

## SCCSBA November 2023 Newsletter

Welcome!



### SCCSBA President's Message - By Jessica Speiser

I hope you all had a great time at the Fall Dinner last month at Maggiano's. Thank you so much to VP, Carol Presunka for coordinating such a lovely evening, with great networking, food, and above all else, an informative student panel moderated by the SCCOE on Environmental Sustainability in Schools. I always leave more informed and more hopeful about the future when we have these student panels and am also super thankful for the Dr. Dewan and her team at the SCCOE for coordinating these panels for us.

For a change of pace, our next Lunch and Learn on November 16th will have Patrick O'Donnell, former Assemblymember, and current CSBA Chief of Government Relations as a featured speaker in addition to our regular county update from Dr. Mary Ann Dewan. For future lunch and learns, we still need conversation starters for trustee-related subject matters of interest. Help us out and sign up [here](#).

Last, but not least, I look forward to seeing you all at CSBA's Annual Education Conference in a couple of weeks. Every year, I know I learn a lot from all the sessions and all the experts in all the things that CSBA offers us. This will be my first time as a delegate at the AEC. With that in mind, please remember to fill out the survey Bonnie sent you [here](#) so that the rest of the delegates and myself can better represent your points of view at the Delegate Assembly. Either way, I look forward to seeing each and every one of you there!

### Call for Hoffmann Awards Applications for 2023-24

We would like to invite all school districts to apply for the SCCSBA Hoffmann Awards for 2023-2024.

The Hoffmann Awards Applications are due on **Friday, December 8**. The short application and guidelines are on our website at [sccoe.org/sccsba](http://sccoe.org/sccsba). This is a great way to recognize excellent programs in your district.

Videos of all the Hoffmann Award winners for the past decade can be viewed here: [Hoffmann Award Recipients - YouTube](#)

A big thanks to our Hoffmann Awards Chair Isabel Jubes-Flamerich (Sunnyvale School District Trustee).

The 2024 Hoffmann Awards will be presented at the Association's Hoffmann Awards Dinner at MetroED on Wednesday, May 8, 2023.

### CSBA Annual Education Conference is coming soon! November 30 - December 2 (Register Online)

AEC is CSBA's premier continuing education program—delivering practical solutions to help governance teams from districts and county offices of education improve student learning and achievement. Whether you are a veteran board member, a superintendent, a board support professional or a first-time attendee, you'll come away from conference with practical ideas and a renewed commitment to help your board

## **SCCSBA Calendar of Events/Meetings for 2024**

### **SCCSBA Evening Zoom Meeting**

Guest Speaker: Dr. Mary Ann Dewan, County Superintendent

Topic: The State of the County in Public Education

Wed. Jan. 24, 2024

7:00-8:30 p.m.

Zoom

### **SCCSBA Evening Zoom Meeting**

Topic: English Language Learners

Wed. Feb. 28, 2024

7:00-8:30 p.m.

Zoom

### **SCCSBA Annual Legislative Brunch**

Sat. March, 2024

9:00am - 12:00pm

Fremont Union HSD

### **SCCSBA Evening Zoom Meeting**

Topic: Best Practices in Special Education

Wed. March 27, 2024

7:00-8:30 p.m.

Zoom

### **Candidate Workshop for School Board Members**

Sat. in April 2024

9:00-11:00 a.m.

SCCOE

### **SCCSBA Evening Zoom Meeting**

Wed. April 24, 2024

7:00-8:30 p.m.

Zoom

### **Hoffmann Awards Dinner**

Wed. May 8, 2024

6:00-9:00pm

MetroEd

### **Annual Dinner for SCCSBA Officers, Delegates and District Reps.**

Wed. May 29, 2024

6:30-8:00pm

Location TBD

### **Additional SCCSBA Events/Meetings for 2023-24**

#### **Lunch and Learns featuring County Superintendent Dr. Mary Ann Dewan on Zoom**

Thursday, January 18, 2024 at 12-1 pm

Thursday, February 22, 2024 at 12-1 pm

Thursday, March 21, 2024 at 12-1 pm

Thursday, April 25, 2024 at 12-1 pm

Wednesday, May 22, 2024 at 12-1 pm

#### **Friday In-Person Networking Lunches at Local Restaurants**

March 1, 2024 at 11:30 AM -1:00 PM, OPA! (Campbell)

April 5, 2024 at 11:30 AM -1:00 PM, Country Gourmet (Sunnyvale)

---

### AI policy guide provides LEAs critical resources

A new resource produced by a group of organizations with expert knowledge on education and technology can serve as a starting point for local educational agencies as they look to integrate artificial intelligence (AI) safely, effectively and responsibly into classrooms.

A collaboration of TeachAI, Code.org, CoSN, Digital Promise, the European EdTech Alliance, Policy Analysis for California Education and strategic advisor James Larimore, [AI Policy Guidance for Schools: A Teach AI Toolkit](#) was drafted to fill an immediate need for guidance on the matter and help communities recognize the potential benefits in improving education while mitigating possible risks.

