



SCCSBA April 2022 Newsletter

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President's Message - by Fiona Walter

Hello, All,

Happy Spring! Some of us are on break this week while others of you had last or next week off. Hopefully you've all found some much-needed time to catch up and re-energize as we head toward June.

Last year at this time, we were finally getting ready to reopen our campuses and welcome students back. What a difference a year makes. It's fun to hear about the graduation plans for June, proms, class picnics and so many other normal things that finally get to happen again.

Region 20's Delegate Assembly is now at full strength. Thank you to our Region 20 Director Devon Conley for chasing the various appointments that were needed. Carol Presunka from the Cambrian School District was appointed to the last opening and we will be at full strength for the May meeting. Thanks to all 12 of our delegates for working on our behalf at the state level.

Lastly, please remember to sign up for our Hoffmann Awards dinner on May 11th. Bonnie has sent the Eventbrite link several times and will continue to send reminders. As of now, we have 100 attendees. Come join the fun as we celebrate our outstanding district programs as well as acknowledge our Region 20 CSBA Golden Bell winners. Note that we are in person for this event at Michael's at Shoreline in Mountain View. Carol Presunka (Hoffmann Chair) and Bridget Watson (Event Chair) have been working tirelessly to keep us all safe, choose a great menu, and handle all the logistics for this evening – thank you, Carol and Bridget!

Looking forward to seeing you in May!

Cheers,
Fiona

May 11 Hoffmann Awards Dinner (In-Person)

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.

Here is the link to register: hoffmannawards2022.eventbrite.com

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.



April 21 Zoom Meeting with Congressmember Anna Eshoo

Come and join us for a lunchtime Zoom Meeting with Congresswoman Anna Eshoo from Noon-1:00 p.m on Thursday April 21. This is an opportunity to hear from Rep. Eshoo about what's new at the federal level and to ask questions.

Here's a little more info about Rep. Eshoo from her website:

Rep. Eshoo's work consistently earns the highest approval from a wide range of organizations, including the League of Conservation Voters, the Humane Society, the American Association of University Women, Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans, the

Biotechnology Industry Organization, the American College of Emergency Physicians, and the Science Coalition. The San Jose Mercury News named her one of the ten most powerful women in Silicon Valley "because she sits on committees that oversee the Internet and biotech—areas vital to the valley's interests."

June 11 School Board Candidate Workshop (In-Person)

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.

May 12 Zoom Meeting 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 zoom meeting will be:

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

We will take a break for June and July, resuming with these zoom meetings in August at the start of the new school year.

CALENDAR OF SCCSBA EVENTS/MEETINGS FOR 2022

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

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

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

From Our CSBA Regional Representative Marty Fatooh

Happy Spring, Members!

I wanted to open this month's column to reiterate how happy I am to be feeling better and share my gratitude to so many of you who have reached out with well wishes both during my leave and following my return last month. It is an honor to work with all of you every day for the people who really matter, the Kids!

New CDPH Guidance as of 4/15

Late Thursday (4/14), the CDPH announced the delay of the COVID-19 student vaccine mandate. This is due to the news of **Sen Richard Pan, MD (D Sacramento)** pulling his bill that would have required student vaccinations against the virus. The requirement, which was expected to go into effect for the 2022 school year, will not be implemented until after full FDA approval and no sooner than 7/1/2023. The department's decision takes into consideration that full approval for the vaccine for individuals of all ages within the 7-12 grade span has not yet been granted by the FDA.

Thank you to all who participated in this year's Legislative Action Week where members here in Santa Clara County and throughout the state of California advocated multiple topics to legislators in both houses. Of the many issues facing education this year, ADA, pension relief, funding the base, and home to school transportation were top of mind. Efforts on these items as well as others are still ongoing through our extraordinary team of legislative advocates based in Sacramento and through your continuous conversations with legislators. I am happy to report that CSBA, in partnership with management groups and labor, has secured an ask from our local assemblymember Alex Lee on pension relief. We are in the process of getting signatures from his colleagues in both houses (lead by Sen Min) to support all of our budget asks in CSBA's budget letter. Locally, the SCCSBA LAC (Chair, Bridget Watson) has been conducting extensive outreach and communication to legislators and local officials on legislation and policy pertinent to the success of our local education agencies.

