



SCCSBA March 2020 Newsletter

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President's Message - by Melissa Baten Caswell

This has been a month that has presented new challenges to us all...

I would like to thank Reid Myers our Legislative Brunch Chair for her hard work, diligence and flexibility in the first week of March. Reid has been working since the summer to put on an amazing program with a large number of local legislators, a nationally recognized moderator, and a compelling additional speaker. Cancelling was not done lightly. Thank you for your understanding. I know that is helpful to have a chance to talk to our legislators about issues that are facing us and we realize that it would have been especially valuable to have a forum like this to talk to them about the issues we are facing right now. However, some of the COVID-19 safety guidance from the CDC that we received on the Thursday before the event required accommodations that we were unable to make happen.

The spread of COVID-19 and the associated CDC safety guidance has impacted many decisions we have had to make and our districts' overall teaching and learning policies and strategies.

Please look to experts for guidance. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) are sharing updates and best practices on its website. Guidance has been changing regularly and you can consult the SCCOE and the CDC websites for the latest communications.

County

<https://www.sccgov.org/sites/phd/DiseaseInformation/novel-coronavirus/Pages/home.aspx>

<https://www.sccoe.org/news/featured/Pages/Novel-Coronavirus-Information.aspx>

National

<https://www.cdc.gov/>

Also, most of us are not medical professionals, so I recommend that we each focus on the facts of how our districts and the county are supporting our students, staff and schools in the face of this situation, and do not make statements hypothesizing about the science and treatment of the virus. If you have questions related to this Public Health issue, Brian Darrow at the Office of the County Executive, County of

Santa Clara brian.darrow@ceo.sccgov.org

Thank you all for your hard work and leadership to set an example of calm and pragmatic decision making!

To help you to continue to connect with your school board colleagues and participate in SCCSBA activities, we are working on contingency plans for all of our remaining Spring 2020 meetings and events. The first of which is to hold our March 25 SCCSBA meeting by ZOOM video conference (more information will be coming from Bonnie Mace on how to easily dial in).

Remember that the best way to help slow the spread of COVID-19 is to stay home (if you are able) and to practice social distancing as much as possible— We also need to encourage those around us to do the same; even if they are healthy or not showing symptoms.

Finally, please keep washing your hands often with soap and warm water! 20 seconds at least! – **We'll all be safer if we all take precautions.**

Sending support and strength,

Melissa

Wednesday, March 25 - SCCSBA Meeting via Zoom

We will be holding our Wednesday, March 25 SCCSBA Meeting online. Rather than cancelling it, we felt it is important to keep regular communication among our members. Our featured guest speaker will be County Assessor Larry Stone. He will be discussing the School and Communities First Initiative.

Our Executive Director Bonnie Mace will send more information concerning the Call-In Phone Number for the meeting, which will be using the Zoom online service. You don't need to have the Zoom App to participate, although it is recommended. It is available for free on your phone's App Store.

SCCSBA Networking Lunch - Virtual BrownBag Friday, April 3

Due to the coronavirus and the recent public health orders, we are shifting our Friday, April 3 Networking Lunch to be a Virtual BrownBag via Zoom. At the SCCSBA, it's important for us to provide mutual support to each other during this time of stress. Our Executive Director Bonnie Mace will be sending the Zoom online call-in phone number for this Virtual BrownBag Lunch soon.

Hoffmann Awards Dinner - Rescheduled for Wednesday, October 28

Hoffmann Awards Dinner update: Given the current COVID-19 pandemic, we are moving the Hoffmann Awards Ceremony to our Fall Dinner in October. While we are sad to push out this event, it is most certainly the right thing to do. Please mark your calendars for October 28th at Michael's Restaurant at Shoreline and join us as we celebrate our Santa Clara County exemplar programs. Stay tuned for a press release naming our winners. Looking forward to being together in October.



Update March 16, 2020

As our community navigates through the impact of COVID-19 and the rapidly changing guidance from the Public Health Department and the Center for Disease Control, Santa Clara County Office of Education's

Inclusion Collaborative has expanded its Inclusion Support Warmline Services. This service is available 16 hours per day and has the following language capabilities: Spanish, Vietnamese, Mandarin, and Korean. Support will be provided by answering questions, addressing concerns and providing social stories to support children's understanding of "social distancing", etc. Also available will be alternative educational resources, support for flexible learning (media, etc.) and addressing individual needs for children with IEPs. Visual Support, individual schedules, etc. are also available.

Call (408) 453-6651 or email WarmLineRemoteLearning@sccoe.org.

