



SAN MATEO-FOSTER CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT Newsletter

Superintendent's Update - April 2019

Dear San Mateo-Foster City Community,

The District's Board of Trustees and administration are happy to report that major work is underway for all four Measure X Facilities Bond Phase I projects. Given the high construction cost environment, especially in the Bay Area in recent years, reaching this point is a major milestone. Read more on the <u>District's Measure X Overview website</u> about these projects:

- Abbott Middle School new gym and classrooms
- Bayside Academy new gym
- Borel Middle School new gym and classrooms
- Foster City new elementary school

Planning will begin in 2019 for Phase II Measure X projects which include:

- Bowditch Middle School adding classrooms and replacing the administration/support services building
- College Park/Turnbull Children's Center Campus building a new elementary school
- George Hall and Sunnybrae Elementary Schools adding classrooms and new multipurpose rooms



The most current information about our Measure X projects can be found on the <u>District's</u> <u>Measure X Overview website</u>. Please check back frequently to monitor our progress.

Sincerely, Joan Rosas, Ed.D. Superintendent



Former Charter Square Shopping Center Demolition

Important Dates

Thu, Apr 18 School Board Meeting, 6:30 pm - District Office

Thu, May 2 School Board Meeting, 6:30 pm - District Office

Thu, May 16 School Board Meeting, 6:30 pm - District Office

Mon, May 27 Memorial Day Holiday No School

Audubon #READS!



Audubon #READS!

<u>Audubon Elementary</u> students kicked of their Literacy Week by spelling #READ on the field. What a way to jump-start the week!

Bayside Family Literacy Night



Bayside Family Literacy Night

Over 150 parents, students, and staff joined together for a fun evening of bingo and literacy activities at <u>Bayside Academy's</u> Family Literacy Night. Organized by elementary staff and supported by <u>The Family Engagement Learning Institute</u>, the evening focused on building community and engaging Bayside families while providing parents with tips on how to support their children with reading at home. Students played Sight Word Bingo and walked away with a brand new book of their choice from a large selection of titles.

Thank you to our elementary teachers and staff and to our PTA for making this event possible. We look forward to making Family Literacy Night and annual event at Bayside!

SF Gay Men's Chorus Visits Bayside



San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus

San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus visited the Bayside Academy for a performance of the RHYTHM program for 7th and 8th grade students. RHYTHM aims to share with students stories of growing up gay and coming out, information about the LGBTQ community and its history, and encourages students to accept others, embrace their authentic selves, and, as RHYTHM Director, Mitch Galli, said several times throughout the performance, to "lead with love." Over 400 Bayside students clapped and cheered along with members of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus as the singers shared testimonials of their personal experiences and answered questions from the audience.

Bayside Academy thanks Michael Castro, music teacher and member of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, for bringing the group to campus.

Borel Students Attend the Expanding Your Horizons Conference



Expanding Horizons Conference Attendees

Borel Middle School had over 80 girls attend the **Expanding Your Horizons conference at Skyline College**. Students were able to explore career paths in STEAM fields by attending workshops put on by women in those fields. They spent the day as college students going from class to class participating in hands on learning varying from making lip balm, to dissecting squid, mapping their own brain and engineering a solar cell phone charger (and so much more).

Bowditch Students Accel at MateoMatics Competition



Overall Team Winner - STEM Clippers

Bowditch Middle School students recently competed in MateoMatics, a local math competition hosted by the San Mateo High School Math Club. The competition includes **Individual Test**, **Subject Round Test** (Algebra, Geometry, Number Theory) and **Team Test**. The Bowditch team, STEM Clippers, won the overall team prize, congratulations!

Foster City's Kindness Tree



Foster City Elementary School's Kindness Tree

<u>Foster City Elementary</u> students and staff wrote post-it note reminders to be kind, positive, and compassionate during their annual Kindness Week. Celebrated in February, the week encourage acts of kindness and is a favorite to many, as people everywhere are enjoying participating in acts of kindness.

Hillsdale Drama and Laurel Elementary School Present: The Laurel Stories Project



Laurel School Stories

The Laurel School Stories Project is the result of a collaboration between the Intermediate Drama Class at <u>Hillsdale High School</u> and <u>Laurel Elementary School</u> 4th and 5th grade students. The project began with Laurel students writing creative short stories inspired by New York Magazine covers, which ranged from whimsical and environmental to political and satirical. Hillsdale Drama students then met with the writers to hear their stories and take them back to their drama class to convert them into plays, which were recently performed live at the Hillsdale High School's Theater.

This annual project is a refreshing example of how creativity, mentorship, and collaboration among students can be a powerful teaching tool. Special thanks go to Janet Chappell (5th grade teacher, Laurel Elementary) and Allison Gamlen (drama teacher and producer, Hillsdale High School) for putting on this outstanding opportunity for our students!

