

Celebrate our Hoffmann Award Winners on April 26!



SCCSBA April Newsletter

Visit our Website



President's Message - by Reid Myers

Color Bold

Last month, civil rights icon Ruby Bridges spoke to a crowd of over 1,000 people at the Project Cornerstone awards breakfast in Santa Clara. Ruby spoke humbly about her experience 60 years ago when she was the first black student to attend an all-white elementary school in Louisiana. As a 6 year old child, she needed Federal Marshals to escort her to class. The white families refused to send their kids to school when they learned of Ruby's presence.

When some students finally returned to school, a boy told Ruby that his mom said he couldn't play with her because she was black.

At the breakfast, Ruby spoke about racism being a learned behavior. Kids aren't born racist- it's learned from us and from society. If you look at children in our elementary schools, they have very little awareness of skin color or race differences. As they age they become more aware of where they and others "fit". By middle school they tend to group with kids of similar backgrounds and even more so in high school.

In Silicon Valley, diversity is pervasive and there is usually a place for students to fit in. Our high schools value differences and there is a culture of acceptance - no matter your race, religion or sexual orientation.

Most people have heard about the desire to be "color blind" but a speaker at a CSBA conference once said "don't be color blind, be color bold". Being color blind implies we ignore our differences, however, when we are color bold we acknowledge, accept and appreciate what makes us unique as individuals and stronger as a society.

April 26 SCCSBA Hoffmann Awards Dinner - Only a Few Seats Left

Registration for our 2017 Glenn W. Hoffmann Awards Dinner is open! You can register at: 2017hoffmannndinner.eventbrite.com.

The Dinner will be held on Wednesday, April 26 at Tarragon Restaurant (140 South Murphy Avenue) in Sunnyvale. The cost is \$40 per person.

This year, there are four winning programs. One of the programs will also receive the Kristi Porter Outstanding Program Award, which will be announced at our Awards Dinner.

The 2017 Hoffmann Award winning programs (in alphabetical order by school district) are:

Atlas and AVID Academies - William Sheppard Middle School - Alum Rock Union School District

Biomedical Science Academy - Gilroy High School - Gilroy Unified School District

Advanced Authentic Research - Henry M. Gunn and Palo Alto High Schools - Palo Alto Unified School District

Community School Model - San Miguel Elementary School - Sunnyvale Elementary School District

We are excited to celebrate these wonderful programs, and we hope to see you at the celebration dinner. We already have more than 120 attendees, and we hope to see you there too!

April 27, CSBA Roadshow at SCCOE

It takes a local community to know what's best for students. It takes a powerful statewide network to make it possible!

Join us Thursday, April 27 to discover how CSBA's new grassroots network can help deliver results for students and the change schools need on a local level. CSBA Senior Staff will be presenting this workshop which is geared to the needs of trustees and school districts.

What: CSBA Roadshow: Investing in Education, Empowering Local Communities

When: Thursday, April 27

Where: Gilroy Room at the Santa Clara County Office of Education, 1290 Ridder Park Drive, San Jose

To register for this free event, please visit: <https://april27csbasymposium.eventbrite.com>

Upcoming SCCSBA Events for 2017

Wednesday, April 26, 2017 Hoffmann Awards Dinner
6:00-9:00 p.m., Tarragon Restaurant

Thursday, April 27, 2017 CSBA Roadshow at SCCOE
11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Gilroy Room, Santa Clara County Office of Education

Friday, May 5, 2017 SCCSBA Networking Lunch
11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Country Gourmet, Sunnyvale

Wednesday, May 17, 2017 Annual Officer's and District Representatives' Dinner
6:30-8:00 p.m., Hong Fu Restaurant

SCCSBA Networking Lunch - Friday, May 5

Join SCCSBA Trustees for a monthly networking lunch. It's a great opportunity to develop relationships with school board members across the county and to share ideas. Our next Networking Lunch will be held at Country Gourmet in Sunnyvale on Friday, May 5. Everyone is invited to attend!





Santa Clara County Office of Education Spotlight

SCCOE Launches Teacher Professional Development Portal

SAN JOSE, CA –The Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) launched its new, comprehensive Teacher Professional Development Portal on March 21. The portal features high-quality professional development opportunities from the Curriculum & Instruction Department, and was developed in-house through the Technology Services Branch.

Career and Technical Education, Curriculum and Instruction, English Language Arts, History, Learning Multimedia Center, Mathematics, Science, STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math), and Visual and Performing Arts are highlighted content areas. The portal is a convenient, easy-to-use tool for teachers to browse a range of training opportunities.

