November Newsletter

Parent Timeline

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>November 1, 2021</td>
<td>All Students in Grades 3-8 and 11 Grasp the CAASPP Sessions begin.</td>
<td>Session login information and <a href="#">Live Session Schedule</a></td>
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<td>November 1, 2021</td>
<td>Graduation Participation Form due (8th Grade &amp; Senior)</td>
<td>2021 Graduates must complete the Graduation Participation Form (parent listserve) and return to 12420 Bentley Street, Waterford, CA 95386, Attn: Mary Vinnedge, fax to 209-874-9531, or scan and email to <a href="mailto:mvinnedge@cwcharter.org">mvinnedge@cwcharter.org</a>.</td>
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<td>November 5, 2021</td>
<td>Students with a-g Canvas and Portfolio Review classes</td>
<td>a-g final site assignments for students enrolled in a-g Canvas &amp; Portfolio Review classes will be posted. Please confirm your testing site with your ES.</td>
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<td>November 30, 2021</td>
<td>All 8th grade students and High School Students taking Health CHYA Seminar Make Up Seminar</td>
<td>8th: 8:30-10 HS taking Health: 10:30-12 Online through <a href="#">Google Meet</a> with student email. <a href="#">Sign Up Survey</a></td>
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Curriculum and Assessment Department News

Shoni Johnson, M.Ed./C&I, Curriculum & Assessment Director
sjohnson@cwcharter.org  209-874-1119 x6

The year is flying by! I am looking forward to spending some time with my family over the Thanksgiving break and hope you can find time to relax with your family and friends groups.

Spotlight on Curriculum

**Intensive Instructional Support Programs & Strategies**
Check out this CWCS required [Intensive Instructional Support Program](#). If your student is struggling in grade level reading, comprehension or math, or if your student just needs extra support to supplement your curriculum, this program would be appropriate. Talk to your ES about usage and appropriate placement. The program is universally designed to target students who need extra support in foundational skills, but can also help students who are on target.

When you are working with your student, especially students who may be struggling, be sure to apply these basic instructional practices that can be applied to any program:

- Use a strong core curriculum with explicit instruction that includes modeling, scaffolding, and prompting until students are able to apply a skill independently;
- Use a structured, research based intervention if needed;
- Use systematic instruction where skills presented build upon previous skills taught to connect with prior knowledge;
- Use Modeling frequently (for example, parent-teachers can use “think aloud” to model approaching and solving problems, including close reading strategies;
- Use and explain correct academic vocabulary (for example, sum, difference, product, quotient, punctuation, synonym, antonym, etc.);
● Use precise, simple, and replicable language when explaining directions and expectations;
● Use repeated opportunities to practice, build fluency (for both math and reading) and review (use both guided practice and independent practice);
● Allow for frequent opportunities to respond;
● Require specific error correction and feedback from the student so you understand his/her thinking process and level of mastery. Model the correct response for the student if needed and explain why the student’s answer was incorrect;
● Provide regular, timely and useful feedback to the student. (While everyone loves to hear “good job,” this type of feedback isn’t really useful. Instead, consider being specific with what the student is improving on and what will help the student improve his/her skills).

Talk to your ES or contact me if you would like more support in any of these instructional strategies.
History / Science

TIME For Kids is a weekly classroom news magazine that motivates kids to read! Issues cover a wide range of real-world topics kids love to learn about. A powerful teaching tool, TIME For Kids builds reading and writing skills and is easily integrated across your curriculum, including social studies, science, and math. (K-6)

You can also check out our Recommended Curriculum page for our top picks in grade level curriculum, concepts and skills review curriculum, and intensive support curriculum.

From our home page, go to Departments>>Curriculum>>Recommended Curriculum.

If you are interested in setting up an appointment or conference call, please contact me with the time that works best for you. I am here to assist parents with any of their curriculum needs.

Parents Needed: Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) Parent Advisory Committee

We are in need of parent volunteers to serve on the Local Control Advisory Committee. It is vital we fill these positions. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered so far! Local Control Advisory Committee’s responsibility is to advise the Administration and the Board about supporting the CW Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) with resources for our students using our Supplemental Grant funding. Members will serve a one-year term and will be selected to reflect the diversity of the community and the student body. We still need Connecting Waters and Connecting Waters Central Valley Parent and Student Representatives.

