

# SCCSBA October 2020 Newsletter

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# President's Message - by Fiona Walter

Hello, SCCSBA Team,

As we head into November 3<sup>rd</sup>, it feels as if things grow a little more crazy each day. 19 more days!

To those of you up for re-election, I wish you all good luck! To those of you finishing terms and retiring or heading for a different office, good thoughts and thanks go your way as well. You will be missed!

Please be sure to join us on October 28<sup>th</sup> for our zoom Fall Dinner. We are trying for some sort of normalcy and the evening will include a performance by the Mountain View High School Madrigals, presentation by guest speaker Tia Martinez (25-yr veteran working on social justice and equity issues, Executive Director of Forward Change), and a chance to welcome our new district superintendents as well as honor our retiring school board members. No association business, I promise! (Special thanks to Trustee Mary Patterson for making the Tia connection for me – much appreciated!)

I look forward to our twice-a-month gatherings, now more than ever, as we've all turned "orange" and grapple with how to reopen our schools. As always, thank you for sharing your hard-earned wisdom.

Cheers, Fiona

### October 28 - SCCSBA Fall Zoom Event, 7:30-9:00 p.m.

Please join us at 7:30 p.m. for a virtual "Fall Dinner" with SCCSBA. The Mountain View High School Madrigals will perform and Tia Martinez will be our guest speaker. We will also be welcoming new superintendents and honoring retiring board members. Hope you can come!

A bit about Tia: Tia Elena Martinez has over 25 years' experience working for social justice in working class communities of color in the United States. Over the decades her work spanned a wide range of issues including K-12 education, the HIV epidemic, the war on drugs, homelessness, affordable housing, disconnected youth, and immigration. She is currently the CEO of Forward Change, an organization that helps advocates and community organizers use data, strategy and research to advance racial, economic, and gender justice.

# November 5 and November 19 - SCCSBA Zoom Meetings Featuring County Superintendent Dr. Dewan

Our two Zoom meetings with Dr. Dewan for the month of November will be on November 5 at 3:00-4:00 p.m. and November 19 at 1:00-2:00 p.m. All trustees are invited to attend. You will receive a Zoom calendar invitation from Executive Director Bonnie Mace.

A big thank you to Dr. Dewan for taking the time to meet with the SCCSBA members and to keep us informed about our ongoing changes to public education in Santa Clara County.

### November 18 - SCCSBA Evening Zoom Meeting Featuring John Gray from School Services of California

Reminder for our November 18th evening meeting (7:30 pm): Mr. John Gray, President and CEO of School Services of California, will join us for a presentation on "Negotiations during Covid-19."

Bring your questions, concerns, example MOUs, and any other suggestions you may want to share.

The meeting will take place from 7:30-9:00 p.m. on Zoom.

# Hoffmann Awards Applications Are Now Open Online

Hoffmann Awards Chair David Guidry would like everyone to know that applications for the 2020-21 Hoffman Awards are now open.

Does your school district take an imaginative approach to inspire and motivate students? Do you have an inventive way to reach students or involve the community that is a source of pride for your district? Nominate your original educational program to obtain countywide recognition for the outstanding work your district does.

Each year, the Santa Clara County School Boards Association selects several Glenn W. Hoffman Exemplary Program Award winners from among numerous applications. To be selected as one of the top programs in the county, your program must use innovative methods to enhance the learning experience, address the needs of targeted populations, demonstrate effective use of technology, increase family or community involvement, enhance accountability, promote student leadership, increase student wellness, or support core educational objectives.

Applications to be considered for the Glenn W. Hoffman Exemplary Program Award and supporting documents are posted on the home page of our website at <u>www.sccoe.org/sccsba</u>. Applications will be accepted as a PDF or Word attachment via e-mail to <u>execdirector@sccsba.org</u>. The deadline to apply is **Friday**, **December 11**. There are no extensions to the application deadline to allow sufficient time for site visits in February and March. Hoffman winners will be notified in March after the site visits.

The 2021 Hoffmann Awards will be presented at the Association's Hoffmann Awards Dinner on Wednesday, April 21, 2021.

#### Student performers for Hoffman Awards Dinner sought

We're also seeking student entertainers for the Hoffmann Dinner on April 21, 2021. Student entertainers should be a small orchestra, instrumental group, or choir who can perform for about 30 minutes. Please send us a description and/or video clip of the group of performers from your district you'd like us to consider. This is their opportunity to shine! We aren't sure if the performances will be on zoom or in person, as it depends if our Hoffmann event will be held on zoom or in person.

The video clips or applications for entertainers should be sent to David Guidry at <u>HoffmannAward@gmail.com</u> by **Friday**, **January 15**, **2021**.

#### Do you want to be a reader and/or site validator of Hoffman Award Applications?

We need readers and site visitors for the Hoffmann Awards entries. Each reader will need to recruit one district administrator to read and score with him or her. Readers cannot score their own district's entry. If you would like to be a reader for the applications, please contact us at <u>execdirector@sccsba.org</u>.

If you have any questions please contact Executive Director Bonnie Mace execdirector@sccsba.org).

### SCCSBA Calendar of Events/Meetings for 2020-2021

SCCSBA November 18, 2020 Zoom Meeting, 7:30-9:00 p.m. Speaker: Mr. John Gray, President & CEO, School Services of California Topic: Negotiations during COVID-19

CSBA Annual Education Conference in Anaheim Delegate Assembly: Wednesday, Dec. 2 Virtual Conference, December 3-4 SCCSBA Virtual Reception, December 3 from 7-8 p.m.

New Board Member Zoom Training, Saturday January 23, 2021, 9:00-11:00 a.m.