"The SCCOE and our department has a strong track record of offering high-quality professional development for educators," commented Melissa Christie, Director, Curriculum and Instruction. "This new tool directly aligns with one of our strategic goals to support teacher learning and impact classroom instruction."

Christie noted that the portal was developed in response to feedback from teachers asking for a central location to house training opportunities and resources. In addition, the Curriculum and Instruction team is planning to launch an e-newsletter in June highlighting the many teacher professional development opportunities at the county office.

The portal's web address is www.sccoe.org/pdservices.

District Highlights

Los Gatos Union School District

Promoting Positive Cultural Identity for Special Needs Students

On March 24, the Fisher Middle School Special Education Department (SPED) was recognized with a Project Cornerstone **Asset Champion Award** for their collective efforts in promoting a positive cultural identity for students with special needs.

Positive identity brings self-assurance, a sense of belonging, an optimistic view of personal future and better success in school.

Watch the [video](#) to hear from Fisher students – and their parents – on how they feel about the SPED team.



Franklin-McKinley School District

In Franklin-McKinley School District we believe students birth to age 8 deserve a high quality early learning experience. Starting Smart and Strong is our shared long-term commitment that every child in San Jose grows up healthy and ready for kindergarten. Franklin-McKinley School District has established partnerships with Educare California at Silicon Valley, Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County, FIRST 5 of Santa Clara County, State Preschools and Head Start to offer additional opportunities for children ages 0 to 5. This partnership has developed into the Starting Smart and Strong commitment of Franklin-McKinley School District.

On March 11, 2017, the District held it's annual Early Learning Expo where families with children ages 0-5 had the opportunity to register for Transitional Kindergarten, Preschool, and various other programs. Additionally, children received free dental & vision screenings and participated in fun arts & crafts activities.



Gilroy Unified School District

RodKelley Elementary School is the proud recipient of the 2017 Seal of Excellence School Award from the California Association for Bilingual Education (CABE). The Dual Immersion Program is in its ninth year at Rod Kelley. The program has achieved success with enhanced professional development for teachers, multifaceted parent involvement and positive student academic performance.

RodKelley students have outperformed their peers as measured by California state standardized tests and have been recognized for having one of the highest numbers of reclassified English learners for the past six years in the District. Principal Maritza Salcido shared her excitement, "This great honor validates the hard work from the students, the dedication of the teachers and the support from the District. It is wonderful to be part of such a proactive District and supportive school-community."



Santa Clara Unified School District

NASA Selects SCUSD Teachers for Training

NASA recently announced that three SCUSD teachers have been selected to take part in training on board its Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy (SOFIA). Amanda Heinisch and Eric Wozadlo of Santa Clara High, and William "Brad" Beadell of Wilcox High School will participate in workshops, training, and flights on board SOFIA from a NASA research facility in Palm dale, California. SOFIA is an extensively modified Boeing 747SP aircraft carrying a telescope. The training and flight week is an immersive STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) experience. Following training and flight week, the teachers implement related science curricula.

Only 39 teachers in the state were selected to participate in the program so the fact that three of them are from our district is a testament to the skill and dedication demonstrated by SCUSD's talented teachers.

Santa Clara High School Principal Greg Shelby says, "Our students will be watching their example, and that may be the most powerful lesson of the year." We are so proud of Amanda, Eric, and Brad!



Berryessa Union School District

Superintendent Will H. Ector, Jr. Receives Recognition

On February 16, Superintendent Ector served on the NASA AMES Research Center Black History Month Panel at which time he received an award in honor of his participation in the annual program which benefits students of color.

On February 22, Superintendent Ector was recognized by Congressman Ro Khanna during a town hall event at Ohlone College in Fremont. The Superintendent was nominated by former colleague, Teresa Cox, and was selected to receive an award for outstanding community service for Black History Month.

On March 13, Superintendent Ector was named the 2016 Berryessa – San Jose Citizen of the Year and was presented with awards and commendations from the Berryessa Citizens Advisory Council, the Berryessa Business Association, the Office of Senator Bob Wieckowski, the Office of Assemblymember Kansen Chu, Santa Clara County Supervisor Dave Cortese, San Jose District 4 Councilmember Lan Diep, the San Jose Evergreen College District, the Santa Clara County Water District, the East Side Union High School District, the Evergreen School District, and the Berryessa Union School District.