In the next few weeks, four Region 20 members will be traveling to our nation's capital on the CSBA Coast 2 Coast legislative action trip. John Horner (Morgan Hill), Michelle Maignot, Bridget Watson, and Isabel Jubes-Flamerich (Sunnyvale) will be going up to Capitol Hill, meeting with DOE and White House education officials, alongside our partners from ACSA and other management groups, advocating for the students of Santa Clara County and California as a whole. If you have any questions related to this upcoming trip or have an interest in attending next year's, please do not hesitate to reach out.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to our newest regional delegates, Carol Presunka (Cambrian) and Wendy Sullivan (Morgan Hill). I would also like to wish departing delegates Fiona Walter (MVLA) and Andres Quintero (Alum Rock) all the best in their future endeavors and thank both of them for their years of service to our association and their districts.

Please mark your calendars for Monday, May 16 at 7pm when we will be joining San Mateo and San Francisco counties for our annual joint regional meeting. We will be joined by speakers from within CSBA's departments as well as a guest legislator (or representative). If you have any questions regarding next month's meeting or anything else please feel free to reach out.

Thank you for your service,
Marty
mfatooh@csba.org

School connectedness can lessen student depression, support student well-being

Recently released survey data of the nation's high school students found that teens' mental health continued a decline that began before the pandemic, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The survey was administered from January through June 2021.

More than one-third, or 37 percent, of high school students reported they experienced poor mental health during the COVID-19 pandemic, and 44 percent reported they persistently felt sad or hopeless during the past year.

Other significant challenges youth reported facing during the pandemic were:

- More than half (55 percent) experienced emotional abuse by a parent or other adult in the home, including swearing at, insulting or putting down the student.
- Eleven percent experienced physical abuse by a parent or other adult in the home, including hitting, beating, kicking or physically hurting the student.
- Twenty-nine percent reported a parent or other adult in their home lost a job.

LGBTQ youth and female youth reported greater levels of poor mental health, emotional abuse by a parent or caregiver, and having attempted suicide than their counterparts.

In addition, 36 percent of surveyed students said they experienced racism before or during the COVID-19 pandemic, with the highest levels reported by Asian students (64 percent), Black students and students of multiple races (both 55 percent). The analysis notes that "experiences of racism among youth have been linked to poor mental health, academic performance, and lifelong health risk behaviors."

How schools can help

School connectedness — defined in the analysis as "a sense of being cared for, supported and belonging at school" — plays a big role in stabilizing youth during times of disruption, the survey found. Youth who felt connected to adults and peers at school were significantly less likely than those who did not to report persistent feelings of sadness or hopelessness (35 percent vs. 53 percent); that they seriously considered attempting suicide (14 percent vs. 26 percent); or attempted suicide (6 percent vs. 12 percent). Unfortunately, fewer than half (47 percent) of surveyed youth reported feeling close to people at school during the pandemic.

Experts say that schools are crucial partners in supporting the health and well-being of students. "In the face of adversity, support from schools, families and communities protects adolescents from potentially devastating consequences," said Jonathan Mermin, CDC's lead for monitoring and addressing school-based health, in a statement.

"These data echo a cry for help," said CDC Acting Principal Deputy Director Debra Houry. "The COVID-19 pandemic has created traumatic stressors that have the potential to further erode students' mental well-being. Our research shows that surrounding youth with the proper support can reverse these trends and help our youth now and in the future."

Santa Clara County Office of Education Spotlight

Santa Clara County Office of Education and California Charter Authorizing Professionals Awarded State Grants to Strengthen Charter School Authorizing

The California Department of Education (CDE) has selected the Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) and the California Charter Authorizing Professionals (CCAP) to expand and strengthen support for charter school authorizing and oversight by school districts and county offices of education.