SCCSBA January 27, 2021 Zoom Meeting, 7:30-9:00 p.m. Candidate Presentations for CSBA Delegate Assembly Speaker: Dr. Mary Ann Dewan, SCCOE Superintendent

SCCSBA February 24, 2021 Zoom Meeting, 7:30-9:00 p.m. Nomination of Officers Speaker: Dr. Anna Waring, Senior Program Director, Haas Center for Public Service Topic: Equity in Education

Annual SCCSBA Legislative Brunch – Saturday, March 6, 2021 (This will be a Zoom or an In-Person Event depending on COVID conditions.)

SCCSBA March 24, 2021 Zoom Meeting, 7:30-9:00 p.m. Election of Officers Topics: Distance Learning from a National Perspective

Spring Hoffmann Awards Event, April 28, 2021, 6:00-9:00 p.m. (This will be a Zoom or an In-Person Event depending on COVID conditions.)

Annual "Passing the Gavel" Dinner for Officers, Delegates and District Reps, May 26, 2021, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

(This will be a Zoom or an In-Person Event depending on COVID conditions.)

We will also host a variety of SCCSBA Zoom Meetings with County Superintendent Dewan throughout the rest of the school year. Stay tuned for ongoing information from Executive Director Bonnie Mace.

### Santa Clara County Office of Education Spotlight

#### Santa Clara County Office of Education Launches Early Learning Enrollment and Attendance Campaign with Grant from the Morgan Family Foundation

Santa Clara County Office of Education announced the official launch of the Steps to Success, Early Learning Attendance and Enrollment Campaign designed to improve enrollment and attendance rates in early learning programs throughout Santa Clara County.

With funding provided by a grant from the Morgan Family Foundation (MFF), the Steps to Success campaign seeks to raise public awareness about the benefits of enrolling and regularly attending early learning programs. The campaign is structured to increase enrollment and attendance in publicly funded Preschool (Pre-K), Transitional Kindergarten (T-K), and Kindergarten programs.

Steps to Success is a phased implementation of public awareness strategies and tools beginning with the development of an online portal for parents to enroll children, with aims to increase school enrollment by first improving the methods and channels for how parents can register their children for T-K, Pre-K and Kindergarten. The first phase also includes a Steps to Success website with resources and information about early learning options in Santa Clara County. The next phase will include strategic collateral and messaging placed across high-visibility media channels as well as continued development of both online platforms. The goal of each phase is to provide the community with centralized access to information about early learning.

"Children who attend early learning programs develop important cognitive, social, and emotional skills for future learning and Kindergarten readiness. As a result, they are more likely to be proficient readers by

the end of 3rd grade, more likely to attend college, and more likely to have increased life time earnings, among many other long-term positive impacts, in both academics and life," said Santa Clara County Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Mary Ann Dewan. "With Steps to Success, parents will find the information needed for enrollment to be able to register children for school. We are very grateful to the Morgan Family Foundation for their commitment and support to ensure that every child in our county has a strong foundation for success in life."

Parents are encouraged to visit the Steps to Success<u>website</u> where they can learn about the importance of attendance and early learning, understand the difference between Pre-K, T-K and Kindergarten as well as find the county's Resource and Referral <u>portal</u>. Announced in <u>July</u>, families can access the portal to create an account and submit applications for early learning programs in Santa Clara County. In partnership with the Inclusion Collaborative, the portal also provides information about programs that support children with disabilities.

# **School District Highlights**



# **Cambrian School District**

#### **Cambrian Students Displayed in Newsletters**

Cambrian School District students have joined forces with the District Office to participate in weekly family newsletters. Each week, a family is asked to send a photo of their students holding a sign with the number of weeks completed in the 2020-21 school year. The creative, colorful students have happily complied!

Thanks CSD students for brightening district families' days!



# **Evergreen School District**

Evergreen School District's Enrichment Program nurtures students' interests and boosts confidence.

Students in the Evergreen School District are painting, debating, moving their bodies, and improving their reading thanks to Evergreen School District's Enrichment Program. The program provides students engaging and creative opportunities to delve into existing interests or take part in something new at no cost during distance learning. Enrichment classes

include:

- Arts Enrichment
- Speech/Public Speaking
- Speech & Debate
- Sports for Learning
- Dance Classes
- Read Aloud with Library Media Assistants

In a virtual environment, the immensely popular enrichment classes connect over 5,000 students together across the district, and are facilitated by program partners or Evergreen educators.



# **Milpitas Unified School District**

#### Milpitas HS senior Amy Stanley joins governing body as new Student Board Rep

Amy Stanley, a senior at Milpitas HS, introduced herself as the new MUSD Student Board Representative for the 2020-21 school year at the Sept. 22 meeting.

Stanley, who is part of the leadership team on the MHS campus, is also involved in the American Red Cross, StemGirls and Model United Nations.

"I personally never expected to have my senior year happen virtually," said Stanley. "However, I, along with my peers, have learned to make the best of the situation and find the positive amidst the new virtual learning environment."

In her first board report, Stanley shared how the leadership team conducted a student survey to interpret the general atmosphere of our student body.

"Students are understandably concerned about the virtual learning environment, particularly mental

wellness, ability to focus during distance learning and the effectiveness of their learning," said Stanley of the survey results.

At MHS, they have also established a mentor-mentee program that connects freshmen and seniors to ease transition to high school and build community.



## **Mountain View Los Altos High School District**

#### **MVLA High Schools get lights!**

In September, the MVLA high school district broke ground on field lights at both of their comprehensive high school campuses. A decade-plus of conversation and many years of collaboration with our neighbors and school communities are finally coming to fruition! A new public address

system is also in the works. The lights should be complete in time for the combined winter/fall sports season starting in January. We look forward to evening sporting events, practices for our teams, extended field use, and perhaps (crossing fingers given Covid!) an evening graduation in June.

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

STAY CONNECTED

