



SCCSBA February 2020 Newsletter

Visit our Website



President's Message - by Melissa Baten Caswell

The March 3 elections are coming up. Note that in addition to all the local parcel tax and bond initiatives that SCCSBA has voted to endorse, there is also a \$15B state school bond initiative on the ballot.

February 26, at our regular meeting, Greg Dannis, Principal from the law firm DWK, will present his legal perspective on best board practices. Greg looks through many lenses at the same time. He is a parent, education lawyer, and a seasoned school board member. Bring your questions.

Saturday March 7 is the date for the Annual SCCSBA Legislative Brunch (9am to 12 noon). (See more info in the next article.)

On Tuesday, March 17, School Board members from across the state will gather at the Capitol for Legislative Action Day. Come join us and meet with members of the California Legislature and their staffs to discuss how decisions being made in Sacramento about public education affect your local schools, students and families. CSBA staff will schedule advocacy meetings for all participants and provide talking points and advocacy tips . [RSVP Link](#)

Many districts have received letters from County Assessor Larry Stone asking to speak to school board members about the Schools and Local Communities Funding Act Measure. In response, at the last Board meeting, SCCSBA members voted to invite Larry to speak at an upcoming SCCSBA meeting. Larry is now scheduled to speak at our March 25 meeting. (Anna Waring, our originally scheduled speaker for that meeting, had a schedule conflict so she will speak to us at a future meeting.)

Finally, coming soon are sign-ups for the Hoffman Awards Ceremony Dinner on April 22. Make sure to mark your calendars. We have some amazing awardees! I was particularly inspired after having the honor of going on a Hoffman award validation visit last week! We are very lucky to have so many amazing programs serving our public-school students in this county!

SCCSBA Legislative Brunch - Saturday, March 7

You won't want to miss the annual SCCSBA Legislative Brunch on Saturday March 7th, 9am to 12 noon. We have an information-packed schedule including over 10 of our local legislators- with questions moderated by John Fensterwald.

We have a special guest joining us this year, Arun Ramanathan. Arun is CEO of Pivot Learning which works with high-needs districts across the country to implement solutions to their greatest challenges to achieve educational justice. He will offer us some insight and best practices.

Come early and grab a plate of delicious breakfast prepared by MetroEd students. [Rsvp Here](#).



SCCSBA Networking Lunch - Friday, March 6

Our next SCCSBA Networking Lunch will be held on from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on **Friday, March 6 at Country Gourmet (1314 S. Mary Avenue, Sunnyvale)**.

All trustees are welcome to attend. It's a great way to learn about what's happening in other districts across the county!

Here's the rest of the lunch schedule:

Friday, April 3, Aqui (10630 South De Anza Blvd, Cupertino)

Friday, May 1, OPA! (276 E Campbell Ave, Campbell)

Friday, June 5, Country Gourmet (1314 S. Mary Avenue, Sunnyvale)



Twenty-One Santa Clara County Schools listed as California Distinguished Schools

The California Department of Education recently recognized 21 Santa Clara County elementary schools as 2020 California Distinguished Schools.

This program recognizes outstanding educational programs and practices that contribute to closing the achievement gap and assisting students in achieving at high levels.

"We are delighted that so many of our local schools have received this honor," stated County Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Mary Ann Dewan. "These exemplary educational programs are providing the support necessary for students. We are particularly inspired and encouraged by the impact that these schools are having on the children and youth in their communities."

"We recognize that this achievement is through the efforts of schools, communities, and families in partnership. Distinguished School award winners represent not only excellent teaching, learning, and collaboration, but also highly effective school climate efforts ranging from real-time conflict resolution to positive behavior intervention, for example."

"Programs like the California Distinguished School Awards allow our county an opportunity to collaborate for excellence and celebrate the accomplishments of some of the remarkable schools in our county. As educators, we are all members of one community, and together we can learn from one another and share innovative practices that help us achieve our vision transforming education within the county through leadership, service, and advocacy," added Dewan.

