

# SCCSBA January 2022 Newsletter

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## President's Message - by Fiona Walter

Hello, SCCSBA team and Happy New Year!

I hope you had a restful break and are getting back into the flow of the school year, crazy as that flow may be.

I want to thank all of you for the work you are doing to keep schools open and students and staff safe while on campus. This isn't what we signed up to do when we ran for school board – we thought we'd be entirely focused on curriculum, learning, reaching every student. And yet here we are. For the Tolkien fans out there, now we get to decide what to do with the time that we are given.

I'm grateful that you've all dug in, recommitted, invested the hours, supported one another, and figured out how to plow ahead. A good friend recently shared that she's tired of being resilient. I agreed with her, but we also agreed to forge ahead nonetheless!

There are good things on our horizon. For example, on January 26<sup>th</sup> you can come to our meeting! At that meeting you will hear an indepth update from Dr. Dewan on all things SCCOE. You'll also hear speeches from our Delegate Assembly candidates. We have at least one open seat, so please come support these candidates and learn about their accomplishments and hopes for the future.

Again, thanks to all of you for your hard work in 2021. Looking forward to continuing our efforts together in 2022!

Cheers, Fiona

## January 26 SCCSBA Evening Zoom Meeting

Please join us for our next SCCSBA Evening Zoom Meeting on January 26 at 7:30 p.m.

We will be having our presentations from the upcoming Candidates for CSBA Delegate Assembly. Each candidate will have a few minutes to let us know why they should be elected for this important state role. Any trustee can run for election to CSBA Delegate Assembly.

In addition to our Delegate Assembly Candidate presentations, we will be having our Annual State of Public Education in Santa Clara County by County Superintendent Dr. Mary Ann Dewan.

You won't want to miss this important meeting of the new year!

#### Upcoming Zoom Meetings with County Superintendent Dr. Dewan

Starting in February, we will be hosting monthly afternoon 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. Stay tuned for a calendar invitation to these zoom calls.

Our upcoming meetings will be: Thursday, February 3 from 1:30-2:30 p.m. Thursday, March 3 from 1:30-2:30 p.m. 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 held in our nation's Capital. See www.csba.org for more information on how to register. This trip will take place April 25-27, 2022.

### CALENDAR OF SCCSBA EVENTS/MEETINGS FOR 2022 Theme: Reimagine, Recovery, Renewal, Reflection

Wednesday, January 26, 2022 at 7:30-9:00 p.m. Zoom SCCSBA Monthly Meeting (including Candidate Presentations for CSBA Delegate Assembly) Guest Speaker: Dr. Mary Ann Dewan, SCCOE Superintendent Topic: The State of the County in Public Education

Wednesday, February 23, 2022 at 7:30-9:00 p.m. Zoom SCCSBA Monthly Meeting (including Officer Nominations) Guest Speaker: TBD Topic: Renewal (Professional Development and Inspiring Teachers)

Saturday, February 26, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. to Noon. Annual SCCSBA Legislative Brunch on Zoom.

Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at 7:30-9:00 p.m. Zoom SCCSBA Monthly Meeting (including Election of Officers) Guest Speakers: Superintendent Panel Topic: Reflection (Looking back and looking forward – lessons learned)

Wednesday, May 4, 2022 at 6:00-9:00 p.m. In Person Hoffmann Awards Dinner

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



#### From our CSBA Regional Representative Marty Fatooh

Trustees and Superintendents,

We appreciate all that you are doing for your boards and communities during these difficult times. Last week, the SCCSBA Legislative Action Committee convened an emergency session to discuss what the needs are for our region during this

Omicron Surge. From the conversation with representatives across the region, staffing seems to be one of the biggest issues facing the region, whether it be teaching staff and/ or COVID testing staff. I am in direct communication with Senator Becker's Office (Joan Dentler) and have been

requesting extra state staffing, whether that be Army National Guard/ Air Guard or designated disaster service workers to assist in the ongoing efforts on the ground. We are also hearing a lot about the need for flexibility. As I shared with many of you, Governor Newsom announced an Executive Order relating to this issue. You can read it <u>Here</u>. We will also be conducting additional outreach to legislators and various state departments in the coming days and weeks.

**Legislative Action Week-** Although it is our hope to have Legislative Action Day in person this year, the current Omicron surge may affect the format of this event. We are considering keeping Legislative Action Week, the virtual format of Leg Action Day again this year. I hope to have an update on this soon. The Washington DC Trip is currently still scheduled in person.

