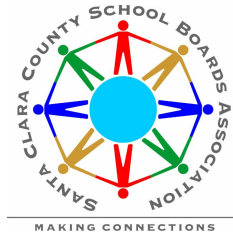
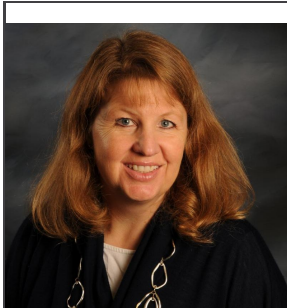


Have a happy and safe holiday season



## SCCSBA December 2020 Newsletter

[Visit our Website](#)



### President's Message - by Fiona Walter

Hello SCCSBA Family,

I write this the morning after a board meeting that ended at 1:15 AM. I'm sure all of you can relate. Wishing you shorter meetings than MVLA's! (I'm truly grateful for our team – even in the wee hours of the morning!)

There's lots going on with SCCSBA in the coming months, so please watch the Friday emails closely. There are two webinars co-sponsored with SCCOE, an added guest speaker in March (linked to time with Dr. Dewan), (virtual) Legislative Action Day, new board member training, and of course our monthly evening meetings on top of our updates with Dr. Dewan – plenty of ways to connect.

If you have a new board member on your board, please encourage them to join us at any or all of our gatherings. We'd love to say hello. The New Board Member Training is on Jan 23<sup>rd</sup> (other dates in Bonnie's calendar below) and will include board and superintendent panels, Brown Act, and Supervisor Joe Simitian as our keynote. If you're interested in being a mentor to any of these 28 new folks, please let me know. We'd like to have a list of seated board members ready to share that they can call/email with questions. Many thanks!

I hope that you all find some well-earned time away from the world of school board in the coming weeks. Thank you for all you do and to your families for sharing you with us.

Happy Holidays!

Fiona

### Hoffmann Awards - Seeking Student Performers

Thanks to all the districts who submitted Hoffmann Award Applications! It is great to see all the wonderful programs at our school districts.

#### Student performers for Hoffman Awards Dinner sought

We're seeking student entertainers for the Hoffmann Dinner on April 28, 2021. Student entertainers

should be a small orchestra, instrumental group, or choir who can perform for about 15-20 minutes either in person or by zoom. Please send us a description and/or video clip of the group of performers from your district you'd like us to consider. This is their opportunity to shine!

The video clips or applications for entertainers should be sent to Bonnie Mace (execdirector@sccsba.org).

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## **December 17 - SCCSBA Zoom Meeting Featuring County Superintendent Dr. Dewan**

On December 17, we will hold a zoom meeting with County Superintendent Dr. Dewan. It will be held from 3:00-4:00 p.m. This will be our last zoom meeting for the calendar year, and we will resume with our virtual meetings in January of 2021. All trustees are welcome to attend this meeting, and Executive Director Bonnie Mace will send all trustees the zoom link and calendar invitation. We especially encourage new trustees to attend these ongoing meetings with our County Superintendent.

Many thanks to Dr. Dewan for taking the time to hold bi-weekly meetings with our members throughout 2020.

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## **SCCSBA Zoom Meetings with County Superintendent Dr. Dewan for January, February and March 2021**

Because these meetings have been so popular among trustees, we have scheduled zoom meetings with County Superintendent Dr. Dewan in January, February and March of 2021. Additional meetings in April, May and June will be scheduled later. Please check your email for calendar invitations and the zoom links.

**January 14 from 2:30-3:30 p.m.**

**February 11 from 3:00-4:00 p.m.**

**March 4 from 9:30-10:30 a.m.**

This meeting will also feature special guest Dr. Lisa Kaufman, the former director of Educare who currently lives in Norway and will be coming to us live from Norway with information about the Norwegian education system under COVID.

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## **CSBA's Delegate Assembly Call for Nominations and Appointments for 2021-23 Term**

CSBA's Delegate Assembly (DA) is a vital link in the association's governance structure. Working with local districts, county offices of education, the Board of Directors, and the Executive Committee, Delegates ensure that the association reflects the interests of school districts and county offices of education throughout California. Members of the Delegate Assembly are elected or appointed by local board members in 21 geographic regions throughout the state. There are two meetings each year, one in May and one immediately preceding the Association's Annual Education Conference.

