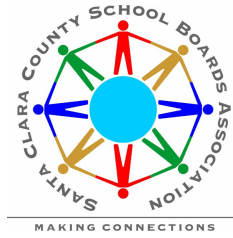


Have a safe and happy summer! See you in August.



SCCSBA June 2022 Newsletter

[Visit our Website](#)



President's Message - by Fiona Walter

Hello, Everyone,

I'm struggling a bit with this newsletter as it's my last one. These have been a tough couple of years for all of us and I'm so grateful for the connections and friendships forged throughout SCCSBA. School board work can feel very lonely and SCCSBA has provided an extended family when we all really needed it.

Thank you so much for my warm send off at the Pass the Gavel dinner. I can't wait to use my gift certificate to The Post. You are very thoughtful to send me somewhere dog-friendly!

Thank you to this year's leadership team – Bridget, Vince, Bonnie, Albert, Marty, Devon. You've been on the clock 24/7 many weeks and this little part-time/volunteer gig took up much more of your worlds than you thought it would. Thank you also to our event chairs – Devon, Carol, Cynthia, Ellen. It was wonderful being back in person again and seeing more than just talking heads on our computer screens. Final thanks go to our Delegate Assembly and Legislative Action Committee members. The 12 DA members recently returned from their meeting in Sacramento – a first in-person meeting for many of them. LAC has their final meeting of the year this week having built upon last year's successes, streamlined processes for communicating with legislators, and identified chairs for two subcommittees. There's so much great work happening in every corner of the organization!

This past weekend was our Candidate Training hosted at the County Office of Education. Forty potential new leaders joined us to better understand the process of a campaign and learn tips-and-tricks from veteran board members. In January we will follow up with our new board member welcome and training. Special thanks to Dr. Dewan for her ongoing partnership with SCCSBA.

Our students have finished their school year and boards are heading into the July break. Some exhaling and recuperation are in order and I hope you find that over the summer.

I'll end with a recommendation. In the fall, when you are re-energized, please consider diving more deeply into SCCSBA. There's a spot for

anyone hoping to get more involved and I guarantee that the people with whom you'll work are amazing, dedicated, smart, and fun. I'm so lucky to work alongside all of you!

All the best,

Fiona



SCCSBA Candidate Workshop Recap

More than 50 people attended our recent SCCSBA Candidate Workshop. Election Specialist Ralph Murrieta spent more than an hour explaining the nuts and bolts of running in this year's General Election, followed by a panel of our experienced school board members - Stacey Brown, Jodi Muirhead, Vaishali Sirkay, David Guidry, Fiona Walter. Thanks to County Superintendent Dr. Mary Ann Dewan and SCCOE for hosting the event. A special thanks to Chair Ellen Wheeler and Co-Chair Isabel Jubes-Flamerich for coordinating

our Candidate Workshop.

If you missed the event and would like a copy of the Registrar of Voters' powerpoint presentation, please contact Executive Director Bonnie Mace (execdirector@sccsba.org). Good luck to all candidates! We will be holding our New Board Members Training in January of 2023, after the election.

We wish everyone a safe and healthy summer vacation. The newsletter will take a short break in July and return in August. Thanks for all that you do on behalf of students in Santa Clara County!

From Our CSBA Regional Representative Marty Fatooh

Trustees and Superintendents, Congratulations on a productive school year 2021-22! Although this year has been yet another challenge in this brave new world, we have once again seen our elected school board members, superintendents, teachers, support staff, and parents rise to the occasion, creating safe and inclusive learning environments for kids throughout the County.

As we head into the Summer, I wanted to provide a few, important updates. Thank you to those who have joined us in recent budget advocacy efforts this past month! Whether you joined meetings with key legislators or phoned/ texted to action, Sacramento has been hearing from our region and your counterparts in every part of California on our key budget concerns.

As it currently stands, the legislature needs to include the following:

1. COVID ADA Relief- Nowhere near what it should be.
2. Ridding the mandate for transportation funding proposed in the budget and fully funding Home 2 School Transportation (ie our bill AB 2933)
3. Providing Non-Prop 98 funding for TK implementation.
4. Increase funding the base, not just COLA! Here in Region 20, members met with the staff of Senator Dave Cortese, a key member of the Senate budget committee, where they clearly emulated the budget concerns as it would affect their home districts in addition to asking for his support on pension relief and our Home 2 School Transportation bill, AB 2933 once it is heard in the Senate. PACERs have helped organize similar member-led meetings in other parts of the state with their key legislators.

AB 2933 Passed in Assembly - Our transportation bill, AB 2933 (O'Donnell) recently passed the assembly 64-0! The bill is now awaiting committee referral in the State Senate. Our team is working tirelessly to ensure the legislature includes funding for its implementation.

Congratulations to County Board Delegate to CSBA, Rosemary Kamei on her election to the San Jose City Council! Rosemary has been one of the strongest voices on public education here in Silicon Valley and I have no doubt that she will continue her advocacy for young people at City Hall.