The program, funded by subgrants of CDE's federal Charter Schools Program grant, is called the Charter Authorizer Support Initiative (CASI). SCCOE and CCAP are working collaboratively to develop and implement an action plan for providing professional development and resources to the state's 329 school district and county office charter school authorizers through workshops, regional meetings, and toolkits. There is a special emphasis on building networks among small and rural authorizers.

Santa Clara County Office of Education Charter Schools Director, Mefula Fairley, said, "Through our work with school districts in our county, we know how much authorizers need up-to-date information and support on financial oversight, new state laws and regulations, and academic accountability during and after the pandemic."

Outreach is a key component of the work, and SCCOE and CCAP will be working with regional networks hosted by participating county offices of education throughout the state to provide direct technical assistance tailored to specific needs and challenges. This is particularly important for small and rural authorizers, which comprise nearly 60 percent of California authorizers and generally have fewer staff

members and time to coordinate charter authorizing and monitoring. So far, the participating county offices of education include Contra Costa, El Dorado, Los Angeles, Mono, Riverside, Shasta, and Sutter. Other key collaborators include the Small School Districts' Association (SSDA) and the Fiscal Crisis and Management Assistance Team (FCMAT).

California Charter Authorizing Professionals Executive Director, Tom Hutton, said, "We're grateful to the Charter Schools Division of CDE for recognizing the importance of authorizer support. And we're excited to work with SCCOE and our other partners to take the effort to support high-quality charter authorizing to a new level."

School District Highlights



Morgan Hill Unified School District

Morgan Hill Unified School District Superintendent Dr. Carmen Garcia has continued to enhance the level of family and community engagement with MHUSD. She has visited several apartment complexes where she has introduced herself to the residents, answered questions and addressed concerns about a variety of school and district topics. These "Living Room Chats" are designed to create accessibility for our families. These meetings have been held in Spanish for the convenience of the residents and have provided a platform for their voices to be heard. Additionally, Dr. Garcia has held several "Chats with Carmen" events at local coffee shops throughout the district boundaries. These casual chats have provided many parents, guardians and community members the opportunity to engage in meaningful, informative conversations. Further, these productive community meetings have generated useful feedback and creative new ideas for the district team.



Cambrian School District

The California Color Guard Circuit held its 2022 Championship Competition on Saturday, April 2 at Independence High School in San Jose. Both teams from Cambrian School District's Ida Price Middle School remained undefeated and took home First Place. Color Guard won the Middle School category and Percussion won the Scholastic Concert A category.

Congratulations to these hard working and dedicated Panthers! Cambrian is very proud!



Milpitas Unified School District

Elementary students hear from female role models in special MCEE Women's History Month virtual event

Fourth-grade students from Ms. Pitts and Ms. Do's classrooms at Weller Elementary School were two of many classes throughout the district treated to a special interactive Milpitas Community Educational Endowment (MCEE) event, "Celebrating International Women's Day with Bay Area Women Role Models," which included Milpitas High School alum, Spelman College student and children's book author Nyla Choates and professional executive coordinator and children's book author Juliette Gomez. The program introduces local women who can serve as role models to our youth.

At Ms. Hong's fourth-grade classroom at Curtner Elementary School, students interacted with Yoga enthusiast, studio owner and author Michelle Wing, who led a segment of the virtual event by asking students about the benefits of yoga.



Sunnyvale School District

State recognizes Sunnyvale School District with Model SARB Award

The Sunnyvale School District is one of six school districts in the state to have its School Attendance Review Board (SARB) be designated as a model program for exemplary practices that have contributed to reducing chronic absenteeism rates and improving student attendance.

Congratulations to staff and families for their efforts to make this happen districtwide! Well-deserved recognition! Find the full story here: <https://www.cde.ca.gov/nr/ne/yr22/yr22re19.asp>.

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