

SCCSBA August 2022 Newsletter

Visit our Website



President's Message - by Bridget Watson

Welcome back to school and Happy 2022-23 School Year! I am so honored to be your SCCSBA President this year, and I'm grateful to work with all of you. Vice President Wendy Sullivan, Executive Director Bonnie Mace, and I are at your service. Thank you again to Fiona Walter for all outstanding leadership for the past two years!

Our theme for SCCSBA this year is "Envision, Encourage, Empower," which applies to trustees, staff, students, and families. We are planning our association events with these lenses as our guide.

We kick off our year at the September 28 meeting with a superintendent panel (Sunnyvale, Campbell, and Berryessa) on "Cultivating Positive District Culture." We hope it will be an inspiring and uplifting way to kick off the year together. Bonnie will send out the full calendar so you can see the year's schedule and the website is updated (<https://legacy.sccoe.org/sccsba/>).

This year our monthly meetings will continue on Zoom, however there will be several opportunities to get together in person, such as outdoor "First Friday" lunches in Fall and Spring (weather permitting), the annual Fall Dinner, a joint reception with Region 5 and Region 20 at AEC, Legislative Brunch, and the Hoffmann Awards. We will also continue to have monthly check-ins with Dr. Dewan on Zoom.

Welcome to our New Superintendents in Santa Clara County



Evergreen School District Superintendent Dr. Antoine Hawkins

Dr. Antoine Hawkins is a seasoned public administrator with over 25 years of experience working in public school districts, which includes over 10 years of experience at the Executive Cabinet level. Dr. Hawkins has served as an Interim Superintendent, Deputy Superintendent, and Assistant Superintendent. For the last three school years, he has served the Victor Valley Union High School District as an Assistant Superintendent.

He has managed a cross-section of divisions within school systems, including Adult Education,

Preschool/Early Head Start, Human Resources, and District Nursing Services to name a few. He has also directly managed public budgets of over \$209,000,000. Dr. Hawkins has served as an adjunct professor at the university level where he taught both graduate-level and undergraduate courses.



Fremont Union High School District Superintendent Graham Clark

Graham Clark was appointed Superintendent of the Fremont Union High School District in July of 2022. As a long time employee of the District he began his teaching career at Fremont High School in 1997. He has served for over 25 years as a teacher, assistant principal, principal and Deputy Superintendent in the District. He has a BS and MBA from Santa Clara University and a Master's Degree in Education

Administration from San Jose State University. He also served for 28 years in the California Army National Guard.



Los Altos School District Superintendent Sandra McGonagle

Sandra McGonagle is a graduate of Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, and San Jose State University. She taught middle school for many years prior to becoming a mentor for new teachers. She then entered the world of educational leadership - she loves pushing the boundaries of what teaching and learning look like in our schools. She served as principal at both Santa Rita Elementary School and Blach

Intermediate School in Los Altos before becoming Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction. Sandra, her husband, and two sons live in San Jose. When not working, you can find her reading a good book or cooking a feast for her family.



Los Gatos-Saratoga Union High School District Superintendent Bill W. Sanderson

Bill W. Sanderson joined LGSUHSD as the new Superintendent, on July 5, 2022. He has worked in public education for three decades in Charleston, SC, and San Francisco CA, beginning as a middle school science teacher in Summerville, SC, and then as Assistant Principal and Principal in Charleston,

SC. In 2003, Bill moved to San Francisco where he worked as a high school Biology teacher, Assistant Principal, Principal, and Executive Director. He then served as Assistant Superintendent of San Francisco Unified for the past eight years and oversaw an increase in graduation rates for all students and implemented an Ethnic Studies program. Bill holds a Bachelor's degree in Biology from Charleston Southern University, a Master's in Educational Leadership from The Citadel in 1994 and an Education Specialist Degree from The Citadel in 2000.



Santa Clara Unified School District Interim Superintendent Dr. Gary Waddell

Dr. Gary Waddell most recently served as the associate superintendent of equity, educational progress, and public affairs at the Santa Clara County Office of Education. In this role, he led teams providing oversight of Local Control and Accountability Plans (LCAP), differentiated assistance, state and federal programs, assessment and accountability, the Inclusion Collaborative, and public affairs, media, and communications. He was formerly the deputy superintendent of the San

Mateo County Office of Education, where he led instructional services including curriculum and instruction, assessment and accountability, STEAM, environmental literacy, administrator preparation, early learning services, and state and federal initiatives, among others. The San Mateo Board of Supervisors has recognized him for his programs that closed achievement and opportunity gaps.