I look forward to working with trustees throughout the Summer as we head into the next school year and thank you for your service!

Marty Fatooh (mfatooh@csba.org)

Community schools can improve relationships and reduce achievement gaps, research shows

The U.S. Department of Education and the Learning Policy Institute on May 26 hosted a webinar, [“Community Schools: An Evidence-based Whole Child Approach to Education.”](#) with practitioners and researchers taking an in-depth look at how community schools can transform student learning and outcomes.

Department of Education Deputy Secretary Cindy Marten opened the webinar by acknowledging the challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic and the role of community schools in supporting students and aiding in learning and social-emotional recovery. “The good news is we know how to structure systems and opportunities, we know what it takes to reach and teach every student and to deliver on equity, giving each student what they need when they need it, in the way that they need it,” she said. “The findings from the science of learning and development are crystal clear and they show us that students achieve better outcomes when they have strong relationships with caring adults and peers ... and when they are in environments that are supportive. Community schools do exactly what the research says — they put schools at the center of their communities.”

Moderator Linda Darling-Hammond, president of the California State Board of Education and the Learning Policy Institute, reviewed the four evidence-based pillars of community schools:

- Integrated student supports
- Enriched and expanded learning
- Active family and community engagement
- Collaborative leadership that includes a culture of professional learning

LPI research has found students benefit in many ways from community schools, including increased attendance and well-being, improved academic achievement and reduced achievement gaps, higher graduation rates, and improved relationships and attitudes toward school.

Curt Adams, associate dean for research at University of Oklahoma, Tulsa, said community schools provide more optimal learning environments. “Based on our evidence, full-service community schools in Tulsa are simply better places to teach and learn,” he said. “These are schools that aren’t just implementing a program, they’re restructuring the organization of teaching and learning. They are creating the conditions that optimize student learning.”

Adams said his team’s research has found one of the specific benefits of community schools for students is an increase in trusting relationships, which go both ways. When students feel they are trusted and they also trust their teachers, they are more willing to take risks, ask questions and be more open to getting things wrong and learning from them. “Deeper learning is stronger in full-service community schools,” Adams continued. His research found that economically disadvantaged students attending community schools outperformed their economically disadvantaged peers attending the highest-performing schools in the district by large margins in reading and math achievement.

[Read More...](#)

Santa Clara County Office of Education Spotlight

Santa Clara County Office of Education and LGBTQ+ Youth Space Kick Off Pride Month with a Pride PSA Contest for Santa Clara County Students

In honor of Pride Month, the Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) Tobacco-Use Prevention Education (TUPE) department and The LGBTQ+ Youth Space collaborated to launch a Pride Public Service Announcement (PSA) Contest open to middle and high school students in Santa Clara County. “The SCCOE is proud to partner with The LGBTQ+ Youth Space to host the Pride PSA Contest this year,” said Dr. Mary Ann Dewan, Santa Clara County Superintendent of Schools. “The contest will provide students with an outlet to share their stories and express their creativity.”

The theme for the Pride Month PSA is “Heal the Pain, Spread the Love.” Students are encouraged to submit a piece of media of their choice that reflects on healing through the struggles of mental health, bullying, or addiction by showing self-love and pride. Additional information on how to apply and the contest can be found via a Google Form. The deadline to submit is June 20, 2022, at 11:59 p.m.

Winners will receive a prize and be celebrated at the virtual LGBTQ+ Pride Month PSA Showcase on June 24, 2022, from 4 to 6 p.m. The goal of the showcase is to create a virtual safe space for LGBTQ+ Youth and Community members to honor the winners of the contest and enjoy music and prizes. Students and community members can learn more about the Pride PSA showcase online.

“It is our shared responsibility to ensure that everyone in our school communities is valued and respected

regardless of their gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation,” said Dr. Dewan “Through collaboration, student voice, and key partnerships, the SCCOE is actively working to create more inclusive policies and practices to support and uplift LGBTQ+ youth.”

The SCCOE website has information about laws and policies to protect LGBTQ+ youth, instructional resources and more. Students, staff, and community members are encouraged to participate in activities to celebrate the inclusiveness and diversity of Santa Clara County schools and families.

School District Highlights



Cambrian School District

Cambrian is very proud of our student leaders. Steindorf STEAM School's leadership students hosted a Paper Cranes for Ukraine Fundraiser to help Ukrainian refugees and all those affected by the war, raising \$2,000. Inspired by the story of Sadako and a Thousand Cranes, Steindorf students folded 1,000 cranes to wish and pray for world peace. Leadership students (6th - 8th grade) scheduled time to visit each classroom to teach the students how to fold cranes or

hearts (K-2nd). Then, they meticulously threaded each crane to make 100 strings of 10 to sell for \$20 each at the school's Maker Faire on May 4th. The students achieved their goal of raising \$2,000.

“What an incredible learning journey for them to experience firsthand what it feels like to truly make a difference in this world!” said Chau Chieng, Steindorf's eighth grade leadership teacher. The money will be sent directly to the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine for humanitarian efforts and needs, Chieng said.

