the traffic in the area during drop off and pick up times. We are also considering a rolling drop off process for families by grade level that may result in earlier drop off times for WCMS students.

School Bus:

- This item will be agendized this week at the July 13, 2022 Board meeting for a full discussion with the Board.

Community Forum:

- If you have any questions, please join a community forum this Thursday, July 14 at 4:30pm via Zoom at, <https://wccusd.zoom.us/j/97136050009>.
- Meeting ID: 971 3605 0009

I realize that the permanent placement process has caused some frustration, and I appreciate your continued support to identify the need for equitable opportunities for all students. The District will evaluate the placement plan and work to provide a permanent solution that benefits West County Mandarin and Pinole Middle School students and staff.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Chris Hurst

Superintendent