On May 12, at the annual Association of CA School Administrators (ACSA) Awards Night, Superintendent Ector will receive the Superintendent of the Year Award for Region 8 Santa Clara County. This award represents the 31 school districts located in Santa Clara County. The Berryessa Union School District is extremely proud of Superintendent Will H. Ector for his many well-deserved awards and commendations which recognize his dedication to serving the students of our community.



Milpitas Unified School District

Trustees honor late Vice President Danny Lau during Board Meeting

The March 28 Board of Education meeting in Milpitas Unified School District honored late Vice President Danny Lau. That evening, a portrait of Mr. Lau next to calla lily flowers filled the emptiness of his seat on the dais.

During the Superintendent's Report, Cheryl Jordan shared a tribute [PowerPoint slide show](#). Following the presentation, she asked attendees to pause for a moment of silence "for our friend and leader Danny Lau." Trustees and cabinet members shared their memories of Mr. Lau, emphasizing his endless compassion for district employees and families, and his tireless work to try to meet everyone's needs.

That evening, the Board approved having a student scholarship for music as a way to honor Mr. Lau, and also continue the tradition of the scholarship that was started by the board last year. To make a donation, make checks out to Milpitas Unified School District, write "Danny Lau Board Scholarship" in the memo section, and send to: MUSDBusiness Services, 1331 E. Calaveras Blvd, Milpitas, CA 95035.

The Board also approved naming the Districtwide Spring Music Festival in honor of Mr. Lau. He was an avid supporter of the music program, and attended any event he could both in and out of Milpitas.

[Read more about Danny Lau >](#)



Fremont Union High School District

The Second Annual Fremont High School Alumni Hall of Fame was held last month. This year's incredible alumni inductees were legendary Fremont High School basketball coach and teacher Phil Kelly (Class of 1957), five-time national champion volleyball coach and Fremont High School teacher John Dunning (Class of 1968) and fitness ambassador Shauna Harrison (Class of 1996).

The day's festivities kicked off with a special Hall of Fame rally, with students introducing the notable alumni and each honoree sharing a few words of wisdom with students. The FHS cheerleaders and Featherettes gave performances, accompanied by the FHS band. A celebratory dinner and awards ceremony at the Sunnyvale Community Center Orchard Pavilion finished off the day of celebration. Organized by the Fremont High School Athletic Boosters and Fremont High School Association, the Hall of Fame honors and preserves the legacy of former Firebirds who have excelled in their respective fields or passions and who inspire future graduates to achieve greatness of their own.



East Side Union High School District

Silver Creek High School Wins National Japan Bowl Competition!

Last week, Silver Creek High School won first place in the National Japan Bowl in Washington, DC., defeating 19 other teams that competed in the Level 2 group. The students will be heading to Tokyo, Japan this summer to represent the United States in a youth ambassador event.

In 2016, Silver Creek was selected to participate in the Japanese Language Education Assistant Program (J-LEAP). It is a two-year program supported by the Japanese government in which native speaking Japanese teachers are sent to Japanese language programs in the United States. Silver Creek was 1 of 12 schools in the country selected to participate in this program.



Sciencepalooza!

Exclusive East Side Union High School District Science Fair

In its commitment to focus education on 21st century skills, ESUHSD had its 18th

annual [Sciencepalooza!](#) event at the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds.

Droves of excited and nervous students filled the venue to exhibit their projects and share their concepts with judges. Areas of concentration included biological science, physical science, and engineering.

Sciencepalooza! allows students to gain experience in meeting deadlines, developing ideas or replicating tried-and-true experiments, conducting research, and analyzing and communicating their results. The event was primarily sponsored by Synopsys Outreach Foundation.



MetroED

Adult Education Week Focuses on Career Training

Silicon Valley Adult Education will join with other California adult schools in honoring teachers and students in programs that prepare students for employment. The week's theme is "Today's Students, Tomorrow's Workforce."

"Too many in our community want to work but are not qualified to fill jobs that are available," said Silicon Valley Adult Education Principal, Gloria Curd. "Our Adult Basic Education, High School Diploma, English as a Second Language, and Career Technical Education classes lay the groundwork to meet the basic skills required by employers. Those who already possess those skills can step right into our career training programs in such fields as automotive, building maintenance, healthcare, and related fields."

Silicon Valley Adult Education will exhibit student performances on International Day on Friday, April 7 from 8:45 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. in the Auditorium (Room 201) at 760 Hillsdale Avenue, San Jose CA 95136.

Like many California adult schools, Silicon Valley Adult Education provides a wide range of free educational services including High School Diploma, GED/HiSET Preparation, Adult Basic Education, English as a Second Language, and low tuition Career Technical Education programs.



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