

Dear Families & Caregivers,  
Happy first day of Fall! The weather today makes it feel a bit more like autumn - it's hard to believe that we're almost through the first full month of school. I hope everyone has been enjoying the various school events happening around the District. Even "old" traditions feel a little more special this year after a long pause. And, what better way to close out our open houses than with this rainbow at U-32 last night! Thanks to Erin Galligan-Baldwin for catching it...



### District Happenings - ESSER Planning

Many of you are already familiar with Washington Central's ongoing planning for the use of Federal pandemic recovery dollars. There have been several rounds of grant funds deployed to schools for managing through and emerging from the COVID19 pandemic. You can find more information about ESSER by visiting our [website](#); you'll find a number of general resources and information about our planning to date.

ARP ESSER funds will need to be fully budgeted by November 1, 2022. In order to prepare for that deadline, we would like to update our community about how we have spent our funds to date, and provide a revised plan for the remaining funds. [Here](#) is a link to our plan (you can also find it on the website above). In addition, we would like to hear your feedback on this draft. If you are interested in providing input, please check out [this](#) survey. Although our budget does need to be completed by November 1, we can continue to revise the plan as we move forward.

### A Message from our Humanity & Justice Coalition

Washington Central UUSD is working to actualize our Commitment to Humanity and Justice. The Coalition emphasizes the humanity of all community members and accepts accountability for addressing the implications of equitable and just practices across the district.

The role of the Coalition is advisory. This year, our plan is to focus on four major areas:

- 1. *Hosting affinity groups for parents and caregivers of color and of students of color.***  
The affinity groups are offered to support students and families and serve as a mechanism to provide feedback to our school district so that we can be more responsive to our students and families of color.
- 2. *Committing to professional learning regarding equity, humanity, and justice.***  
Educators in Washington Central are participating in book groups throughout the year to engage us in deepening our collective knowledge and apply our new learning in our respective roles.
- 3. *Reviewing and critiquing our policies, procedures, curricula, and instructional practices so they reflect and align with our Humanity and Justice Vision Statement.***

This is a continuation of the Humanity and Justice Coalition's work that began in these areas last year.

**4. *Advocating and participating in statewide practices that are aligned with our Humanity and Justice Vision Statement.***

Through statewide professional organizations we will actively engage in work related to the revision of the Education Quality Standards, the implementation of Act One (Vermont's act relating to ethnic and social equity standards for public schools) and diversifying the educator workforce.

The Humanity and Justice Coalition is seeking more participants for the 2022-2023 school year. If you are interested in joining the Coalition, please complete the [HJC Member Interest Survey 22-23](#) by October 1, 2022.

Come Join Our Team

Do you enjoy working with students who need additional support? We are still looking for special educators and speech-language pathologists to join our schools. If you are interested, or know anyone who is, reach out! In addition, we continue to have openings for paraprofessionals, food service, maintenance and custodial positions. Washington Central is a great place to work! Visit the [job openings](#) section of our website or [www.schoolspring.com](http://www.schoolspring.com) to learn more about joining our team.

Warmly,

Meagan

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