Gary holds a doctorate in educational leadership in addition to degrees in administration, school counseling, and drama. He has over 35 years of service in public schools as a teacher, school counselor, and administrator at every level in both California and North Carolina. He has been recognized with numerous leadership and human rights awards, including being the recipient of the 2017 CCSESA/CISC STAR Award, the NCCSA Human Rights Award, and the prestigious Jack McCall Leadership Award from the Center for School Leadership Development at the University of North Carolina. He has served as a school principal in both North Carolina and California as well as a school counselor. He is a former statewide Counselor of the Year in North Carolina.

Welcome to our New Officers and Committee Chairs for 2022-23

We give a warm welcome to our new SCCSBA Officers: **President Bridget Watson, Vice President Wendy Sullivan, Treasurers Fiona Walter and Jessica Speiser**. Rounding out the leadership group will be **Legislative Action Committee Chair John Horner, Legislative Brunch Co-Chairs Naomi Nakano-Matsumoto and Grace Mah, and Hoffmann Awards Chair Isabel Jubes-Flamerich**.

Thanks to all of our leadership team!

September 8 SCCSBA Zoom with County Superintendent Dr. Dewan

We are continuing our monthly Zoom meetings with County Superintendent Dewan. She will provide updates on happenings in the County, and trustees will have plenty of opportunities to ask questions.

The next Zoom meeting will be held on **Thursday, September 8 from 1:00-2:00 PM**. Look for the calendar invitation and Zoom link from Executive Director Bonnie Mace. We hope to see you there!

October 7 Friday Lunch at OPA! Campbell

Back by popular demand, we are restarting our Friday Lunches at outdoor restaurant patios throughout the school year. Our first lunch will be on **Friday, October 7 from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM at OPA! Restaurant in Campbell** (276 E Campbell Ave). All lunches will be outdoors and you pay for your own meal. This is a fun way to network with other trustees. The other lunches will be held on November 4, March 3, April 14, and May 5 at locations to be determined.

SCCSBA Legislative Action Committee Update

This year we welcome Teresa Castellanos (SJUSD) to the LAC. We would also like to thank Van Le (ESUHSD) for dedicating her time and expertise to serving her two-year term to completion - we will miss you Van! Over the summer, the LAC wrote letters supporting federal legislation for student meals (HR8450: Healthy Meals, Healthy Kids Act), and opposing a state CPUC Performance Audit Request (re: Broadband). A survey to help develop this year's legislative priorities for our organization will be coming soon after our September SCCSBA meeting.

Calendar of SCCSBA Events/ Meetings for 2022-23 Theme: Envision, Encourage, Empower

Wednesday, September 28, 2022 (On Zoom)
SCCSBA Monthly Meeting, 7:30-9:00 PM
Topic: Cultivating Positive District Culture

October, 24, 2022 (In-Person)
SCCOE's Teacher Recognition Celebration

Wednesday, October 26, 2022 (In-Person)
SCCSBA Fall Dinner, 6:00-9:00 PM
Topic: Empowering Student Leadership

Wednesday, November 16, 2022 (On Zoom)
SCCSBA Monthly Meeting, 7:30-9:00 PM
Topic: Supporting One Another in a Season of Joy and Stress

Thursday December 1 - Saturday December 3, 2022
CSBA Annual Education Conference in San Diego
SCCSBA Reception on Thursday, December 1, 6:00-7:30 PM

Wednesday, January 25, 2023 (On Zoom)
SCCSBA Monthly Meeting, 7:30-9:00 PM
Topic: The State of the County in Public Education, featuring County Superintendent Dr. Mary Ann Dewan

Wednesday, February 22, 2023 (On Zoom)
SCCSBA Monthly Meeting, 7:30-9:00 PM
Topic: Serving the Diverse Needs of English Learners around the County

Saturday, February 25, 2023 (Either On Zoom or In-Person)
Annual SCCSBA Legislative Brunch, 9:00 AM to Noon

Wednesday, March 22, 2023 (On Zoom)
SCCSBA Monthly Meeting, 7:30-9:00 PM
Topic: Building Partnerships for Wrap Around Services

Wednesday, May 10, 2023 (In-Person)
Annual Hoffmann Awards Dinner, 6:00-9:00 PM
Michaels Restaurant at Shoreline

Wednesday, May 24, 2023 (In-Person)
Annual Passing of the Gavel Dinner for Officers, Delegates, and District Reps, 6:30-8:00 PM
Location TBD

(In addition to the above events/meetings, we will also be holding periodic Zoom meetings with County Superintendent Dr. Mary Ann Dewan which will be publicized later.)