Teens Tackle Tobacco: Alcohol, Drugs & Youth Wellness Conference



Teens Tackle Tobacco: Alcohol, Drugs & Youth Wellness Conference

On March 7th, through funding provided by the District's Tobacco-Use Prevention Education (TUPE) Grant, a group of 26 peer helper and leadership students from Abbott, Bayside, Borel and Bowditch middle schools along with teachers and a counselor attended the **21st Annual Middle School Teens Tackle Tobacco: Alcohol, Drugs and Youth Wellness Conference** at the UC Berkeley Clark Kerr Conference Center.

Students had the incredible opportunity to listen to **Keith Hawkins**, an international speaker who conducts programs for over 400,000 students, parents, educators, and leaders annually. He spoke to the students about greatness, and how it is bottled up inside them and the opportunities that life has to offer. He teaches teens that being R.E.A.L. means understanding four very important areas as a leader: Relationships, Empowerment, Attitude, and Leadership and that when it comes to leadership, everything starts with the relationship between the leader and the followers. He explains that empowerment is the key to how people see you and how you see others and everything starts and stops with leadership.

Parents loved the conference as well! A happy parent expressed, "I just want to say that my daughter loved the conference today. What a great privilege to get to hear amazing speakers and be surrounded by motivators and advocates. She particularly liked Keith Hawkins - she loved his message, and how he delivered it."

SMFCSD Has Openings in our Free & Reduced Tuition Preschool!





Looking for a free or reduced tuition preschool?

The San Mateo-Foster City School District has openings at for 3 & 4 year olds at:

- Turnbull Child Development Center 715B Indian Avenue, San Mateo
- Fiesta Gardens 1001 Bermuda Drive, San Mateo
- George Hall 130 San Miguel Avenue, San Mateo

LEAD - 949 Ocean View Avenue, San Mateo

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Contact the Turnbull Child Development Center at 650-312-7766 or visit our website for more information - <u>http://www.smfcsd.net/en/schools-and-preschool-programs/preschool-programs/preschool-programs/state-subsidized-preschool-enrollment.html</u>.

San Mateo-Foster City Education Foundation News



Celebrate Our Teachers and Staff!

Join the Education Foundation's annual celebration of our teachers and staff during the upcoming Staff Appreciation Week! Please consider making a donation to SMFCEF in honor of your favorite teacher(s) and staff at your school or District Office. They will receive a colorful certificate letting them know that you value and appreciate them, and that your donation supports Music education in our school district. You may donate using the flyer going home after Spring Break, or donate online at <u>www.smfcedfund.org</u>. Let's show our gratitude to all our teachers and staff for everything they do for our kids and community. Thank you for your support!

We are looking for students to feature on our SMFCEF website and marketing materials. Interested? Please email <u>president@smfcedfund.org</u>. SMFCEF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, donations are tax-deductible. Tax ID 94-3110731

School Board Meeting Highlights

To review board presentations, upcoming agendas, and previous meeting minutes - go to the **Board Agenda & Summaries** page of the SMFCSD website.

Highlights of Recent Meetings At the March 21, 2019 Meeting:

- Discussed the Governance Handbook
- Received an update on Measure X Phase I Gym and Classrooms Projects
- Awarded the Abbott Middle School-New Gym and Classrooms Project Bid to Rodan Builders Inc.



- Awarded the Bayside STEM Academy New Gym Bid to Rodan Builders, Inc.
- Approved the bid for and waived irregularity for the George Hall Elementary School -Roof Replacement/Repair Project #19-156
- Received the 2019-2020 Draft Budget Assumptions
- Approved amended Resolution No. 31/18-19 Reduction of Classified Services for 2019-2020

All Board Meetings are open to the public and held at the San Mateo-Foster City School District Office - 1170 Chess Drive, Foster City at 6:30 pm. Community members are encouraged to attend.

2018-2019 SMFCSD Student Calendar

- August 14 First Day of School
- August 31-September 3 Labor Day Holiday
- October 5-19 Fall Break
- November 12 Veteran's Day Holiday
- November 21-23 Thanksgiving Break
- December 21 January 7 Winter Break
- January 21 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Holiday
- February 18 President's Day Holiday
- March 11 Teacher PD Day No School
- April 1-12 Spring Break
- May 27 Memorial Day Holiday
- June 20 Last Day of School

The 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 SMFCSD Calendars are now available on the SMFCSD website.

Export the SMFCSD Calendar to your device - Are you tired of manually entering important dates



into your calendar? Now you can export the SMFCSD Calendar to your device, just click on Export the SMFCSD calendar.



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