

SCCSBA March 2022 Newsletter

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President's Message - by Fiona Walter

Hi, Everyone,

Yesterday marked two years to the day from when we closed schools for Covid. In my board's vote to close schools, we debated the wisdom of closing for three weeks instead of two, just to be extra certain that we'd gotten to the far side of the virus. We thought we were planning ahead! It's wonderful to finally have a little normalcy on our campuses. I hope your transitions to more flexible masking requirements are going smoothly.

Thank you to everyone who attended our Legislative Brunch on February 26th! We had a full house for both attendees and legislators. Extra thanks to Devon Conley (MVWSD) for chairing the brunch. The morning has so many moving parts; I'm grateful to Devon for taking it on. Thanks also to those of you participating in Legislative Action Week this week with CSBA. Both of these events help keep Santa Clara County and our unique district needs at the forefront in Sacramento.

I'm looking forward to our last business meeting of the year next week (March 23rd). Our topic for the evening is SCCOE's Wellness Center Initiative. Dr. Dewan and her team will be presenting on this time-critical topic.

I can't wait to see all of you in person for the Hoffmann Awards on May 11. Watch for an Eventbrite sign up next week and come join us as we celebrate our five winning programs for 2022.

All the best,
Fiona

March 23 SCCSBA Evening Zoom Meeting Topic: School Wellness Centers

Please join us next week for our last evening meeting of the school year! We are excited to give County Superintendent Dr. Dewan the stage along with other key players in SCCOE's Wellness Center Initiative. Come learn about this critical effort to bring wellness to all our campuses, funding avenues for this effort, and how your district can become part of the project. We will also vote in our new officers for 2022-23 and hear updates from CSBA as well as our SCCSBA Legislative Action Committee.

May 11 Hoffmann Awards Dinner

All trustees and superintendents are cordially invited to attend our upcoming May 11 Hoffmann Awards Dinner, which will take place at Michael's Restaurant at Shoreline in Mountain View from 6:00-9:00 PM.

We will be recognizing our 2022 winners of the prestigious Glenn W. Hoffmann Awards, a 38-year tradition that celebrates school and school district programs that significantly impact student success in our region.

This year, there are five Glenn W. Hoffmann Award winning programs. In addition, one of these programs will also receive the Kristi Porter Outstanding Program Award, which will be announced at our dinner event.

The winning programs in alphabetical order by school district are:

Middle School Mental Health Movement, Price Middle School, Cambrian School District

Family Engagement Institute, Campbell Union School District / Family Engagement Institute at Foothill College

Mountain View High School Ambassadors, Mountain View High School, Mountain View Los Altos High School District

Autism Program, Parkview Elementary School, Oak Grove School District

Service to Other - Creativity Cart Program, Palo Alto Unified School District

Thanks to **Engie** for sponsoring this year's awards and to the **Santa Clara County Office of Education** for creating this year's videos of the award winners.

Our special thanks go to this year's Hoffmann Committee Chair, Carol Presunka from the Cambrian School District. And a special appreciation to all the Readers and Site Visitors who helped in this process.

June 11 School Board Candidate Workshop

School Board Candidates for the November General Election are invited to attend our June 11 SCCSBA Candidate Workshop. This popular event will provide information from the Registrar of Voters and a panel of experienced school board members about how to run a successful school board campaign. This will be an in-person event at the SCCOE from 9-11:30 AM, providing a networking opportunity in addition to learning about campaigning for school board. We encourage new and incumbent candidates to attend.

A special thanks to Chair Ellen Wheeler (Trustee, Mountain View Whisman School District) and Co-Chair Isabel Jubes-Flamerich (Trustee, Sunnyvale School District) for organizing this event.

April and May Zoom Meetings with County Superintendent Dr. Dewan

We are hosting monthly afternoon zoom meetings with County Superintendent Dewan. These hour-long zoom calls are open to all trustees, and they have been very popular ways of hearing from both Dr. Dewan and other trustees about what is happening in our school districts. The first half hour of every meeting will feature Dr. Dewan, and the second half hour will be time for trustees to share information with each other.

Our upcoming meetings will be:

Thursday, April 14 from 1:00-2:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 12 from 2:30-3:30 p.m.