Resources: [Keeping the World Safe from COVID-19](#), [Coronavirus Social Story](#)

Warm Line Flyer: [English](#), [Español](#), [Tiếng Việt](#)

SCCSBA Calendar of Events

Wednesday, March 25, 2020 (Via Zoom Online)

SCCSBA Monthly Meeting

Guest Speaker: Larry Stone, County Assessor

Topic: Schools and Communities First

POSTPONED UNTIL OCTOBER 28

SCCSBA Hoffmann Awards Dinner

Wednesday, May 20, 2020 (6:00-8:00 PM, China Stix Restaurant)

Annual "Passing the Gavel" Dinner for Officers, Delegates and District Representatives

Saturday, June 6, 2020 (9:00-11:00 AM, Oak Grove Room, Santa Clara County Office of Education)

Candidate Workshop for the 2020 General Election

CSBA Spotlight (<https://csba.org>) (reprinted from the CSBA Website)

Coronavirus update: Passage of Senate Bill 117, which offers relief to school districts, COEs, and childcare centers

On Monday, March 16, the Legislature and the Governor took special action to support agencies grappling with the COVID-19 pandemic, including passage of SB 117, a bill providing relief to school districts, county offices of education, and childcare centers. CSBA appreciates the swift work to pass legislation that will provide relief to public schools coping with the impact of COVID-19 SB 117, which directly reflects the advocacy of CSBA and other members of the Education Coalition, provides \$100 million to local education agencies (LEA) to purchase personal protective equipment and pay for supplies and labor costs related to cleaning school facilities. The funding will be apportioned to LEAs on an ADA basis with no less than \$250 per school site. The bill also ensures that LEAs will continue to receive funding even if they took extraordinary measures like school closures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

SB 117, an emergency measure that takes effect immediately, will give LEAs flexibility in providing services to students during an uncertain and unprecedented time:

Specifically, SB 117:

1. Provides that for LEAs claiming attendance for the 2019-20 school year for purposes of school funding, the school year shall include only full school months between July 1, 2019 and February 29, 2020, rather than through April, in recognition of the number of local districts that have closed schools to limit spread of the virus.
2. Expresses Legislative intent that LEAs receiving apportionment ensure that employees and contractors are compensated and paid during the time a school is closed due to COVID-19, as reasonably anticipated if the school had not been closed.
3. Waives Education Code provisions regarding instructional day and minute requirements for LEAs that closed schools due to COVID-19 to remove real and perceived penalties that might arise if classroom time is not made up by the end of the school year.
4. Requires the superintendent of a school district, county superintendent of schools, or administrator of a charter school to certify in writing to the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI) that the school was closed due to COVID-19 and provide any additional information related to the school closure, as requested, in order to qualify for continued funding.
5. Allows a charter school that does not have an independent study program or a distance learning program in its currently approved charter petition to offer those services without having to submit a material revision to its authorizer.

6. Ensures continuity of funding for the After-School Education and Safety Program (ASES) if a school closed due to COVID-19.
7. Requires the SPI, by June 30, 2020, develop informal directives and bulletins, in compliance with Executive Orders, to address contractual and reporting requirements applicable for the 2019-20 fiscal year for childcare and development programs impacted by COVID-19. These programs shall be reimbursed using the most recent certified record or invoice available.
8. Extends the testing window for the English language proficiency assessment required by statute by 45 days. For all other required assessments, including the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress, the testing window will be extended by the number of days a school site is closed.
9. Specifies that the California Department of Education shall consider the days a school is closed due to COVID-19 as days between a pupil's regular school session up to when the school reopens, and the regular session reconvenes to determine an LEAs compliance with special education timelines and services provisions
10. Allows state subsidized childcare and development programs, including State Preschool program, general childcare, CalWORKs childcare and the Alternative Payment programs that comply with the Governor's executive order, to have their attendance and reporting requirements waived, as specified.
11. Extends the timelines for the Uniform Complaint Process by the length of a school's closure due to COVID-19.

On Tuesday, March 17, Gov. Newsom's administration is expected to provide more detail on what it will ask of schools during the closures. CSBA will provide an update on that announcement and any new legislative developments related to schools and COVID-19.

After passing SB 117, the Legislature adjourned until April 13, temporarily halting the legislative year in an effort to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

School District Highlights



MetroED

Forty-three SVCTE Students Advance to SkillsUSA State Competition

Forty-three Silicon Valley CTE students who participated in the regional SkillsUSA competition will advance to the state level. SkillsUSA Championships showcase the best career and technical education students in the nation. Contests begin locally and continue through the state and national levels.

The regional SkillsUSA competition was held at the Metropolitan Education District campus (760 Hillsdale Ave, San Jose) on Saturday, January 18. Two hundred students from thirteen schools participated in

the competition. Of the sixty-two SVCTE students who participated, forty-three will advance to the state competition to be held in Ontario, CA from April 16 - 19.

SVCTE students won thirteen gold medals, eleven silver medals, and nine bronze medals with ten additional students also advancing to the state level.

Their achievement is a testament to their dedication to learning complex skills and ability to showcase those skills to judges. Students from Campbell Union High School District, East Side Union High School District, San Jose Unified School District, Los Gatos-Saratoga Union High School District, Milpitas Unified School District, Santa Clara Unified School District, and San Jose Job Corps Center were represented in the cohort moving up to the state level.



Milpitas Unified School District

Rancho Milpitas MS earns fifth 'School to Watch' designation

Milpitas Unified School District's Rancho Milpitas Middle School was recognized for a fifth re-designation as a "School to Watch" by the California League of Middle Schools (<https://www.leagueofschools.org/>) at its March 6 conference in Sacramento.

The Schools to Watch – Taking Center Stage program (<http://clms.net/stw/schools/RanchoMilpitas.pdf>) was designed by a group of statewide education organizations committed to improving student achievement in California's middle schools. The program is implemented by the California League of Middle Schools, California Department of Education, California Middle Grades Alliance, National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform and the Schools to Watch™-Taking Center Stage Model Schools.

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