



SCCSBA March 2018 Newsletter

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President's Message - by Jodi Muirhead

What is the one thing you would have your State Senator change to improve outcomes for the students in our schools? Would your Assemblymember help to improve our classrooms? Several Santa Clara County school board members descended on Sacramento recently to participate in CSBA's Legislative Action Day to advocate for the needs of school districts. CSBA does a great job arranging the meetings with the legislators and giving participants plenty of information to advocate with purpose. I met with two Senators, two Assemblymembers and an aide for another Assemblyman, resulting in a very productive day of talking about how to improve our schools.

Funding for our schools was key to the day, both to help us get to the national average (and higher) of spending per pupil and to help reduce the overwhelming consequence high pension payments have had on our districts. We were also asking legislators to work with the Governor to sell more bonds for school facilities, as only a fraction of the bonds have been sold so far and there are millions of dollars worth of projects that need funding. Changes don't happen the next day, but expressing our views is one step in the process. Join us next year!

We had an excellent and timely presentation on student trauma at our last meeting, learning about the impact it has on both the child and the larger school system. If you didn't make it, the slides were emailed out after the meeting. This month, we will be having another interesting talk, this time on county-wide student demographics. Most school boards get presentations on the changes within their own district, but this is a chance to see how your district has similar or different trends from other districts. Who's getting bigger and who's shrinking? Where will we be in a few years and how might that affect your district? We will also be having elections for our association officers for next year. See you on March 28th.

March 28 SCCSBA Meeting - Demographic Trends and Their Effect on Santa Clara County School Districts

Join us for our next monthly meeting on Wednesday, March 28. Our guest speaker is Tom Williams, a partner and principal demographer in Enrollment Projection Consultants (EPC). Mr. Williams will be discussing birth and student data across the county, focusing especially on how this will affect school districts. It's a really hot topic for all districts.

All trustees are invited to attend.

Oak Grove Room, SCCOE, 7:30-9 p.m. Networking will be held from 7-7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 25 - Hoffmann Awards Dinner

The Santa Clara County School Boards Association (SCCSBA) is delighted to announce the 2018 winners of its prestigious Glenn W. Hoffmann Awards, a 33-year tradition that celebrates school and school district programs that significantly impact student success in our region.

We invite all Superintendents and School Board Trustees to attend our Hoffmann Awards Dinner Celebration on April 25 at David's Restaurant in Santa Clara. The Kristi Porter Award will be announced at the Dinner.

To register, please visit <https://april25hoffmanndinner.eventbrite.com>

The event is sponsored by Engie Services, Santa Clara and San Benito Counties Building and Construction Trades Council and the Santa Clara County Office of Education.

Here are the 2018 Hoffmann Award winning programs below (in alphabetical order by district):

Full STEAM Ahead: Future Engineers - Ryan STEAM Academy - Alum Rock Union School District

Attendance Improvement Program - Campbell Union School District

The Skillful Teacher- Fremont Union High School District

Pathways, Exposure, Academic Connection, Knowledge Program (PEAK) - Mountain View and Los Altos High Schools - Mountain View Los Altos High School District

Save the Dates for SCCSBA Meetings and Events for 2018

Wednesday, April 25, 2018 - SCCSBA Hoffmann Awards Dinner, David's Restaurant, 6-9 p.m.

Wednesday, May 23, 2018 - SCCSBA Officers' Reorganization Dinner, Hong Fu Restaurant, 6:30-8 p.m.

Saturday, June 2018 - Candidates' Workshop, 9 a.m.-Noon

Next SCCSBA Networking Lunch - Friday, April 13

Our next Networking Lunch will be held on **Friday, April 13 at Shoreline Lake American Bistro (3160 North Shoreline Blvd, Mountain View). All trustees are welcome to attend.**

2017-18 Lunch Calendar

Friday, May 11 - Mimi's Cafe (1200 El Paseo de Saratoga, San Jose)

Friday, June 1 - Country Gourmet (1314 S. Mary Avenue, Sunnyvale)



From the Desk of CSBA

[Leadership Institute 2018--Register today!](#)

Registration is now open for the 2018 Leadership Institute: The Science of Leading Students to Success in STEM. Join us at this two-day information-filled event.



Santa Clara County Office of Education Spotlight

At its March 7 meeting, the Santa Clara County Board of Education unanimously passed a resolution advocating for sensible gun safety legislation, opposing efforts to arm educators, and declaring support for the March for Our Lives rally on March 24.

The resolution highlights the epidemic of campus shootings and affirms Board Policy No. 5131.7, Weapons and Dangerous Instruments, that "students and staff have the right to a safe and secure campus free from psychological and physical harm and desires to protect them from the dangers presented by firearms and other weapons."

Since 2013, there have been 291 shootings on elementary, middle, high school and college campuses in the United States which averages to about one per week, and 168 of those shootings were at K-12 schools. In the past five years, 14 school shootings have occurred in California which resulted in 38 injuries and 20 deaths.

"We understand one of our primary responsibilities, in addition to learning, is keeping the students in our care safe. The Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) is working closely with local school districts and law enforcement agencies to strengthen our efforts to do so," said Dr. Mary Ann Dewan, County Superintendent of Schools. "We recently held active shooter and crisis communications trainings for schools as well as completed a school policing report highlighting best practices and policies regarding School Resource Officers."

