Happy Holidays to all! We wish you a merry and joyous holiday season and New Year.

SCCSBA December Newsletter

Visit our Website

President's Message - by Reid Myers

The Giving Season

Life is filled with service. Whether we have kids or grand kids that need our daily (or minute by minute) attention, aging parents who are no longer as independent as they once were, or friends or family members who may be going through difficult times and need our support.

In education we focus on serving our students. School board members make a public commitment to serve our communities.

From research in Psychology Today to articles in the Washington Post, it has been proven that people who give to others are happiest.

In this busy time of wrapping up semesters, wrapping up gifts and trying to wrap up our loose ends to focus on family - I want to thank you for all you do for your students and community.

The service you offer to your students is hard work but such worthy work. You are giving our next generation the tools and resilience they need for success. You’re providing safety nets for those who need them and anticipating needs and supports for what may come next. You spend hours upon hours learning and talking about how we can continuously improve our processes to better serve our students.

Thank you for your service and here’s to continued success and progress in 2017 for those we take care of in our personal lives and in our education communities.

January 21: New Board Member Training

We are holding our New Board Member Training on Saturday, January 21 from 9 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Santa Clara County Office of Education. This in-depth workshop is open for all new board members elected or appointed in 2016. Our Executive Director will contact all new board members to provide more information about this event.

We have an exciting agenda planned for the morning, which includes presentations from former Assemblymember Rich Gordon, SCCOE Superintendent Jon R. Gundry, Children Now President Ted Lempert, in addition to panels of superintendents and experienced school board members.
The New Board Member Training will be offered annually, and is part of our ongoing efforts to provide more governance resources to board members.

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**Hoffmann Awards - Finalists Will be Notified in February**

Thanks to all the districts who submitted applications for the Hoffmann Awards.

Award finalists will be notified in February, and site visits will be conducted in February and March.

Winners will be notified at the end of March. The 2017 Hoffmann Awards will be presented at the Association’s Hoffmann Awards Dinner on Wednesday, April 26.

Hoffmann entertainment nominations for the Hoffmann Dinner are also currently being accepted. Please send in your description and/or video clip of a group of performers from your district. This is their opportunity to shine!

The video clips or applications for entertainers should be sent to Jodi Muirhead at HoffmannAward@gmail.com.

The deadline for video clips is **Friday, January 6th, 2017**.

If you have any questions please email Joe Mitchner at HoffmannAward@gmail.com.

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**January 25 - SCCSBA Meeting - SCCOE Superintendent Jon R. Gundry**

Our next SCCSBA Monthly Meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 25 in the Oak Grove Room at the Santa Clara County Office of Education from 7:30-9:00 p.m.

Our featured guest speaker will be Superintendent Jon R. Gundry. So, please come and join us. All school board members are welcome to attend.

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**Other SCCSBA Events for 2016-17**

- **Friday, January 13, 2017 SCCSBA Lunch (Country Gourmet, Sunnyvale)**
- **Wednesday, January 25, 2017 (4th Wednesday) Regular Monthly Meeting**
  - Guest Speaker: SCCOE Superintendent Jon Gundry
  - 7:30-9:00 p.m., **Oak Grove Room**, SCCOE
- **Friday, February 3, 2017 SCCSBA Lunch (venue TBD)**
- **Wednesday, February 15, 2017 (3rd Wednesday) Regular Monthly Meeting**
  - 7:30-9:00 p.m., **Milpitas Room**, SCCOE
- **Saturday, March 4, 2017 Legislative Brunch**
  - 9:00 a.m. to Noon, Venue TBA
- **Friday, March 10, 2017 SCCSBA Lunch (Country Gourmet, Sunnyvale)**
- **Wednesday, March 22, 2017 (4th Wednesday) Regular Monthly Meeting**
  - Topic: Budgets/LCAP/STRS/PERS
  - 7:30-9:00 p.m., **Oak Grove Room**, SCCOE
- **Friday, April 7, 2017 SCCSBA Lunch (venue TBD)**
- **Wednesday, April 26, 2017 Hoffmann Awards Dinner/Presentations**
  - 6:00-9:00 p.m., Venue TBA
- **Friday, May 12, 2017 SCCSBA Lunch (Country Gourmet, Sunnyvale)**
- **Wednesday, May 17, 2017 Annual Officer’s and District Representatives’ Dinner**
  - 6:30-8:00 p.m., Hong Fu Restaurant
Campbell Union School District

Campbell Teacher Earns Award for Excellence

Village School Teacher Michele Goetowski was named San Jose Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce’s 2016 Excellence in Education Teacher of the Year. The Campbell Union School District educator earned the award for her work in finding solutions to education roadblocks and ensuring that her students participate in programs where they learn directly from high-tech industry experts. A 14-year teacher, Goetowski also has her class participate in the Family Giving Tree program.

Award winners receive public recognition and educational grants.

Goetowski also received Symetra Heroes in the Classroom award. The recognition program is in partnership with Symetra and the San Francisco 49ers to honor teachers for excellence in the classroom across the Bay Area.