“Compared to the introduction of previous technologies in education, education systems should not delay efforts to develop guidance on the use of AI since students and teachers already have independent access, and many existing technologies embed AI into their systems (e.g., search engines and email applications),” according to the toolkit. “The first step should be ensuring that AI use complies with existing security and privacy policies, providing guidance to students and staff on topics such as the opportunities and risks of AI, and clarifying responsible and prohibited uses of AI tools, especially uses that require human review and those related to academic integrity.”

The toolkit includes information on ways to incorporate AI in an education system, seven principles for AI in education, sample school guidance documents, sample considerations for existing policies, a customizable slideshow presentation, sample letters for parents/guardians and staff on the use of AI and a sample student agreement on the use of AI.

“With guidance, an education system may realize the potential benefits of AI to improve learning outcomes, support teacher instruction and quality of life and enhance educational equity,” the toolkit states. “Without guidance, teachers and students can be exposed to privacy violations, inconsistent disciplinary consequences and counterproductive AI adoption practices.”

The toolkit’s website includes explanations of generative AI and predictive AI and lists additional potential benefits like content development and differentiation, tutoring, and personalized learning assistance. Some risks include plagiarism, overreliance, loss of critical thinking and perpetuating societal bias. It also notes that having a systemwide approach that incorporates professional development for all staff is key. As AI continues to evolve and use cases emerge, LEAs will need to update their policies as appropriate.

---

## Santa Clara County Office of Education Spotlight

### California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress and Chronic Absentee Data Released

The State of California recently released the results for the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) in both English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics as well as state chronic absentee data.

Students in grades 3-8 and grade 11 took the CAASPP in the spring of 2023. Student results for both subject areas are reported as standard exceeded, standard met, standard nearly met, and standard not met.

Per the 2023 CAASPP data, 59% of Santa Clara County students met or exceeded the standard in ELA. When disaggregated by grade level, the percentages of students who met or exceeded standard ranged from a low of 55% (3rd grade) to a high of 66% (11th grade). ELA results have a general upward trajectory with percentages of students meeting and exceeding standards increasing across grade levels.

In mathematics, 51% of students in Santa Clara County met or exceeded the standard. The low was grade 11 with 46% and the high was 58% in third grade. Mathematics has a general downward trend in the data with the number of students meeting and exceeding standard steadily decreasing as the grade level increases.

Statewide 47% of students are meeting and exceeding standard in ELA and 35% in math. As compared to the statewide averages, students in Santa Clara County scored 12 percentage points higher (59%) in ELA and 17 percentage points higher (51%) in math.

When student group data is disaggregated, it reveals significant differences in achievement. English Learner students meeting and exceeding standard was reported as 15% in ELA. In mathematics, students who identify as Asian, White or Two or More Races (or are categorized as Not English Learners,

Not Socioeconomically advantaged, or Not Students with Disabilities) continue to experience rates significantly above the countywide average.

The Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) is the regional lead for the California Collaborative of Learning Acceleration (CCLA) project, a statewide professional learning initiative assigned to accelerate student learning using a variety of evidence-based strategies in lesson design, social-emotional learning, and culturally sustaining pedagogy. The CCLA is focused on building the capacity of educators to support all students in grades TK-12, regardless of gender, race, learning differences, and socio-economic background through equitable, inclusive, evidence-based strategies intentionally integrated system-wide.

“The goal of California's learning acceleration system is that every student develops mathematics, literacy, and language development knowledge as well as student agency within the learning environment,” said Dr. Mary Ann Dewan, County Superintendent of Schools. “The intention of CCLA is not remediation, but rather to use proven strategies that address achievement needs and allow students to make rapid progress.”

Chronic absentee data shows an upward trend, especially since the pandemic. Students within Santa Clara County have a chronic absenteeism rate of 19.3%. While still below the state average percentage of 24.9, it is an area of concern being addressed by school districts and community partners.

“The overall countywide data reveals areas of needed improvement and opportunities to address underlying causes of the disparities,” said Dewan. “Efforts to address chronic absenteeism, promote student wellbeing and partner to ensure basic needs are met can positively impact attendance and learning. High-quality instructional programs are essential for students to achieve. Statewide investments in community schools, expanded learning opportunity programs, and the expansion of Transitional Kindergarten and universal prekindergarten offer a foundation for focused improvement efforts.”

Chronic absenteeism is identified as missing 10% or more of the instructional days that a student was enrolled. Left unaddressed, chronic absence dramatically increases the number of students struggling with reading, writing and math and escalates dropout rates.

The SCCOE in partnership with the district attorney's office hosts the Santa Clara County Attendance Collaborative (SCCAC), which shares policy and legal updates, best practices and resources as well as collaborates on strategies to reduce chronic absenteeism. Additional resources and information regarding attendance and engagement can be found at <https://www.sccoe.org/yhw/attendance/Pages/default.aspx>. “Examining the root causes of chronic absenteeism and providing the support and resources needed to address these causes is a priority for the county office of education,” Dewan said.

Student performance data, chronic absentee data and other measures of school and district progress can be found on the California School Dashboard.