Dr. Dewan also stated that all California public schools are required to have a comprehensive school safety plan. It is critical that students, staff, and families know their school's safety plan and that emergency drills are conducted. In addition to ensuring physical safety prevention measures, educators also emphasize the importance of positive school climate and culture in prevention. The County Office provides training and support related to school safety, school climate and culture, and student mental health and well-being through its [Safe and Healthy Schools Program](#).



District Highlights

Milpitas Unified School District

Nurturing community while communing with nature by Joyce Tang

On Feb. 12, over 170 Russell Middle School's Team Determination students and staff spent the day in Alum Rock Park of San Jose for their first annual "Nature-Loving, Outdoor-Learning, Community-Serving Field Trip."

San Jose Park Ranger Sergeant Huy Mac spent long hours coordinating with the city of San Jose and the California Native Plants Society, Santa Clara Chapter, to provide them with enough tools and supervising staff. There were hundreds of gloves and neon-yellow vests, along with wheelbarrows, action hoes, weeding hoes, pitchforks, and rakes for the students to use. The two choices of service projects included spreading 60 cubic yard of mulch for the playground and weeding out invasive plants such as milk thistle and poison hemlock at the summit of Todd Quick Trail.

Unplanned surprises included the chance to pet a gopher snake and see turkey vultures, deer, minnows, ladybugs, and a bobcat.

In this era of growing climate change, we must teach environmental literacy and encourage community stewardship through experiences like this. That's what we're doing at Russell. As we partner with local businesses in Silicon Valley that provide high-tech career paths to our students, we acknowledge our duty to protect and preserve the ecosystems, not only for ourselves but also for future generations.

[Read the full story, with more photos, here .](#)



At the February 21 Board meeting, the Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) honored Alum Rock Elementary Union School District (AREUSD) with the 2018 Leadership in Early Care and Education Award. Dr. Hilaria Bauer, AREUSD Superintendent accepted the award.

The school district is a member of the Strong Start Coalition, a group of educators and community partners focused on providing high quality early learning opportunities for students in Santa Clara County. Coalition partners and member districts are working to close the equity access and achievement gap, by acknowledging the importance of early care in education. The Leadership in Early Care and Education Award honors the efforts in creating a prenatal to third-grade health and early learning system plan.

Campbell Union School District

Monroe Middle School Students Earn Top Honors in World Scholars Cup Tournament

A team of Monroe Middle Schoolers won top awards at the World Scholars Cup regional tournament in San Jose this week. In a series of different challenges, the 16 students, mostly 7th and 8th graders and one 5th grader, analyzed, collaborated, tested and debated their way to earn multiple honors, including Top Junior Team and Top Junior Scholar.

The wins have earned most of the students an invitation to one of the three Global Rounds this summer. More than 5,000 scholars from over 50 countries will gather for events in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (June 18 – 23), Barcelona, Spain (July 22-27), or Melbourne, Australia (August 17-21). Top qualifiers in the global rounds are invited to compete at the annual Tournament of Champions at Yale University in the fall.

The World Scholar's Cup is an international team academic program with students participating from over 50 countries. The competition was founded in 2006 "to motivate students of all backgrounds to discover new strengths and practice new skills, and to inspire a global community of future scholars and leaders."

Monroe Middle School is one of 12 public schools in the Campbell Union School District. Located in San Jose, California, Monroe Middle School educates more than 900 students in grades 5 through 8.



Santa Clara Unified School District

On February 10, Wilcox High School hosted the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) Regional Spring meeting with over 130 members from Northern California in attendance. Students from Peterson Middle School, Buchser Middle School, Santa Clara High School, and Wilcox High School all participated in the event.

More than 60 judges from the culinary, fashion, interior design, education, and hospitality industries judged student's projects that they worked for months to complete. We are proud to announce that many of our competitors qualified to move on to the state level! [Read our website article](#) so see a list of the talented students and their area of expertise.

FCCLA Advisor and Fashion Design & Marketing Instructor Mindy Trisko told the Santa Clara Weekly, "The purpose of the Spring Meeting for FCCLA is to give students an opportunity to showcase their skills and training through competitive events in categories such as Fashion, Culinary, Education, Hospitality, and Interior Design. Students will have a chance to receive feedback from industry professionals and learn how to improve their skills so they have a higher chance of getting hired in their chosen industry."

Competing in FCCLA is a fantastic way for Career Technical Education (CTE) students to engage in their learning, meet other peers interested in the same field, and network with industry professionals.

Franklin-McKinley School District

Shirakawa School Honors Community Heroes: 1 Year Anniversary of Rock Springs Flood



A year ago on February 21, 2018, Shirakawa School was shaken by a tragedy that impacted close to 100 students and their families. The Rock Springs Floods left many students and families displaced. It was during this time the school community came together in support of those students and families impacted, raising funds, providing basic resources such as food & clothing, and extending counseling services to those in need. Shirakawa School held a Community Heroes event where parents, students,

staff, and members of the community were recognized for all of their volunteer time, support, and dedication to students and families impacted by the flood.



MetroED

The California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA), a statewide organization that promotes better public understanding, commitment, and support of public education, announced that Metropolitan Education District (MetroED) received four Excellence in Communications Awards. An Award of Merit was awarded for the [Silicon Valley Career Technical Education brochure](#) in the General Publications category. Three Awards of Excellence were awarded

to [K-12 Career Technical Education Again Under Threat](#) in Editorial Writing, [MetroED Annual Report 2017](#) in the Annual Report category, and for [SVCTE.org](#) in the Website category.

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