From Our CSBA Regional Representative Marty Fatooh

Trustees and Superintendents -

First and foremost, I wanted to wish each and every one of you all the best as we enter the new school year. The last three years have been tough and challenging, but SCC school boards, members, and the county office have risen to the occasion, to the best of their abilities, for the kids. As your public affairs representative with the statewide organization representing these elected boards, I am here to help you and your boards grow in these ever changing times. I would be naive not to mention a crisis that we have both here in our county, as well as across the state of California. That crisis is the recruitment of individuals to step up and run for school board and the retention of excellent public servants on these boards. In November 2020, we saw a great wave of young, talented people running to serve on school boards, city councils, and many other elected offices for the first time. Many of these runs were inspired by seeing the injustices and inequities in our country and local communities, specifically brought to light during the Covid-19 pandemic, the 2020 presidential election, and the murder of George Floyd, to name a few. Fast forward to August 2022, in Santa Clara County, there are 64 seats on school boards up for election. According to the ROV, about half of those seats were unopposed as of Friday afternoon.

Santa Clara County is just one of many counties statewide that are struggling with the recruitment and retention of school board members. To the members who have decided to retire at the end of the year or move on in their public service, thank you for all that you have done for the kids in your local communities. The last three years you have had to deal with harassment in your role and personal life, and for some of you, even towards your family members and close friends. As I pointed out a few days ago, I am proud that our organization (CSBA) took action on behalf of our members. We advocated to the legislature and demanded that the elections committee begin to really look at how damaging recall elections and signature gathering efforts can be from both the fiscal and mental health perspectives of a community. We are grateful that ASB 2874 (Berman Recall Thresholds) has made it through Senate Appropriations and will see a floor vote. In addition to this bill and other efforts around election reform, none of this could have been possible if current school board members hadn't come forward and shared their personal experiences during the listening portion of the legislative process.

As we did last year, CSBA's public affairs campaign highlighting members and boards out there doing the work has again come to Santa Clara County. School Boards in Action will feature a segment with Trustee Maimona Afzal Berta and the Franklin McKinley board! Once the video is public I will share with this group and the campaign will be aired on local TV news and radio in specific media markets around the state. If you would like to learn more about the School Boards in Action campaign please feel free to reach out.

This year, I look forward to continuing to partner with the county association, specifically with our member-led legislative action committee on strengthening our relationships with legislators as well as federal education matters. Even though it is early in the year, I do want to point out that CSBA is no longer affiliated with the National School Board Association, which will now create more opportunities to engage Congress and the Biden administration on education related matters. I want to encourage all members to consider joining CSBA during our Washington DC trip in the Spring, which we would love to triple the attendance of! Locally and hopefully soon, I will be partnering with our members to put together a safety forum for the county membership and potentially with nearby jurisdictions.

I look forward to working with all of you this year and thank you for your service!

From the CSBA Blog (csba.org)

School counselor recruitment efforts now underway

The California Department of Education is kickstarting efforts to recruit 10,000 new school-based mental health clinicians, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond announced during an Aug. 4 press conference.

The latest state budget provides for new and expanded grant opportunities for aspiring mental health clinicians who want to work in K-12 schools. The CDE is working with colleges, universities, community-based organizations, the California Student Aid Commission and others to raise awareness of this statewide recruitment effort.

“This is going to be a game changer for our ability to staff up in California,” Thurmond said, noting that even before the pandemic, California only had about a third of the clinicians it needed to support students. “We haven’t always had the people to help shoulder the load that we need to address the various mental health needs of our students. We have secured the funding to do that, and we’re going to begin our efforts to start recruiting and working with partners to make that happen.”

U.S. Surgeon General Vivek Murthy and U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona have deemed the mental health impacts of the pandemic a public health crisis for youth, with many children having lost family and friends to the pandemic. Young people are also experiencing increased anxiety and depression due to isolation, challenges at home, a spike in hate crimes and more.

Despite the urgent need, many local educational agencies across the country lack enough school psychologists and counselors to respond to children’s ever-growing needs. Just 8 percent of districts nationwide met the National Association of School Psychologists’ recommended ratio of one school psychologist to 500 students during the first year of the pandemic. Only 14 percent met the ratio of one school counselor to 250 students recommended by the American School Counselor Association. District leaders want to be able to help address student mental health concerns, and for once, funding is not the main concern. LEAs can use federal COVID-relief funds to hire more mental health support staff. However, the pipeline of school psychologists and other mental health professionals was struggling to keep up with demand even before the pandemic.

