



## SCCSBA April 2019 Newsletter

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### President's Message - by Ellen Wheeler

#### Recognizing Achievement by our Peers

It's always very welcome when we can sit back, take a few deep breaths, and enjoy recognizing achievement by our peers instead of feeling like we're constantly racing to do the best we can.

This is that time. Our annual spring banquet celebrates the winners of our Hoffmann Awards. In the fall, many local school districts submit descriptions of their particularly excellent programs. Our readers carefully read and evaluate all of the applications. The readers committee heartily discusses which of the applications should be presented with a Hoffmann Award. Evaluators go visit each of the district programs to verify that their excellent programs are actually producing the results that were lauded in their applications. This year we have four outstanding programs to share with you all and that will join the historical list of outstanding programs of past years.

Come hear about these four outstanding programs at our Hoffmann Awards Dinner on Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup>. Sit back, take a few breaths, and appreciate our winners on this one night of celebration.

### SCCSBA Calendar of Events and Activities for January-June 2019

Wednesday, April 24, 2019 - SCCSBA Hoffmann Awards Dinner, Barrel 19 Bistro, 6:00-9:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 22, 2019 - SCCSBA Passing the Gavel Dinner, China Stix Restaurant, 6:00-8:00 p.m. (for SCCSBA Officers, District Representatives, and CSBA Delegates)

### SCCSBA Officers for 2019-2020

Congratulations to our New SCCSBA Officers for 2019-2020: **President Melissa Baten Caswell, Vice President Fiona Walter, and Treasurer Rosa Kim**. The term for these new officers will begin July 1.

Many thanks to our current SCCSBA Officers: President Ellen Wheeler, Vice President Melissa Baten Caswell, and Treasurer Fiona Walter.



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### Next SCCSBA Friday Lunch - May 3

Our next SCCSBA Friday Lunch will be held May 3 at **OPA!** (276 E Campbell Ave, Campbell) .

The lunch will run from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. All trustees are invited to attend. It's a great chance to network and share ideas.

#### Upcoming SCCSBA Friday Lunches:

Friday, June 7, 2019 - Country Gourmet (1314 South Mary Avenue, Sunnyvale)

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### Last Chance to Register for SCCSBA Hoffmann Awards Dinner - Wednesday, April 24

It's the last chance to register for our upcoming SCCSBA 35th Annual Hoffmann Awards Dinner, celebrating exemplary programs in schools and school districts across the county. The Awards Dinner will be held on Wednesday, April 24 from 6:00-9:00 p.m. at Barrel 19 Bistro and Bar in Sunnyvale. All trustees and superintendents are welcome to attend. A special thanks to our event sponsors: ENGIE Services, California Consulting, the Santa Clara and San Benito Counties Building and Construction Trades Council, Lentini Design & Marketing Inc., and the Santa Clara County Office of Education.

To register, visit this link: <https://2019hoffmandinner.eventbrite.com>

The 2019 Hoffmann Award winners are: (in alphabetical order)

- East Side Alliance: A Collaborative Effort of the Alum Rock Union School District, Berryessa Union School District, East Side Union High School District, Evergreen School District, Franklin-McKinley School District, Mount Pleasant School District, Oak Grove School District, and Orchard School District
- Media Arts Program, Saratoga High School, Los Gatos-Saratoga Union High School District
- Ocala STEAM Academy, Alum Rock Union School District
- Palo Alto Career Training, Henry M. Gunn and Palo Alto High Schools, Palo Alto Unified School District

The awards honor Glenn W. Hoffmann, who served as the Santa Clara County Superintendent from 1967-1984. One of our award winners will also receive the Kristi Porter Outstanding Program Award, named after a late board member of the Oak Grove School District and past president of SCCSBA.



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## Passing the Gavel Dinner for Officers, CSBA Delegates and District Representatives - May 22

It's the time of the year when we thank our outgoing SCCSBA Officers and welcome our new incoming SCCSBA Officers for 2019-20. Our annual Passing the Gavel Dinner will be held this year at **China Stix**, 2110 El Camino Real, Santa Clara, CA 95050.

We invite our SCCSBA incoming and outgoing Officers, all District Representatives, and CSBA Delegate Assembly members to join us for this event. A special thanks to Trustee Cynthia Chang for organizing this annual event. More information will be forthcoming from Executive Director Bonnie Mace.

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### CSBA Spotlight (<https://csba.org>)

#### What districts should know about first run of optional California Spanish Assessment (reprinted from the CSBA Blog)

A new, optional test will be administered for the first time when the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress testing window opens April 1, 2019. The California Spanish Assessment will be offered to third- through eighth-grade and high school students seeking a measure of their reading, writing, mechanics and listening skills in Spanish. The California Department of Education intends it to be especially useful for the more than 1.2 million students who speak Spanish as their primary language, but it is also open to those learning Spanish as a second language. Because it is a free, computer-based test, the CDE is encouraging all local educational agencies with eligible students to participate. A field test was administered in fall 2018, and the CDE has since posted a test administration manual, directions for administration and a training video on [the California Spanish Assessment website](#). The CDE estimates that the assessment takes about two hours to complete, depending on the student's grade level.

