



SCCSBA January 2019 Newsletter

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President's Message - by Ellen Wheeler

Rev It Up

Experienced school board members know that this time of year is when we “rev up” our activities and involvement, with no letting up until June. So, fasten your seat belts and take some deep breaths. What specifically am I talking about?

1. On Saturday, January 12th, we hosted approximately 40 excited brand new school board members at our county office for our “New Board Member Training.” (Remember when you were brand new and how thirsty you were for information and companionship? We stepped in to help.) Thank you to all the speakers and panelists who appeared throughout that very full morning. They were: Superintendents Polly Bove (Fremont Union High SD), Debbie Flores (Gilroy Unified SD), and Mary Ann Dewan (Santa Clara County Office of Education); Trustees David Cohen (Berryessa SD), Albert Gonzalez (Santa Clara Unified SD), Reid Meyers (Sunnyvale SD), Chris Norwood (Milpitas Unified SD), and George Sanchez (Franklin-McKinley SD); Speakers Santa Clara County Supervisor and retired California assemblymember and senator, Joe Simitian, Camille Townsend, JD, and a bonus presentation by Dr. Mary Ann Dewan, Superintendent of Santa Clara County Office of Education. Bonnie and Albert also spoke to how SCCSBA and CSBA can help us all. Many thanks are due to Bonnie Mace, our SCCSBA Executive Director, for helping me put this forum together.

2. Hoffmann Award readers were busy in December and January reading a record 18 excellent applications from school districts all around our county. Our committee will meet before the January SCCSBA meeting to examine the final application scores and determine the finalists. Next up after that is pairs of validators fanning out, visiting the programs of the finalists to determine that their programs are, indeed, worthy of one of this year's Hoffmann Awards. This culminates in our premiere spring event – the Hoffmann Awards Dinner on April 24. (This is your advance notice to mark your calendars now.) Big thanks are due to our Hoffmann Awards chairperson, Hugo Jimenez of Berryessa SD and Bonnie Mace, our intrepid SCCSBA Executive Director.

3. We still have three excellent speakers to go in our school year calendar of SCCSBA meetings. This month we have the classic annual “State of the County Schools” presentation by our county superintendent, Dr. Mary Ann Dewan.

4. And, it's already the time of year for elections for our brand new contingent of CSBA Delegate Assembly Members. Some of you will be answering the call for nominations, and we'll provide time for you to make your case at our January SCCSBA meeting.

SCCSBA Calendar of Events and Activities for January-June 2019

Wednesday, January 23, 2019 - SCCSBA Monthly Meeting at SCCOE, 7:30-9:00 p.m. (Topic: State of the County - Schools and Education, Guest Speaker: Dr. Mary Ann Dewan, County Superintendent)

Wednesday, February 27, 2019 - SCCSBA Monthly Meeting at SCCOE, 7:30-9:00 p.m. (Topic: Career Technical Education - New Trends and Opportunities)

Saturday, March 2, 2019 - SCCSBA Legislative Brunch at MetroEd, 8:30 AM-Noon.

Wednesday, March 27, 2019 - SCCSBA Monthly Meeting at SCCOE, 7:30-9:00 p.m. (Topic: Early Learning featuring Guest Speaker Ted Lempert, Children Now)

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, Hong Fu Restaurant, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

SCCSBA Meeting January 23 Topic: State of the County - Schools and Education

Please join us for our first SCCSBA meeting of the new year on Wednesday, January 23. The special topic is: "The State of the County - Schools and Education", featuring our County Superintendent Dr. Mary Ann Dewan. All trustees are welcome.

Next SCCSBA Friday Lunch - February 1

Our next SCCSBA Friday Lunch will be held at **Sweet Tomatoes** on February 1. The address is 625 Coleman Avenue, San Jose. 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. We had a great turnout at our January Lunch, and thanks especially to the new board members who participated.

Upcoming SCCSBA Friday Lunches

Friday, February 1, 2019 - Sweet Tomatoes (625 Coleman Ave, San Jose)

Friday, March 1, 2019 - Panera Bread (1706 Oakland Rd, San Jose)

Friday, April 5, 2019- Country Gourmet (1314 South Mary Avenue, Sunnyvale)

Friday, May 3, 2019 - OPAI (276 E Campbell Ave, Campbell)

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

SCCSBA Legislative Brunch - Saturday, March 2 at MetroEd

You are all cordially invited to our Annual Legislative Brunch, which will be held on Saturday, March 2 from 8:30 a.m. until Noon at MetroEd. The cost per person is \$30. Our thanks to Trustee Pattie Cortese for organizing this event.

Here is the link to register: <https://legislativebrunch2019.eventbrite.com>

This is a highlight event for our year, and a great opportunity to hear from your state and county legislators and to ask questions.

CSBA Spotlight

[Newsom proposes \\$144 billion California budget with focus on education, building reserves](#)

-Sammy Caiola, Ben Adler, Chris Nichols, Capitol Public Radio



Gov. Gavin Newsom proposed a \$144 billion general fund spending plan in his first budget, a 4 percent increase. It follows former Gov. Jerry Brown's pattern of socking away billions of dollars in reserves while making large investments in early childhood development, K-12 and higher education, health care and emergency readiness. Part of that would be an extra \$3 billion contribution to CalSTRS — the state teachers' retirement system — on behalf of school districts. That's in addition to the state's own contribution to the fund. "We're really encouraged by what the governor said about that, about helping us out,

because it was encroaching on our general fund," said Dr. Emma Turner president of the California School Boards Association. "And that just takes away from what kids need in order to learn."