Members are asked to attend three (3) teleconference meetings (approximately one hour each). Meeting dates for 2021-22 are: 11/3/21, 2/9/22, and 4/27/22 from 9:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m. Your input is extremely important in helping CWCS schools with budget planning regarding the support of our schoolwide goals.

To apply for this important position, please complete the following survey. ESs who have children enrolled in a CWCS school are also encouraged to apply. Thank you, in advance, for supporting your school!

Visit our LCAP webpage for more information.

Questions? Contact Shoni Johnson, Curriculum & Assessment Director and LCAP/WASC Accountability Coordinator at sjohnson@cwcharter.org.

English Learner Department News

Reclassification: Just one of many goals

Many English Learners look forward to reaching the goal of Reclassification. It is what they are working toward when they use their sentence frames in class, work in their small groups, and take their yearly ELPAC test. Being reclassified means that they are
no longer considered an English Learner. But what if I told you that Reclassification, while it is important, is just one of many goals that you should have for your students?

Individuals who are truly bilingual (meaning that they can read, write, speak and understand in two languages fluently) have an academic, cultural, and career advantage over students without that wonderful skill set. Once your child has reclassified, why not work toward getting them a true, academic understanding of their Home Language? Encouraging your students to become truly bilingual will open doors to them in their future, and what a gift that is!

Being College and Career Ready has been a huge push in the state of California. What this means, in the simplest of terms, is that your child has met the regulations set forth by the state and the school to graduate well on the path to their next life goal. Some students who are College and Career Ready have taken all a-g classes, ensuring that they are ready to enter a four year college after graduation. Others have taken advantage of our wonderful Dual Enrollment program, and are taking classes at community college while they finish their credits in high school. Students who are not college bound can still be College and Career Ready by working through one of our many CTE paths. These students participate in both academic and practical learning in a field of their choice. Talk to your child to discover which path theirs will be!

I hope that you can see, just by these few quick examples, that Reclassification, while an important and worthy goal, should be just one of the many goals that you and that we, your school, have for your child. Please take the time to set goals with your students, encouraging them to reach for the stars!

Social Studies Department News

Veterans Day 2021 is Thursday, November 11. You can explore the history of this holiday with information, activities, and lessons by checking out these links: Scholastic Grades K-4, Scholastic Veterans Day and Patriotism Grades 3-5, and PBS News Hour Grades 6-12.

Math Department News

Hi Everyone!

Can you believe we are already in November? Now that we are more than halfway through the semester, perhaps you have noticed a strategy for organizing information in your student’s math work called a tape diagram. A tape diagram is a pictorial model students can draw to represent a mathematical relationship or to develop understanding of a math concept. Tape diagrams are useful for solving many different types of math problems but are commonly used with word problems. Students can use a tape diagram to organize information and communicate their mathematical thinking.

Most importantly, tape diagrams help students bridge the gap from a concrete model to a representational or abstract model. This supports students in the mathematical practice of reasoning abstractly and quantitatively.
Welcome New Staff

Hello CWCS,

My name is Andrew Aguilar and I have been hired on as the new IT Specialist Assistant. I recently graduated from California State University Stanislaus and spent some time there as a research intern. That is where I developed the passion of working towards and solving technical problems. I am bringing this passion of problem solving with me as I become a part of the IT Department, and I am looking forward to being a part of the wonderful staff here at Connecting Waters Charter Schools. Thank you, and I look forward to working with all of you.

- Andrew Aguilar, IT Specialist Assistant

School Office Reminders

Early College Start/Dual Enrollments Forms
Modesto Junior College and Columbia College Dual Enrollment forms are valid for the full 2021/2022 academic year.

A new form will be required summer 2022 for the following academic year.
All colleges that require a DocuSign approval send link to cwsecretary@cwcharter.org for processing.

Please make a note of all deadline dates below in order to receive your dual enrollment back in time for registration.

You can also view these deadlines on the event calendar on the home page.

- **WINTER 2021 Semester** - **November 16, 2021** due **before** Thanksgiving Break begins.
- **SPRING 2022 Semester** - **December 15, 2021** due **before** Winter Break begins.
- **SUMMER 2022 Semester** - **May 18, 2022** due **before** Summer Break begins.
- **FALL 2022 Semester** - **May 18, 2022** due **before** Summer Break begins.

**Forms will not be processed during summer break.**

All documents requiring the Executive Director’s signature will have a 72 hour turnaround.