---

## School District Highlights

---



### Cambrian School District

#### Slow Down San Jose

In early November, Cambrian School District collaborated with Councilmember Pam Foley and the City of San Jose for its street safety campaign called Slow Down San Jose (also known as Vision Zero San Jose). Cambrian held a kick-off event at Bagby Elementary School to focus on how to make a difference. Speeding is the primary cause of fatalities and serious injuries in San José. In 2022, 670 people were killed or injured in speeding-related collisions.

Cambrian believes we can end this. Slow Down San Jose believes, together, we have the power to change. For more information about the campaign, please visit the City of San Jose's website: <https://www.sanjoseca.gov/your-government/departments-offices/transportation/safety/vision-zero/slow-down-san-jose>

---

### Los Gatos-Saratoga Union High School District

**Saratoga High School Students win National Awards for Aspirations in Computing;  
Los Gatos High School Senior Wins WeTip Poster Competition**



Saratoga High School Seniors Naomi Hsieh, Owen Liang, and Eric Norris partnered with students from Jhangshu Creative Technical High School in New Taipei City, Taiwan, to present a collaborative project at the New Taipei City Multi-Action Green International Carbon Neutral (MAGIC) Youth Forum held in Taiwan, October 23 - 27, 2023. Their project, a Green Bike or G-Bike, is a power-generating bicycle that includes a corresponding app tracking the amount of carbon the user saves by biking instead of driving. You can read more about this exciting project [here](#).

In addition, Los Gatos High School Senior Kyle Santoro is hosting the world premiere of his documentary film, [Fentanyl High](#), on December 6, 2023 at the CineLux Los Gatos Theatre. Open to the community at no charge, this event sold out within days of being announced, and is currently accepting people on the waiting list. [Read more here](#).



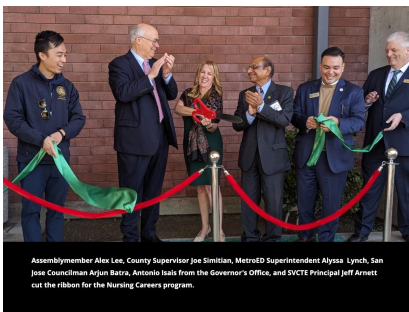
## Milpitas Unified School District

### Milpitas HS students participate in HBCU Caravan at DeAnza College

Fourteen members of the Milpitas High School's Black Student Union participated in the 2023 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Caravan at DeAnza College on November 2.

The event featured representatives from over 20 HBCU partner institutions: Stillman College, Morehouse College, Wiley College, Hampton University, Lane College, Lincoln University and many more). They provided scholarship information (e.g. Hoffman Agency HBCU Scholarship), potential on-site admissions, and a tour of DeAnza.

"This was a great opportunity for students to learn more about the exciting CCC Transfer Guarantee Pathway to HBCU and meet with HBCU representatives from partner institutions," shared MHS counselor Julie Jones, who accompanied the BSU members on the trip. "This pathway guarantees admissions to 30 partner Historically Black Colleges and Universities."



Assemblymember Alex Lee, County Supervisor Joe Simitian, MetroED Superintendent Alyssa Lynch, San Jose Councilmember Arjun Batra, Antonio Isais from the Governor's Office, and SVCTE Principal Jeff Arnett cut the ribbon for the Nursing Careers program.

## MetroED

### Grand Opening-Ribbon Cutting for SVCTE EV & Nursing Careers Held October 27

[Metropolitan Education District](#) (MetroED) hosted a Grand Opening-Ribbon Cutting Celebration on October 27 for [Silicon Valley Career Technical Education](#) (SVCTE) Center's two new programs: [Electrical Vehicles](#) and [Nursing Careers](#); Attendees were also able to tour SVCTE's state-of-the-art programs to see

equipment firsthand.

Santa Clara County Supervisor Joe Simitian, who drummed up support with the county supervisors to allocate \$250,000 for these programs! Other local dignitaries were also there to witness the event. They included San Jose Councilmember Arjun Batra; State Senator Aisha Wahab; Assemblymember Alex Lee and Antonio Isais, External Affairs from the Governor's office; Mateo Hammer-Longosz from Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren's Office; Reena Lari and Don Rocha from the Santa Clara County Board of Education; Board Members Brian Wheatley, Linda Goytia, and Jim Canova; Pete Callas, California Department of Education Director of the College & Career Division.

View the key moments and memorable snapshots with the following coverage:

- KTVU Channel Two News, October 31: [TV story](#)
- Mercury News Article, October 29: [New programs give Santa Clara County teens healthy career options - High school students can learn nursing, electric vehicle repair at Metropolitan Education District](#)
- [Event live stream](#) (starts at 11:30 mins)
- [Event pictures](#)
- Mercury News Op-Ed, October 22: [Opinion: MetroED is one of Santa Clara County's best-kept secrets - New programs provide job training for today's market](#)

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

STAY CONNECTED



SCCSBA | 1290 Ridder Park Drive, MC 202, San Jose, CA 95131

[Unsubscribe](#) [execdirector@sccsba.org](mailto:execdirector@sccsba.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [execdirector@sccsba.org](mailto:execdirector@sccsba.org) powered by



Try email marketing for free today!