The Santa Clara County schools being honored are:

Campbell Union, Castlemont Elementary
Campbell Union, Village School
Cupertino Union, West Valley Elementary
Cupertino Union, William Faria Elementary
Evergreen Elementary, Cadwallader Elementary
Evergreen Elementary, Silver Oak Elementary
Franklin-McKinley Elementary, Jeanne R. Meadows Elementary
Franklin-McKinley Elementary, Ramblewood Elementary
Franklin-McKinley Elementary, Rocketship Mosaic Elementary
Franklin-McKinley Elementary, Rocketship Spark Academy

Gilroy Unified, Gilroy Prep (a Navigator School)
Los Altos Elementary, Oak Avenue Elementary
Milpitas Unified, Alexander Rose Elementary
Milpitas Unified, Curtner Elementary
Morgan Hill Unified, Charter School of Morgan Hill
Mountain View Whisman, Gabriela Mistral Elementary
Mountain View Whisman, Stevenson Elementary
San Jose Unified, Graystone Elementary
Santa Clara County Office of Education, Rocketship Fuerza Community Prep
Santa Clara Unified, Millikin Elementary
Sunnyvale, Cumberland Elementary

We wish the best of luck to all the school districts who have bonds or parcel taxes on the March 3 ballot. The SCCSBA passed a resolution last month in support of all the upcoming bond and parcel tax measures.

SCCSBA Calendar of Events

Wednesday, February 26, 2020 (7:30-9:00 PM, Cupertino Room, Santa Clara County Office of Education)

SCCSBA Monthly Meeting

Guest Speaker: Greg Dannis, DWK Legal Firm

Topic: Best Board Practices from a Legal Perspective

Saturday, March 7, 2020 (8:30 AM to Noon, MetroED)

Annual SCCSBA Legislative Brunch

Wednesday, March 25, 2020 (7:30-9:00 PM, Cupertino Room, Santa Clara County Office of Education)

SCCSBA Monthly Meeting

Guest Speaker: Larry Stone, County Assessor

Topic: Schools and Local Communities Funding Measure

Wednesday, April 22, 2020 (6:00-9:00 PM, Michaels Restaurant at Shoreline, Mountain View)

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)

Election to CSBA Delegate Assembly

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 the state. 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.

Ballots for this year's Delegate Assembly Election were mailed to school districts and county offices of education in subregions that have elections by February 1, 2020.

[Click here](#) to view all candidates seeking election or re-election.

[Click here](#) to view a list of all current CSBA Delegates.

Completed ballots should be returned to CSBA and must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service no later than Monday, March 16, 2020 to be valid. Election results will be posted by April 1, 2020. Delegates will serve two-year terms beginning April 1, 2020 through March 31, 2022.

All new and re-elected delegates are eligible to attend the May 16-17 Delegate Assembly meeting in

School District Highlights



Cambrian School District

Price Girls Basketball Champs

This season, Ida Price Middle School's 6th grade girls' basketball team went undefeated and won the League Championship. Coached by Randy Drake, the girls "had an amazing season. Teamwork, effort, resilience, and being positive, supportive teammates helped them," Drake said. Bravo girls!

Congratulations on your achievement!

Milpitas Unified School District

Two Milpitas USD elementary schools selected as 2020 Calif. Distinguished Schools

Alexander Rose Elementary School and Curtner Elementary School were two of only 21 elementary schools within Santa Clara County to be recognized as 2020 California Distinguished Schools by the California Department of Education.

The Distinguished School Awards Program recognizes outstanding education programs and practices. Schools are awarded for closing the achievement gap and for achieving exceptional student performance. This year, there were 324 elementary schools throughout the state to achieve the Distinguished School designation.

Rose Principal Nanci Pass and Curtner Principal Maria Hartman-Hernandez, along with their respective school communities, were honored at the January 28, 2020 MUSD Board of Education meeting. Additionally, both schools will be honored by the Santa Clara County Office of Education and the State this month.



San José Unified School District

San José Unified's Abraham Lincoln High School Students Win Awards in SkillsUSA Competition

Abraham Lincoln High School's SkillsUSA contestants recently placed in the Region 1 SkillsUSA Conference and Competition held Jan 18, 2020 in San José. The winners will now advance to the state competition. In addition, San José Unified's Meilyn Wong, SkillsUSA CA President and Lincoln High School student, will be leading the State Conference in Ontario April 2020 with over 4,000 people in attendance. Shout outs to: Jesigga Sigurdardottir (20 Second Speech-Gold); Sunamawit Yimer and Carlos Fuentes (Cybersecurity-Silver), and Priyanka Prasad (Extemporaneous Speaking-Silver). SkillsUSA is a national nonprofit organization serving middle school, high school, and college students who are preparing for careers in trade, technical, and skilled service occupations.

Metropolitan Education District

Metropolitan Education District Superintendent Alyssa Lynch attended the California State Assembly to advocate for Career



Technical Education funding. The State Assembly was holding a hearing on K-12 CTE funding sources and options. Superintendent Lynch made the case that CTE Centers should be remembered in the funding equation, specifically as it pertains to how California's school funding law (the Local Control Funding Formula) affects Career Technical Education.

Watch the video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q7GDh6RjZTU>

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

STAY CONNECTED