[CSBA Blog: What the \\$3 billion CalSTRS proposal in the 2019-20 budget means for local schools](#)

About 20 minutes into last week's marathon budget press conference, Gov. Gavin Newsom began discussing the issue of pension cost increases – and was kind enough to name-drop California school board members and CSBA in the process. Watch a clip of Gov.

Newsom discussing pension relief (Jan. 10, 2019) ... ([Read More](#))

Santa Clara County Office of Education Spotlight

April is National Bilingual/Multilingual Learner Advocacy Month

School districts are invited to celebrate the rich cultural and language assets of our diverse county. This month-long celebration will include school tours open to school board members, educators, parents, and community members. [Learn about](#) the bilingual/multilingual programs throughout the county.

SCCOE will also host a student art contest. Students can submit artwork that embodies the 2019 theme of "Celebrating Language and Culture."

Advocacy efforts or programs will be presented by school and district teams at a culminating showcase, honoring students, champions of bilingual/multilingual learners and their programs on April 25, 4 to 7 p.m. at the Santa Clara County Office of Education.

We highly encourage including student and parent participation. Please encourage your staff, parents, and students to [apply](#) by February 15.

Call (408) 453-4345 or click [here](#) for information.



Moreland School District

Easterbrook Discovery & Moreland Middle Student Musicians Selected for Regional & State Honors

Four Moreland Middle School (MMS) students have been selected to be musicians in the regional California Music Educators Association (CMEA) ensembles, performing this month at the CMEA Bay Section Winter Conference at San Jose State University. In addition, three Easterbrook Discovery Middle School (EDMS) students and four MMS students were selected from musicians throughout the State of California to be part of the Junior High All-State Honor Ensembles that will perform at the CMEA All-State Music Education Conference, taking place in Fresno in February. Thanks to the exemplary talents of Moreland students and teachers, Moreland annually receives music awards and honors while competing in festivals and concerts throughout the state.

On a separate note, the Moreland community would like to thank all Santa Clara County School Board Members for the work they do for our region's students! Happy National Board Recognition Month.

Gilroy Unified School District

Eliot Elementary School in Gilroy Unified School District receives a tremendous amount of community support for their underserved student population. On Wednesday, January 16, the script was flipped as the Eliot Student Council presented donations to Vicky Martin, Director of Community Engagement for St. Joseph's Family Center. St. Joseph's Family Center provides a number of services and opportunities for the most vulnerable people and families in Gilroy. Eliot Principal, Patricia Pelino, shared that while the Eliot community continues to be grateful for the tremendous support bestowed on their students, it's important that her students also give to the community that has given them so much. Student Council members were thrilled to present basic hygiene products to St. Joseph's Family Center as a way of paying it forward.



Milpitas Unified School District



Trustees approve painting, paving as first of Bond Measure AA projects this summer

With the passage of the \$284 million Bond Measure AA in the November election, Wendy Zhang, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, said Milpitas Unified School District staff is ready to kick off the first of many facilities projects this summer. At the January 8 meeting, Trustees passed two action items that came forward in preparation for the work.

The first was to approve Pavement Engineering, Inc. (PEI) for the 2019 summer paving project at the Maintenance, Operations, and Transportation site; Pomeroy, Rose, and Sinnott elementary schools; and Thomas Russell Middle School. Troy Sisneros, Senior Engineering Technician and Principal for PEI, introduced himself during the meeting to Trustees and shared an overview of the company, which the District has worked with before, and the potential timeline.

Read the [full article here](#).

Campbell Union High School District



CUHSD's Emotional Winter Wishes Tradition Captures Hearts and the Attention of Local Media

Written By Allira Bellawala and Michaela Edin, CUHSD Communication interns

Friday, December 7, Westmont and Branham High Schools continued the tradition of spreading tidings of joy at this year's Winter Wishes assemblies. Each year students across Campbell Union High School District send in wishes they hope their school's Associated Student Body (ASB) will grant.

The wishes included small gifts like gift cards to larger gifts like plane tickets and laptops. While the bigger wishes are granted at a school rally, smaller ones are delivered periodically throughout the week.

With donations from companies and individuals across the community, each school's ASB pulled off surprises for this year's rallies.

"It was the best Winter Wishes yet. [Winter Wishes] has always been my favorite assembly, and I'm glad my last one was so touching," said Westmont High School Senior Nanar Boursalian.

Among the gifts at Branham High School, one student received financial help because of her health struggles that put a strain on her family.

The faculty wasn't forgotten during this year's Winter Wishes. Many students put their wishes aside to recognize their teachers. One Westmont High School art teacher and expectant mother, received

diapers, baby supplies, gift cards and more from students.

“The whole thing was kind of surreal. I honestly was taken back by how much ASB did,” said Westmont High School student Siddiqui Manaal.

NBC Bay Area's Garvin Thomas featured the Winter Wishes event in his Bay Area Proud segment. View the full story [here](#).

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