Nomination, appointment, and biographical sketch forms for CSBA's Delegate Assembly are being accepted until Thursday, January 7, 2021. It is the responsibility of the nominee to confirm that all nomination materials have been received by the CSBA Executive Office by the due date. Late submissions cannot be accepted. Ballots will be sent to districts and county offices of education by February 1, 2021 and are due to CSBA by March 15, 2021. Delegates will serve two-year terms beginning April 1, 2021 through March 31, 2023.

More info at [www.csba.org](http://www.csba.org).

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## **SCCSBA Calendar of Events/Meetings for 2020-2021**

**New Board Member Zoom Training, Saturday January 23, 2021, 10:00 a.m. until Noon**

**SCCSBA January 27, 2021 Zoom Meeting, 7:30-9:00 p.m.  
Candidate Presentations for CSBA Delegate Assembly  
Speaker: Dr. Mary Ann Dewan, SCCOE Superintendent**

**SCCSBA February 24, 2021 Zoom Meeting, 7:30-9:00 p.m.**

**Nomination of Officers**

**Speaker: Dr. Anna Waring, Senior Program Director, Haas Center for Public Service**

**Topic: Equity in Education**

**Annual SCCSBA Legislative Brunch – Saturday, March 6, 2021**

**(This will be a Zoom or an In-Person Event depending on COVID conditions.)**

**SCCSBA March 24, 2021 Zoom Meeting, 7:30-9:00 p.m.**

**Election of Officers**

**Topics: Distance Learning from a National Perspective**

**Spring Hoffmann Awards Event, April 28, 2021, 6:00-9:00 p.m.**

**(This will be a Zoom or an In-Person Event depending on COVID conditions.)**

**Annual “Passing the Gavel” Dinner for Officers, Delegates and District Reps, May 26, 2021, 6:00-8:00 p.m.**

**(This will be a Zoom or an In-Person Event depending on COVID conditions.)**



## **From our CSBA Region 20 Representative Marty Fatooh**

**Save the Date- 2/1/21: CSBA Region’s 5 and 20 General Membership Meeting. Time and Agenda will be sent out to everyone soon.**

Hon. Trustees,

This Holiday Season, there is so much to be grateful for amongst these crazy, challenging, and ever-changing times. Elected school board members and the challenging work that you face daily in your local communities goes many times

unsung and far too often we have seen ambitious politicians, pundits, and other “experts” be critical of the work that you have been entrusted by the citizenry to carry out. Please know that it is an honor and a pleasure to work with you all and I am eagerly looking forward to what we can accomplish together for the kids in the New Year.

A special thank you to our departing CSBA Region 20 Delegates, Melissa Baten-Caswell (Palo Alto Unified), Reid Myers (Sunnyvale), and Bonnie Mace (Evergreen)! Although my time working with you in your capacity as delegates was short, I appreciate all the work that you do individually and the support you have given me as someone new to K-12 education.

Thank you to everyone who attended this year’s Annual Education Conference, New Trustee Training, and Delegate Assembly earlier this month! Although this year’s conference was quite different from those in year’s past, I hope that everyone was able to get the most out of the general and individual sessions. The student Mariachi band from Fresno really got us in the groove for Day 1! All the breakout sessions will be available for your viewing by simply using your AEC login credentials and please reach out if you need any assistance with viewing the sessions which will be available until mid-January 2021. Looking forward to seeing all of you in person (hopefully) in sunny San Diego at AEC 2021!

As you are aware, a lot is going on around education as the Legislature opened the new session. One of my goals to help our region will be to build even stronger relationships with our legislators, especially our newly electeds. In the past few months, myself, Albert, and some of our delegates have made rounds and if you are interested in joining us, please let me know how we can help. With new restrictions, a vaccine, and a mandate coming from many of our elected officials to reopen schools, the fight for local control and funding is top priority for all of us. This month, thanks to the leadership and swift action of the SCCSBA Legislative Action Committee, we called on Dr. Ghaly (Health Czar) and Governor Newsom to designate teachers and critical support staff as Frontline Workers, which would place them in Phase’s 1 and 2 of the vaccination distribution process. The action taken by this newly formed committee was done with rapid pace and I look forward to continuing to work with Chairperson Horner and committee members on many upcoming advocacy initiatives.

Thank you for your service, stay safe, and Happy Holiday’s to you and yours,  
Marty Fatooh ([mfatooh@csba.org](mailto:mfatooh@csba.org))

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## **Santa Clara County Office of Education Spotlight**

### **The ArtsEdConnect Program**

SVCcreates ArtsEdConnect grants are now accepting applications. Santa Clara County educators can apply for the ArtsEdConnect program grants to support and encourage arts education in schools.

