



WESTERN SIERRA CHARTER SCHOOLS

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ENDEAVOR CHARTER SCHOOL

Personalized Learning Public Charter Schools

NEWSLETTER

October 2020



MARK YOUR CALENDAR IMPORTANT DATES

OCTOBER

- Oct. 2 • LP 2 Attendance Due
- Oct. 6 • Senior/Parent Zoom Mtg. 3:30 p.m.
- Oct. 16 • Non-refundable \$55 Catalina Deposit due for 8th graders
- Oct. 19 - 23 • Oct. break: No School
- Oct. 30 • LP 3 Attendance Due

NOVEMBER

- Nov. 11 • Veterans Day: No School
- Nov. 23 - 27 • Thanksgiving Break: No School
- Nov. 27 • LP 4 Attendance Due



ENDEAVOR

“There is in every child at every stage a new miracle of vigorous unfolding.”
(Erik Erikson, Developmental Psychologist)

PUBLIC NOTICE

WSCS BOARD MEETING

November 3, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.

This meeting will be by teleconference pursuant to Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20.
More information on Page 4

ATTENDANCE
FORMS



Elementary



High School



ZOOM TIPS AND TRICKS

Zoom calls can be frustrating, especially when trying to login. Here are a few suggestions to try when you get stuck trying to get into a meeting.

1. **Prior to your Zoom meeting, restart your computer:** This often solves many problems and speed issues.
2. **Try and try again:** If you are having trouble logging into your Zoom meeting, try again. Sign off completely and try to sign in again. Check your links to ensure that you have the correct link for the correct class.
3. **Call the front desk:** Someone can then notify your teacher that you are having trouble.
4. **Email or Parentsquare your teacher:** Your teacher will not be able to check emails once class has started, but they will need to know why you were absent.
5. **Try using a headset or earbuds:** This often solves the problem.
6. **Notify the teacher that you might need to turn off the video:** If during the Zoom meeting your internet speed is slow, try turning off your video and just use your mic to see if the sound is working more efficiently. This may require approval from the teacher.

Help Videos

1. This video shows you how to make sure you have the latest version of the chrome operating system installed

 [CLICK HERE TO PLAY VIDEO](#)

2. This video describes how to access Zoom from google classroom:

 [CLICK HERE TO PLAY VIDEO](#)

3. This video will help speed up your Chromebook by deleting apps (programs) your child does not need, they can always be reinstalled easily if needed at a later date:

 [CLICK HERE TO PLAY VIDEO](#)

4. This video shows you how to check your microphone settings in Zoom:

 [CLICK HERE TO PLAY VIDEO](#)



ENDEAVOR'S BIG REVEAL DAY!

We will announce Endeavor's School Color(s) and Mascot on Thursday October 15th!

The Zoom event details will be sent out through Parent Square.

We will also announce the winner of the Art Competition.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

WSCS Board Meeting

November 3, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.

This meeting will be by teleconference pursuant to Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20.

CLICK HERE
Request Form



The Western Sierra Charter Schools (WSCS) Board of Directors (Board) and employees of WSCS shall meet via the Zoom meeting platform. Members of the public who wish to view and access this Board meeting may do so at: <https://www.facebook.com/wscsfamily/live>.

Members of the public who wish to make written comment to the Board for this meeting should make their written request at least 24 hours prior to the meeting at <http://www.wscsfamily.org/board-request.html>.

Members of the public who wish to make live, spoken comment during this meeting should make their written request at least 24 hours prior to the meeting at <http://www.wscsfamily.org/board-request.html>. Public will remain muted until appropriate time. Individual comments will be limited to three (3) minutes. If an interpreter is needed for comments, they will be translated to English and the time limit shall be six (6) minutes. The Board of Directors may limit the total time for public comment to

a reasonable time. The Board reserves the right to mute or remove a member of the public if comments or actions disrupt the Board meeting.

Access to Board Materials: A copy of the written materials which will be submitted to the WSCS Board may be reviewed by any interested persons on <http://www.wscsfamily.org/board-agenda-and-minutes.html> website along with this agenda following the posting of the agenda at least 72 hours in advance of this meeting.

Disability Access: Requests for disability-related modifications or accommodations to participate in this public meeting should be made 24 hours prior to the meeting at <http://www.wscsfamily.org/board-request.html>. All efforts will be made for reasonable accommodations. The agenda and public documents can be modified upon request as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act.





— FEATURED FAMILY —

The Rodriguez Family

Sandra Hammond

Meet the Rodriguez Family! Pictured above are children Ely, Laila and Tobias (Rex). Parents Erica and Dionel report that they have really been “homeschooling” since their oldest was an infant. From the beginning, they would read books that not only taught the ABC’s, numbers, colors and shapes, in both in English and Spanish, but also reinforced their faith. Both parents feel strongly that an education in faith has also helped their children in the secular world.

Still, they never really planned to formally homeschool once their oldest, Ely became school age and Dionel had never even heard of this model when Erica began to ponder the alternative.