NBC BAY AREA FEATURED THE STUDENTS IN THEIR 'BAY AREA PROUD' SEGMENT:
<https://www.nbcbayarea.com/.../middle-school.../2906467/>



Sunnyvale School District

Bishop Bobcats and Cumberland Cougars each organized student-led efforts to send support to those affected by the war in Ukraine.

As a Leader in Me School, Bishop Elementary School students in Mrs. Papas' 5th-grade class felt the need to lead not only a classroom fundraiser but a school-wide fundraiser to help Ukraine. Students strongly felt that by helping others in need, they will show leadership and unity.

“In a time of darkness, we can be a glimmer of light,” said fifth-grader Liam Pratt.

The students made posters that they put up around the school encouraging students to donate to the cause. Students presented at two Leadership Rallies in May. They also had a table during Open House for donations. The PTO also raised money during the end-of-the-year picnic. The school raised more than \$1,600 dollars, which they will donate to UNICEF to go toward helping Ukraine.

Cumberland Elementary students sent a special message of love and support to Ukraine thanks to the organization Kids for Peace. The video can be viewed here: <https://kidsforpeaceglobal.org/loveforukraine/>.

Cumberland also promoted a school-wide effort to support Ukraine. Student Council sold Smencils (scented pencils) to support World Central Kitchen, which provides nourishment to those in need around the globe. Students ended up raising over \$1,800 dollars for World Central Kitchen!



Union School District

Union Middle School in USD Honored for Innovative Practices During Distance Learning

UMS was selected as a 2022 California Pivotal Practice (CAPP) Award Program winner.

Announced by State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond, the CAPP Award Program celebrates schools and districts that implemented an innovative practice during the 2020–21 school year, when California required schools to offer distance learning due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Bravo to Union Middle School and the entire UMS team for the well-deserved recognition of your innovative scheduling, educational and social-emotional support practices during distance learning.

Union SD's Classified Employee and Teacher of the Year for 2021-22

USD's Classified Employee of the Year Mr. Eric Fonseca is Union School District Systems Integration Engineer. From running audio and visual equipment during live streamed meetings, to supporting thousands of students and staff members districtwide with numerous technology projects and equipment, Mr. Fonseca is dependable, efficient and has an excellent rapport with everyone he works with.

USD's Teacher of the Year Mr. Shawn Miller teaches 7th grade math and 8th grade leadership at Dartmouth Middle School. As Dartmouth's Activity Leader, WEB (Where Everyone Belongs) Teacher Leader, co-facilitator of Dartmouth's annual food drive and much more, he is an outstanding teacher, student-centered, with innovative, supportive, and engaging teaching practices that reach far beyond his classroom walls. Congratulations Mr. Fonseca and Mr. Miller, two incredible members of Team USD.



MetroED

Silicon Valley Adult Education celebrated 41 High School Diploma graduates and 14 High School Equivalency completers on May 26

Of the 55 students, seven earned Academic Distinction with a GPA or equivalent of 3.6 or higher. Eight High School Diploma students were awarded scholarships for their post-secondary education.

Keynote speaker, Quency Phillips, Executive Director, Building Back Better; Chief Equity Officer, addressed Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion. High School Diploma graduate Kimberly Ramirez shared her story "You're Never Too Old," and High School Equivalency student Leslie Amaya gave a fantastic speech on "Hang In There."

[View the Facebook Photo Gallery.](#)

SVCTE Student Awards

Nearly 120 SVCTE students were honored at the 53rd Annual Awards Ceremony held on May 20. More than \$10,000 in scholarships and financial honors were awarded for the 2021-22 school year. Certificates were presented to students in two main categories: Outstanding and Achievement. Other notable awards included:

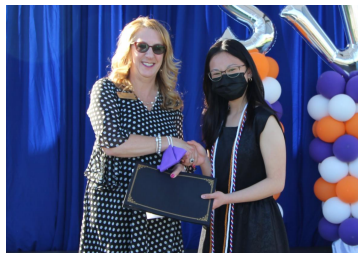
Superintendent's Award - Crystal Trinh from Piedmont Hills High School in the East Side Union High School District

Principal's Award - Kylie Nguyen from Evergreen Valley High School in the East Side Union High School District

Merit Award - Samuel Wu from Leland High School in the San Jose Unified School District

Los Altos Sunset Rotary Scholarship - Marissa Jimenez from Adult Education and Edgar Quezada Padilla from Gunderson High School in the San Jose Unified School District

[Click here to view photos!](#)



Milpitas Unified School District

Ribbon-cutting ceremonies for two new middle school track and field facilities

Local and regional officials, as well as community members and organizations, joined Milpitas Unified School District leadership, staff and



board of education on May 31 for two special ribbon-cutting ceremonies for the Measure AA-funded Track and Field projects at Rancho Milpitas Middle School and Thomas Russell Middle School.

SCCSBA
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