Join California School Boards Association (CSBA) and the Association of California School Administrators' (ACSA) Coast2Coast 2022 federal advocacy trip to Washington, D.C. to shine a light on the issues affecting the state's 6 million students. California governance team members — school and county board members and superintendents — are urged to attend this three-day inaugural event

CALENDAR OF SCCSBA EVENTS/MEETINGS FOR 2022

Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at 7:30-9:00 p.m. Zoom SCCSBA Monthly Meeting (including Election of Officers)

Topic: School Wellness Centers

Wednesday, May 11, 2022 at 6:00-9:00 p.m. Hoffmann Awards Dinner at Michael's at Shoreline

Wednesday, May 25, 2022 at 6:00-8:00 p.m. Zoom or In Person Annual "Passing the Gavel" Dinner for Officers, Delegates and District Representatives

Saturday, June 11, 2022 at 9:00-11:30 a.m. Candidate Workshop at SCCOE

From the CSBA Blog

State Board Report: SBE moves forward on accountability, waivers approved

On Feb. 28, Gov. Gavin Newsom [announced](#) the following appointments to the State Board of Education: Gabriela Gonzalez, an elementary school teacher for the Montebello Unified School District since 2001; Brenda Lewis, former associate superintendent of instruction at the Kern High School District from 2014 to 2021; and Sharon Olken, executive director of Gateway Public Schools since 2011. All three were sworn in at the start of the board's [March 9–10 meeting](#), during which the board took action revising school accountability reporting to account for COVID impacts, approved several waivers and more. State educational agencies received waivers from federal accountability requirements for the 2019–20 and 2020–21 school years and from the assessment requirements for the 2019–20 school year. As a result, many states have not implemented all aspects of their statewide accountability systems or identified schools for support and improvement since fall 2019.

California Department of Education staff provided an [update on accountability-related work](#), including an overview of the 2020–21 California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress and English Language Proficiency Assessments for California data release and items for considerations for the accountability workplan for 2022 and beyond (specifics can be found [here](#)).

This work is "not simple at all as we try to ensure that our accountability system continues to be a reflective of what was needed in the midst of all of the changes that have happened" during the pandemic, said board Vice President Cynthia Glover-Woods. "A restart is critical, and it's time for us to continue to move forward with this robust accountability system to be sure that our schools receive the supports that they need."

The board is attempting to reconcile the lack of reliable school accountability data as a result of the pandemic with a [requirement by the U.S. Department of Education](#) to "resume identifying schools for comprehensive, targeted, and additional targeted support and improvement using data from the 2021–22 school year in the fall of 2022 ... as quickly as possible."

[Read More Here...](#)

Santa Clara County Office of Education Spotlight

Santa Clara County High School Wellness Center Featured on PBS Inside California Education Segment

On Wednesday, March 2, PBS Inside California Education released a segment titled "A Place for Students - Wellness Centers" that spotlighted the new student wellness center at Andrew Hill High School in the Eastside Union High School District. The center is one of 12 located on school campuses in Santa Clara County as part of an effort to expand the availability of mental health services and resources to students on school campuses.

"We know that students are 21 times more likely to access services and get them earlier when they are available on school campuses," said Dr. Mary Ann Dewan, County Superintendent of Schools. "We know that if we want to make a difference that the school campus is an essential place to be."

Recognizing the mental health needs of youth, the SCCOE established wellness centers and programs in

schools throughout Santa Clara County in partnership with the County of Santa Clara, community partners, and local school districts.

“Listening to the needs of students, we know that the pandemic has greatly impacted the students. Students are navigating stressors in both an academic setting as well as personal,” noted Dr. Dewan. “Wellness Centers offer resources to students and staff to promote self-regulation and overall wellness and provides a safe and calm physical space before, during and after school.”

To inform this important work, student advisory groups were created to ensure diverse backgrounds, perspectives and identities were heard in the creation of the wellness centers on each school site. The centers vary based on the needs of the students on campus, but all the wellness centers are designed to be a welcoming place for students to take a break, practice wellness or seek help from mental health professionals.

“I think what students want most especially when it comes to mental health reform is to be heard,” said Khoa-Nathan Ngo from the Youth Advisory Group, “We wanted counselors who looked like us, who understood us, and who had the life experiences that we had.”

These wellness centers are already proving to have a significant impact on students. One wellness center recorded more than 700 student visits in the first week.