Milpitas Unified School District

Milpitas Students STEAM up Rose Elementary School

Students and staff at Alexander Rose Elementary School in Milpitas celebrated the completion of their Winter STEAM Exploratory Block by showcasing a variety of student artwork, photos, videos, and two live performances during a daytime and evening event on December 15.

“It gives the kids a chance to show off what they’ve done and what they’re learning,” said instructional coach Jenny Katzen, curator of the showcase. “It’s really cool to see kids excited about things they usually wouldn’t be able to do at school.”

Among the many class options this semester were the science of chocolate chip cookies, 3-D drawing and printing, bridge design, book writing and illustrating, think tank trainees, Hamilton, and weather.

“We’ve been really working on student-driven learning,” Principal Nanci Pass said about the importance of the multi-grade STEAM program, now in its second year.

She explained there are many benefits to the program, where students meet once a week in an elective STEAM class throughout the semester. Among them, student engagement is increasing while behavioral issues are decreasing. Nanci explained the answer for this is simple: Because students have options for the elective, “they want to be a part of the class.”

These benefits have been noteworthy beyond the school community, with other community members recognizing the work. The Milpitas Rotary Club raised $10,000 for the program at a sold-out fundraiser in September.
The December's board meeting was a busy and exciting one!

Three members were sworn in. Mark Richardson, a Santa Clara Unified parent and local real estate broker, joined the board as a new member. Returning to the board are incumbents Albert Gonzalez and Dr. Michele Ryan. Andrew Ratermann was voted to serve as board president and Noelani Sallings was voted to serve a second term as board vice president.

"I am very excited about what this board will be able to accomplish for our students and community." — Andrew Ratermann, President

Pictured (L-R): Jodi Muirhead, Albert Gonzalez, Mark Richardson, Jim Canova, Dr. Michele Ryan, Dr. Stan Rose (Superintendent), Noelani Sallings, Andrew Ratermann

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Sunnyvale School District

At the Sunnyvale School District, we know that each child learns differently and is inspired by different things — that’s why all of our schools offer project-based learning, art, music, movement, living history, one-to-one technology, hands-on science, and differentiation.

We also know that one size does not fit all, so we offer our families six Programs of Choice: science focus, dual-language immersion, parent participation, a partnership program with Stanford University, leadership, and technology with social smarts.

Join us Jan. 11 at the District Office to learn more about each one during a special showcase event. There will be presentations followed by Q&A. We hope to see you there!

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Moreland School District

Celebrating the 3 year anniversary of the Hour of Code teacher-led movement, students from five Moreland schools participated in an hour (or more) of coding in December. Coding is the computer science that makes it possible to create computersoftware, apps and websites. From second through eighth grade students, Moreland students coded video game character movements and created websites during this hour.

Moreland schools have embraced 21st Century Learning and components of computer science as part of the traditional curriculum. Joining the hundreds of thousands of students world-wide, who coded as part of Computer Science Education Week in December, Moreland is excited to continue the focus on engaging students in this strong foundational subject.
Fremont Union High School District

After advancing to the national finals in the team category for the Siemens Competition in Math, Science and Technology, siblings Anika Cheerla and Nikhil Cheerla of Monta Vista High School took home the second place prize and a $50,000 scholarship at the competition finals in Washington, D.C. Homestead High School student Anthony Ma and Monta Vista High School student Chi Cheng “Jerry” Hsu were selected as two of 24 winners in the 2016 national STEM VideoGame Challenge.

Anthony, Chi and their fellow honorees were honored at the National Awards Ceremony at National Geographic in Washington, D.C. last month. Anthony and Chi teamed up with a third student from New Jersey while attending the Carnegie Mellon National Video Game High School Academy pre-college program to create an original video game. Their resulting game, Radiant, won the national competition’s High School Open Platform Team Category.

Metropolitan Education District

Metropolitan Education District and Transmosis launch Free Cybersecurity Training program

Metropolitan Education District (MetroED) and Transmosis Corp. will launch a free, 4-week Cybersecurity job training program valued at $10,000 per student. The program runs January 9, 2017 to February 3, 2017 at MetroED. Seats are limited and the deadline to apply is December 31, 2016. Upon successful completion of the course, students will be assigned a professional mentor and coach with access to job placement services and certification tests. To apply, visit: http://www.transmosis.com/cyber

Students will learn Network Security Fundamentals, Operating System Security Policies, and Computer Forensics to prepare for apprenticeship positions in local Silicon Valley jobs. The program trains students for the GISS certification and will secure apprenticeship placement for entry-level cybersecurity positions upon completion.

Applicants must have a high school diploma or GED, have an interest in working and building a career in cybersecurity, and be legally able to work in the United States. Previous work experience is not necessary, but applicants should have basic hardware and networking experience. Those interested in a new career field are welcome to apply.

The program is funded through a grant from the California Community College Chancellor’s Office and is also a partnership with the McKinsey Social Initiative.

Employers interested in partnering to accept program graduates should contact Daniel Cho at (415) 530-0434.