Governor Newsom released his January Budget Proposal on Monday. I want to highlight some resources you may find helpful in understanding the implications of the proposal:

- CSBA released an initial written breakdown and analysis of the Governor's January Budget Proposal .
  - You can read the CSBA analysis here.
- CSBA also hosted a Governor's Budget Breakdown Webinar where Governmental Relations staff reviewed the proposal and its impact on school districts and county offices of education across California.
  - You can view the webinar recording here.
  - The PowerPoint slides are available here.

ACSA hosted a special live edition of its Legislative Lunch Break to break down the 2022-2023 Budget Proposal and how it impacts California public education

- You can view the recording on Facebook here.
- ACSA's Governmental Relations Team also released an initial written analysis of the Budget Proposal.
  - You can read the ACSA analysis here.
- Finally, CSBA is glad to contribute to the Capitol Advisors Budget Perspectives Workshop which will be hosted virtually.
  - You can register for the no-cost workshop here.

Let me know if you have any questions and feel free to reach out anytime.

Thank you for your service,

Marty

Marty Fatooh (mfatooh@csba.org)

# Santa Clara County Office of Education Spotlight

#### Santa Clara County Office of Education and Santa Clara County Public Health Department Stand in Solidarity in Keeping Schools Open

The Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) along with the Santa Clara County Public Health Department (SCCPHD) released a video message stressing the importance of keeping students in full-time, in-person learning environments.

As of June 30, 2021 school districts may no longer offer remote or virtual learning in lieu of in-person instruction. Students learn best when they are amongst their peers and have access to school resources. Schools are working with the SCCOE and SCCPHD to implement the latest California Department of Public Health school guidance and are practicing the best risk mitigation strategies.

"Keeping our students, staff, and families safe remains our top priority," stated Dr. Mary Ann Dewan, County Superintendent of Schools. "We are working alongside our school districts to protect in-person learning and practice the appropriate safety protocols."

Santa Clara County Public Health Director, Dr. Sara Cody, added, "The good news is that the cases we are seeing from Omicron are milder than previous COVID cases. We have also learned that we need to find ways to coexist and live with COVID. We have learned a lot from the previous two years."

Both officials agreed that school is where our county students should be - it is a county goal to make sure the students get a solid, in-person education. "Remote learning does not support student mental health, emotional health, and academic well-being the way that in-person learning does," said Dr. Cody. "Our schools are committed to healthy environments for students and staff," said Dr. Dewan. "Schools throughout Santa Clara County have been working diligently to ensure safe classrooms and it remains critically important to use all proven layers of protection: masking, vaccinations and boosters for those that are eligible, testing, and remaining home when not feeling well."

For more information regarding vaccines and boosters please visitwww.sccfreevax.org and for testing information, please visit www.sccfreetest.org.

# **School District Highlights**



#### **Cambrian School District**

#### Superintendent Kristi Schwiebert Approved

The Cambrian School District Governing Board recently approved the contract for Ms. Kristi Schwiebert as the permanent Superintendent for Cambrian School District. Ms. Schwiebert has successfully served as Cambrian's Assistant Superintendent of Personnel since 2019 and stepped in to serve as the Acting

Superintendent in June of 2021.

Ms. Schwiebert began as Fammatre Elementary's Principal in 2010. Due to her leadership abilities, she was offered the Principal position at Steindorf K-8 Magnet School, which took effect one year before the school was opened. Ms. Schwiebert was very involved in all decision-making processes with opening the school, classroom layouts and curriculum, to name a few. After four years at Steindorf, she was selected to be Cambrian's Assistant Superintendent of Personnel.

Ms. Schwiebert received her undergraduate degree in Liberal Studies from Cal Poly, and her master's degree in Educational Leadership from San Jose State University. She has lived in the Cambrian neighborhood since 2001, raising her family. Ms. Schwiebert is a gifted educational leader, committed to educating the whole child, with deep ties within the Cambrian School District.



#### **Milpitas Unified School District**

#### Board elects new president, vice president, clerk for 2022 year

At its annual organizational meeting, the Milpitas Unified School District's Board of Education elected Kelly Yip-Chuan as its 2022 President, Chris Norwood as its 2022 Vice President and Minh Ngo as its 2022 Clerk.

Yip-Chuan, who served as the Vice President throughout 2021, has been with the Board since her election in 2018. Norwood, who was the 2021 President and California School Boards Association State Board Member of the Year, has served on the Board since 2014.

Ngo joined the Board in 2020. The remainder of the board is comprised of Trustees Hon Lien, who served as President in 2020, and Michael Tsai, who has been on the Board since 2018.

SCCSBA www.sccoe.org/sccsba execdirector@sccsba.org

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