Building up that pipeline is a major priority, Thurmond said. California’s 2022–23 state budget included:

- \$184 million for teacher and school counselor residency programs
- An expansion of an existing \$350 million residency program to school counselors
- An expansion the current Golden State Teacher Grant Program to graduate students pursuing degrees to become mental health clinicians who serve California students, allowing them to receive grants up to \$20,000

[Read More....](#)

Santa Clara County Office of Education Spotlight

Franklin-McKinley School District Superintendent Juan Cruz named 2022 CALSA Superintendent of the Year

The California Association of Latino Superintendents and Administrators (CALSA) named Franklin-McKinley School District Superintendent, Juan Cruz, State Superintendent of the Year. The CALSA is dedicated to growing a community of diverse educational leaders skilled in addressing the needs of Latino/a students. The association consists of six regions throughout California.

Each year CALSA hosts the “Honoring Our Own” Awards at its Summer Institute. Members of each region and state winners are honored for their achievements that showcase leadership, creativity, or innovation and improve public education. Superintendent Cruz was acknowledged for his positive impact on the school communities and students within the Franklin-McKinley School District.

As a member of the San Jose community for 24 years, Superintendent Cruz has served students through the Migrant Education Program at the Santa Clara County Office of Education before working as both a teacher and principal at Yerba Buena High School. He worked at East Side Union High School District for 18 years, ending with his appointment as Associate Superintendent of Educational Services. Cruz was appointed Superintendent of Franklin-McKinley School District in July 2015.

Cruz's education advocacy also expands beyond the district as a Latinx Research Center's Community Leadership Advisory Board member at Santa Clara University's School of Education and Counseling Psychology.

"We are so proud of Superintendent Cruz for this state honor," said Dr. Mary Ann Dewan, County Superintendent of Schools. "His investment in collaboration and community are deeply anchored in his commitment to student success."

Superintendent Cruz was recognized at the 21st Annual CALSA Summer Institute Awards Gala in Santa Clara, CA on July 7, 2022.

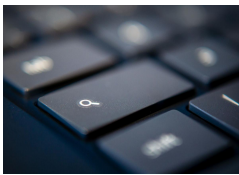
School District Highlights



Cambrian School District

The Cambrian School District Governing Board approved the hiring of a new Vice Principal for Price Middle School. Mr. Dan Nevo began his new position, coming to the Cambrian School District with a diverse and rich background.

A graduate of Tel Aviv University with a degree in industrial engineering, Mr. Nevo has a masters degree in education from National University and an MBA in operations, innovations and technology from Santa Clara University. Most recently, Mr. Nevo served as first a math teacher, then the principal of summer school for Jefferson Union High School District in Daly City. He also worked for over eight years as the director of field operations and director of logistics and operations engineering for Deliv. Before that, Mr. Nevo was a high school math teacher at Overfelt/Palo Alto Preparatory. He began his adult career as an Air Force officer in the Israeli Defense Forces. Cambrian School District welcomes Mr. Nevo and looks forward to a productive school year!



Moreland School District

Moreland Board Members Approve Surplus of Over 2300 Chromebooks To be Given to Students

At the August 9, 2022 Board of Trustees meeting, the Board approved the surplus of over 2300 Chromebooks. This surplus means that as the district has ordered Chromebooks to meet the committed 1:1 device to student ratio, these surplus Chromebooks are more than what is needed in our classrooms and/or updated devices have replaced them. As a result, **Moreland is excited to provide these Chromebooks to Moreland families at no charge.**

Families will have the opportunity to pick-up Chromebooks before school begins on August 16 or after school on August 22. Each Chromebook will come with the Chromebook unit, an AC adaptor appropriate for that unit, and instructions on how to turn on the Chromebook. Resource links to low cost Internet service will also be provided. Moreland Board Members and staff are proud to take this small step to continue to close the digital divide among its students and families.



Milpitas Unified School District

MUSD continues to enhance its facilities for learners, staff through Measure AA bond funds

On Wednesday, August 3, Milpitas Unified School District celebrated the completion of Phase II construction at Mabel Mattos Elementary School with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and then followed up with an historic groundbreaking of its MUSD Innovation Campus.

Replacing many of the existing facilities at the former Ayer High School and MUSD District Office site, the MUSD Innovation Campus will comprise six new two-story buildings, as well as one modernized building. The 99,000 sq. ft. campus includes 75 classrooms; 15+ Experiential Learning Labs; Career Simulation and STEAM Labs; Flex Spaces; Outdoor Learning Quads and Courtyards; and District Office Facilities.

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

STAY CONNECTED