Ely was already reading before entering Kindergarten and it was the idea of placing the children in a larger social environment that was concerning. They learned quickly that there were many opportunities for homeschooling families in the San Jose area where they began this journey.

Moving to the central valley was difficult because school alternatives were far and few in between. It has not always been easy. They wanted to homeschool, but also wanted their children to have the opportunity to work in a small class setting or via zoom (well before Covid 19 mandated this). They wanted them to learn to respect other teachers and peers. They have also had to juggle careers and so have to work as a tag team to be available for the kids. They spend a lot of time now answering texts and phone calls as needed; but there are many things they love about homeschooling. Most importantly, Erica says that it has “provided the privilege of having a close relationship with the children.” She describes that through homeschooling, they learn so much about their individual interests, challenges and enjoy seeing them evolve and develop.



The Rodriguez Family Children: Ely Dee Rodriguez (Age 14), Laila Shiori Rodriguez (Age 12), Tobias Rex Rodriguez (Age 11)

Erica adds that as a homeschooling parent, she has had the liberty to pick and choose what she wants the kids to learn beyond what is required. From a young age, they have taken focused classes in Art, Science, History, Communication, Sports, Music, Second Languages and even Novel Writing.

These trying times have only brought them closer together as a family. Ely is now entering high school and her goal is to start college this freshman year as well. Erica ended with “*It is a new experience, but we are certain that as long as we are together and supporting her and our other children, we will succeed in this new adventure.*”

ENDEAVOR SCHOOL NEWS

HIGH SCHOOL



COUNSELOR'S CORNER

with Greg Hill

ATTENTION SENIORS AND PARENTS!

Tuesday, October 6, 3:30 p.m.

Please attend the Senior Informational Meeting on Zoom, Tuesday, October 6th, at 3:30 p.m. I will be going over important information about graduation, Grad Nite, ring ordering, college application deadlines, career readiness, etc.

CLICK HERE
to join the Zoom Meeting

COLLEGE APPLICATION INFORMATION

Cal State/University of California:

California State University & University of California applications open on October 1st! They are both due on November 30. Apply online.

CSU: www2.calstate.edu

UC: www.ucop.edu/pathways

Private University: Deadlines varies

Local Community College Applications:

Seniors interested in attending one of our local community colleges should apply with priority registration through the "Registration To Go" Program: SCCC (Fresno City, Oakhurst Center, Madera Center, Clovis Community, Reedley College)

Local Community College "Registration To Go" steps

1. Application: October
2. Online Orientation: November
3. Counseling / Advising with Student Educational Plan: Feb/March
4. Registration for classes: April if above steps are completed

*SAT / ACT 4-YEAR ADMISSIONS TESTS

(Required for students applying to 4-year universities next year)
Register at collegeboard.com or actstudent.org.

Students use Endeavor's school code # 053308 when registering for either the SAT Program or the ACT Assessment. If you do not enter the correct code number, copies of their score report will not be sent to us.

*Seniors are recommended to take tests in the Fall, Juniors recommended to take in Spring.

*SAT & ACT Tests are not required for Fall of 2021 admissions but students are still encouraged to take. Go to collegeboard.com and actstudent.org to register.

FAFSA AND MONEY MATTERS

All seniors planning on attending any college or a career technical school: FAFSA application opens October 1st, 2020. www.fafsa.ed.gov

Seniors: I will be having senior Zoom meetings with you and your parents to discuss your graduation status and your plans for next year. Please email me a good date and time to meet at ghill@wscsfamily.org.



STUDENT MOCK ELECTION

Attention ALL Endeavor HIGH SCHOOL Students!!!

★ **INSPIRING A NEW GENERATION OF VOTERS** ★

**Brought to you by Endeavor Charter School's
Leadership/ASB Class**

FOR MORE INFORMATION

visit: www.sos.ca.gov/elections/student-mock-election

DRAFT

sponsored by California Secretary of State Alex Padilla
and Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond



More information coming via Parent Square



DATE

September 29-October 6, 2020



PLACE

at Endeavor School or online



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



RESOURCE SHOWCASE

arbookfind.com

Nancy Turner

Have you ever wondered what grade level a fiction or nonfiction book is targeting? I'm showcasing an unlikely resource for finding the grade level of children's books. This practical and handy website is called arbookfind.com. I've utilized this website as a homeschool parent, a former school librarian, and as a teacher.

This resource was created as a companion to the Accelerated Reader program created by Renaissance and utilized by many traditional schools. Western Sierra Charter Schools is based on a model of personalized learning for individual students, so we don't use the Accelerated Reader program; as it was designed for tracking the reading progress of a mass of students. However, the arbookfind.com website is a treasure trove of information for reading resources that cannot be overlooked just because we are not a traditional school. The Renaissance company states, "Our mission is to accelerate learning for all. Renaissance's purpose is grounded in these core beliefs: We believe everyone can be a successful learner. We know that learning is a growth process; a continual journey from year to year, and for a lifetime. Core to this belief is beginning the journey to a love of reading early, and empowering stu-

dents and teachers with a vast variety of books to enjoy" (Renaissance).