Grants can be used for arts-related materials for education, including but not limited to performances, virtual museum visits, and artist interactions.

The application deadline is January 4, 2021. Grant recipients can use funding through December 2021. To apply click [here](#).

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## School District Highlights

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### Santa Clara Unified School District

We are excited to share that Abram Agnew Elementary School and Dolores Huerta Middle School will open in the north San Jose area of Santa Clara Unified School District in August 2021 and serve as public neighborhood schools. The founding principals are meeting with their parent communities and prospective staff over the next two months to share their vision for the new schools and begin to hire staff. Kathleen Mac Donald High School is set to open its doors to students in August 2022. All three schools are being built on the historic Agnews Developmental Center site.

**From Principal Shehnaz Wadhwania:** Abram Agnew Elementary School will open with grades kindergarten through second grade; a new grade will be added each year as the students progress to the next grade level. Our school is being built on the historic site of Agnews Developmental Center and is named after Abram Agnew who settled in the Santa Clara Valley in 1873 and was an esteemed member of the community. Our brand new campus will include shared collaboration spaces, outdoor learning spaces, flexible furniture, a makerspace, a library/media center, play yards, and an outdoor amphitheater. We will work closely with the middle school and future high school that share our campus to help support our students throughout their education with Santa Clara Unified. View: [Agnew Elementary Construction Webcam](#)

**From Principal Dawnel Sonntag:** Dolores Huerta Middle School will open with the 6th grade; a new grade will be added each year as the students progress to the next grade level. Our school is being built on the historic site of Agnews Developmental Center and is named after Dolores Huerta, who is an influential activist and labor leader. Our brand new campus will include shared collaboration spaces, outdoor learning spaces, flexible furniture, a design lab, a library/media center, gathering spaces and an outdoor amphitheater. We will work closely with the elementary school and future high school that share our campus to help support our students throughout their education with Santa Clara Unified. View: [Huerta Middle School Construction Webcam](#)

More information can be found on their newly launched websites: [Agnew Elementary School](#) and [Huerta Middle School](#)



### Milpitas Unified School District

#### Chris Norwood Honored as CSBA State Board Member of the Year

A contingent of former school board members joined current trustees and MUSD team members in congratulating Board Vice President Chris Norwood on his selection as the California School Boards Association's State Board Member of the Year.

"We all share this award together," said the 2020 CSBA Golden Gavel recipient. "I am grateful that we have this moment of celebration in these uncertain times, and I can give thanks to all of you in the midst of what we're going through together. Together, we will continue to do what's best for MUSD, the students, and the families we serve."

Norwood, a Milpitas High School alumnus who joined the MUSD Board in 2014 and served as its president in 2019, was chosen among nearly 5,000 school board members making up 977 school boards throughout the state.

"We all know Chris and that he is a strong advocate for kids in the community, especially in Milpitas and MUSD," said Superintendent Cheryl Jordan. "His sense of 'We' and investment in building on the greatness that is Milpitas is quite evident in what he does."

Former school board members Marsha Grilli, Bob Nuñez, Robert Jung, Dan Bobay, Gwan Alisantosa and Michael Mendizabal attended the November 24 virtual meeting to share in the moment with Norwood—who recognized each of them for the roles they played in his governance.

The CSBA Golden Gavel is awarded to an individual school board member who exemplifies best practices in effective governance and boardsmanship. The recipient is also inducted into the Golden Gavel Hall of Fame.

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### **Morgan Hill Unified School District**

MHUSD implemented an opt-in Early Return Pilot Program for staff and students in November. This program is a live instruction, hybrid model where students in the classroom are taught concurrently with the rest of the class at home via distance learning.

There are also CONNECTIVITY HUBS where approved students come on to campus to attend their classes virtually, and SMALL GROUP SUPPORTS, groups who are approved to come on to campus to receive additional instructional or social-emotional support.

MHUSD continues to enhance classrooms and procedures for the safety of students and staff. Distance learning remains an option for those not ready to return to campus.

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### **Cambrian School District**

This year the Cambrian Educational Foundation is hosting its inaugural district-wide Read-a-Thon, raising funds for much-needed mental health resources.

Hundreds of students in the District joined this "Fun-Raising" event, celebrating childhood literacy inspiring school spirit and healthy inter-school competition, and raising funds to support the Cambrian School District's mental health initiative.

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SCCSBA

[www.sccoe.org/sccsba](http://www.sccoe.org/sccsba)  
[execdirector@sccsba.org](mailto:execdirector@sccsba.org)

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