“The youth mental health crisis manifests every day in schools, contributing to higher drop-out rates, student disengagement, chronic absenteeism, substance use, increased disciplinary actions, and the tragic loss of students,” stated Dr. Dewan, in a recently released research brief on the efficacy of implementing a school-based approach to student wellness, which can be found on the SCCOE website at <https://sccoe.to/wellnessbrief>.

“Having the wellness center here on campus allows me to know that I have a support system to come and get help if I need it,” said Tiffany, a 12th-grade student at Andrew Hill High School in San Jose. To watch the full story go to <https://insidecaled.org/videogallery/video/wellness-centers-students/> and to learn more about the Youth Mental Health and Wellness centers go to <https://sccoe.to/youthmentalhealthandwellness>.

School District Highlights



Cambrian School District

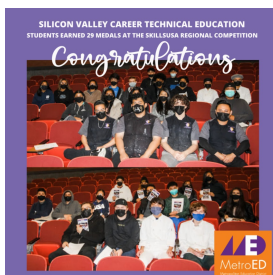
Cambrian's Price Middle School Mental Health Program Wins County-Wide Award

Cambrian School District's Ida Price Middle School has been selected for the 2022 Glenn Hoffmann Exemplary Program Award, presented by the Santa Clara County School Boards Association (SCCSBA).

The school's robust mental health program will be recognized at the May 11, 2022 awards ceremony, which recognizes the best school programs within Santa Clara County schools.

Price's extensive, holistic mental health services and activities were singled out for excellence. Price staff and students have been intentional to focus on improving mental health within the school community and beyond through a robust, multi-tier program. Price's efforts have increased greatly in an attempt to demystify anxiety and depression and offer a safe space for students to work through mental health challenges.

“I am very proud of the exemplary work being done at Price,” said Cambrian School District Superintendent Kristi Schwiebert. “There is a great demand for mental health services within middle school populations, not just in San Jose, but nationwide.”

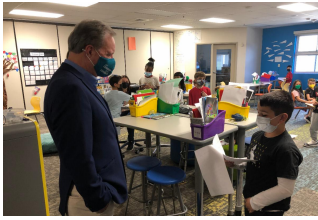


MetroED

SVCTE | Students Win 29 Medals at SkillsUSA Regional Leadership and Skills Competition

Silicon Valley Career Technical Education (SVCTE) students earned 29 medals at the SkillsUSA Regional Leadership and Skills Competition. Overall, based on total points scored, the team earned 15 gold, ten silver, and four bronze. We are very proud of all 38 students who participated. Fifteen will advance to the SkillsUSA California State Leadership and Skill

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Campbell Union School District

**Senator is “Hopeful for the Future” After School Visit
*Learning to adapt and collaborate will be essential for students’ future success***

“You’re learning to put progress before ‘who’s right’; that’s a mindset more of us could use,” said Senator Dave Cortese to his student tour guides during a visit to Campbell School of Innovation (CSI). The TK-8 school teaches academics through design thinking and growth mindset and shares its techniques with teachers across the district.

“We’re preparing all of our students for an undefined and fast-paced future,” said Superintendent Shelly Viramontez. “Our Profile of a Graduate competencies are designed to help students learn how to learn and solve problems creatively.”

After hearing the students describe how they collaborate to solve problems, the Senator said: “You’ll be much better off than the older generation in solving problems like climate change and adjusting to situations like the ones we’ve seen with the pandemic. This is great stuff you’re growing up with.”



Milpitas Unified School District

**Milpitas Xtreme Robotics Team wins state championship,
advances to world competition**

The Milpitas Xtreme Robotics Team 1669X represented Milpitas High School at the 2022 Northern California VRC High School State Championship in Redding and won the state championship in 3 categories:

1. Tournament Champion; 2. Robot Skills Champion; and 3. Excellence Award.

Prior to this event, the team of Eugene Ng, Kathan Sheth, Chenghao Li and Eusern Ng won multiple regional tournaments to qualify for the state championship. With the latest victory, they officially advance to the VEX Robotics World Championship in Dallas, Texas in May.

According to Eugene, this is the team's fourth VEX competition season, and the third consecutive year they have qualified for the state and world championships. However, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, this is the very first year we are able to compete at the state and world level in-person.

"We appreciate the MHS and MUSD community for your continuous support and encouragement," Eugene said. "We look forward to representing Milpitas High School and competing against the world's best robotics teams."

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