"The California Spanish Assessment is a great resource for districts to evaluate the success of their dual language programs," said CSBA Policy Analyst Manuel Buenrostro. "This assessment is an opportunity for students to demonstrate their proficiency and skills in Spanish. It represents another step toward California's goal of making sure that students are college, career and life ready in a world and state rich with diversity."

The assessment comes during a time in which California seeks to expand dual-language programs after the passage of Proposition 58 (also known as the CA Education for a Global Economy Initiative), and a renewed push to promote bilingualism and biliteracy goals. Voters overwhelmingly approved the proposition in 2016, which repealed bilingual education restrictions.

Board members and district officials can learn more about how to expand dual language programs and promote bilingualism and biliteracy at [www.csba.org/EnglishLearners](http://www.csba.org/EnglishLearners). Included in the resources are publications on [Proposition 58 Regulations](#), [The English Learner Roadmap](#), and [Expanding Bilingual Education Programs after Proposition 58](#).

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### Santa Clara County Office of Education Spotlight

#### Power of Democracy – Santa Clara County Civic Engagement Initiative Updates

The last two full weeks in April and September are designated as High School Voter Education Weeks. This semi-annual event provides an opportunity for high schools and their students to partner with county elections officials to promote civic education and participation on campus and foster an environment that cultivates lifelong voters and active citizens. To help educators, the

Santa Clara County Office of Education Power of Democracy Civic Engagement Initiative have assembled a list of resources to promote this important observance in the classroom. The resources we have gathered are inclusive and can work with many student groups.

<http://bit.ly/hsviewtoolkit>

On Friday, May 17 the Santa Clara County Office of Education will host a one-day exposition of the Civic Engagement efforts happening countywide and in Region 5 and a celebration of teaching Civics and Civic Engagement! This event will include a keynote address by Historian James W. Loewen, a performance by Teatro Campesino, educator displays, and more! For more information visit: <http://bit.ly/civcexpo2019>

If you would like to get up-to-the minute news on this initiative, subscribe:

<http://bit.ly/CivicSCCPOD>



## District Highlights

### Campbell Union School District

#### Students Learn Critical Cyber Skills

Savvy cyber use and digital citizenship are the focus of an afterschool partnership between Campbell Union School District and San Jose State.

“More students than ever have daily access to computers and the internet,” said Superintendent Shelly Viramontez. “Teaching them to think more about how they’re engaging with technology is a crucial life skill that [SJSU Cyber Spartans](#) enhance and extend into the afterschool hours.”

In March, using a new curriculum that the university students created, SJSU Cyber Spartans co-edited mentored Sherman Oaks students in grades 4–6. The lessons cover coding, cyber security, and digital citizenship, and advice about education, careers and key skills for success from guest cyber security professionals from [Cisco Systems](#).



### East Side Union High School District

#### ESUHSD Wins Big at Synopsys Silicon Valley Science & Technology

ESUHSD students took home big wins at the Synopsys Silicon Valley Science & Technology Championship! These students went above and beyond classroom STEM curricula by designing and conducting their own research projects.

- **Andrew P. Hill High School:** Helen N., Ezequiel P., and Sophia T. earned the GRAND PRIZE - BEST OF CHAMPIONSHIP award in Biological Science and Engineering and will advance to the state & international competitions.
- **Evergreen Valley High School:** Nikita S. won the GRAND PRIZE - BEST OF CHAMPIONSHIP in Physical Science and Engineering and will advance to the state & international competitions.
- **Santa Teresa High School:** Govind P., Marek P., Nitish R. awarded the GRAND PRIZE - BEST OF CHAMPIONSHIP in Physical Science & Engineering and will advance to the state & international competitions.
- **Silver Creek High School:** Philip K. won 2nd award in Physical Science & Engineering.

Students competing at the state level will be presenting at the California Science & Engineering Fair on April 29-30. Students invited to the Intel International Science & Engineering Fair will present on May 16.



### Milpitas Unified School District

#### More than 250 MUSD students participate in STEAM Showcase

by Karen Muska, MUSD Ed Tech Specialist

The MUSD STEAM Showcase, held on March 9, was a tremendous success! This event highlighted and celebrated our students' journeys and their accomplishments in STEAM, which is the integration of Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Mathematics.

We were overwhelmed by the quality of the projects and presentations and the number of participants and guests. This was not only the largest STEAM Showcase we have had, with over 100 projects and more than 250 students and lead teachers, there was also representation from all of our schools and

all grade bands from kindergarteners through seniors in high school. Project topics included robotics, energy, 3D design and printing, arcade games built using math concepts and the engineering design process, pendulums and catapults, coding/programming, the science and math in art, space, wearable technology, and even Zombies!

***Read the full article and view more pictures. [Watch a video of the event.](#)***

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SCCSBA

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