Please keep in mind that arbookfind.com, for our purposes, is for finding grade level appropriate books and not AR quizzes. Here is what to do to investigate and find some great books!

1. Go to arbookfind.com
2. Click on "Student", "Parent", "Teacher", or "Librarian"
3. You will then be at the main navigation page.
4. Look for these tabs to begin your search



The Quick Search tab is where you can search for book titles. You can type in the book title, the author, or topics.

The Advanced Search tab lets you dive deeper into a search. You can look for books based on interest levels, Lexile levels, topics, subtopics, fiction, nonfiction, English, and Spanish.

The Collections tab is my favorite tab on this website. This tab lists highly acclaimed award winning children's books, lists of nominees and winners for each US State's children's books awards, and lists of "What Kids Are Reading".

Here is a sample search and what to look for in the book results. Using the Advanced Search tab, I searched for books written by the author Mo Willems. 64 books came up and this is a book that caught my attention:



City Dog, Country Frog
 Willems, Mo
 AR Quiz No. 137464 EN Fiction
 IL: LG - BL: 2.3 - AR Pts: 0.5 - Lexile® Measure: AD490L
 AR Quiz Types: RP, RV
 Rating: ★★★★★

When City Dog comes to the country, he meets Country Frog for the first time, and every season afterward, the two get together for a time of play.

continued to next page

EVERY KID OUTDOORS!



Created so fourth graders and their families could discover wildlife, resources, and history free of charge! Get a free pass to explore thousands of America's federal lands and waters by simply following the instructions below.

CLICK HERE
to Get Your Pass

Complete an online game, and download a personalized voucher for print and use at federal lands and waters locations.



Resource Showcase...continued

You will see a picture of the book cover, a quick synopsis of the plot, and what students rated the book. What I particularly want you to focus on is where it states **BL: 2.3**. The BL stands for Book Level and 2.3 stands for 2nd grade, 3rd month. What this means is that the City Dog, Country Frog book is appropriate for a student approximately in the 3rd month of his/her 2nd grade school year. The BL will be on most every book search! This is so awesome!

When I was homeschooling my 3 children, arbookfind.com helped me hone in on grade level books that would be accessible and interesting to them. I would do searches based on their interests and current book levels. Then, I would request those books from the local public library to check out. Reading and searching for books was a fun and free activity in our homeschool. Also, if books were given to us, or I purchased books at yard sales or thrift stores, I would use arbookfind.com to find the grade level of those books. Give it a try and see what you can discover on arbookfind.com!

STAFF DIRECTORY

Endeavor Charter School

777 Shaw Ave • Fresno, CA 93704

Phone 559-248-0471 Fax 559-248-0482

NAME	EXTENSION	PRIMARY ASSIGNMENT
Eric Hagen	203	Co-Principal/Tech Admin
Nancy Garcia	202	Co-Principal Fresno
Marianne Lord	200	Admin Secretary
Rosanna Carrasco	222	Receptionist
Amanda Patterson	216	TK-8 Advising Teacher
Brandon Mallard	229	Adjunct Teacher
Brook Hirata	204	TK-8 Advising Teacher
Katelyn Carter	210	RSP Special Ed
Diane Vaccaro	206	TK-8 Advising Teacher and 9-12 Leadership
Grace Reeve	201	9-12 Advising Teacher
Greg Hill	220	Guidance Counselor
Irina Buca	205	9-12 Advising Teacher
Kathy Specht	225	TK-8 Advising Teacher
Margaret Den Hartog	207	TK-8 Advising Teacher
Nancy Flynn	228	Math Adjunct Teacher/Tutor
Nancy Turner	217	TK-8 Advising Teacher
Phil Blas	218	CTE Teacher/IT Coordinator
Sandra Hammond	215	TK-8 Advising Teacher
Sonny Yang	208	9-12 Advising Teacher
Stephanie Ganzenhuber	209	TK-8 Advising Teacher
Susan Huey	226	TK-8 Advising Teacher
Michael Cox	(559) 642-1422 ext. 102	WSCS Director
Jody Jeffers	(559) 642-1422 ext. 117	Chief Business Officer
Cheryl Wilhite	(559) 642-1422 ext 100	Administrative Secretary
Karen Fruth	(559) 642-1422 ext 110	WSCS SPED Coordinator

Email addresses for all staff are: first initial and last name @wscsfamily.org (no spaces)

SUPPORT STAFF

Mrs. Chugg - Math • Mrs. Friesen-English • Mrs. Gaviria - Spanish • Mrs. Kelly - Science • Mrs. Llanos - K Teacher
 Kelly Lord - Office and TA • Mr. Mena - Music • Ms. Mr. McGough - Integrated Drawing/Art • Mrs. Richards - English
 Bee Lor - Custodian