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SAN MATEO-
FOSTER CITY
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Newsletter

Superintendent's Update - November 2018

Dear San Mateo–Foster City Community,

Thank you for your patience and for working with us as we have been dealing with poor air quality over the past few weeks. It is my sincere hope that the fires will be contained rapidly for the sake of so many displaced families. Our thoughts are certainly with them and the responders.

In talking with parents, there was interest expressed in knowing more about how the County and Districts work together in situations that affect all of us. Often times the San Mateo County Office of Education will send the 23 Superintendents in San Mateo County an advisory note with ideas for us to share or one of the Superintendents will send a message out to the team. In this case, the County Office and the Superintendents were online together as plans were made to Shelter-in-Place and eventually close school on Friday.

Within our District, we have our own manner of connecting with site leadership and families. Principals are contacted and asked to initiate emergency protocols (such as Shelter-in-Place) with staff. The District then sends out messages to families using our SchoolMessenger notification system. This week we sent out email and text messages for the Shelter-in-Place notification and added a phone message for the Friday closure/Monday opening. We also posted information on all 21 websites and social media pages – Facebook, Twitter & Instagram. We believe it is crucial to communicate in as many ways as possible in order to reach our parents on the platform where they best receive information.



SchoolMessenger is the system we use to communicate with families for emergencies, school information and events, and student attendance. Phone numbers, email addresses, and cell phone numbers used for these communications come from the District's student information system. It is possible to unsubscribe or subscribe to each type of broadcast. However, please note that unsubscribing from one or more of the communication options will limit your ability to receive important messages from your school and the District. Please see our [SchoolMessenger Communications](#) web page if you would like more information.

Text Message Sign-Up

If you have not already signed up to receive text messages and would like to opt-in, send a **text message of "Y" or "Yes" to our shortcode number, 67587**. In order to receive text messages, please confirm the school has your correct mobile phone number in our student information system.

Measure V Update

As of today, the vote tally is currently at 67.27 % in favor of the Measure! We are encouraged to see this latest count and look forward to finalizing the results and retaining the 66.67% threshold to pass. According to the San Mateo County Elections website, these semi-official results include a portion of ballots received in the mail, electronic votes from all Vote Centers, and a portion of paper ballots cast at Vote Centers. They still need to count remaining ballots received in the mail, ballots dropped off at Vote Centers or Drop Boxes, paper ballots cast at Vote Centers and all provisional ballots. Post-election releases are scheduled for Tue, 11/20, Wed, 11/21 & Fri, 11/23 at 4:30 pm with additional releases as necessary – see the [San Mateo County Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder & Elections](#) website for the most up-to-date information.

We will continue to monitor the results and provide updates as we have more information. Thank you again to all who supported Measure V.

Equity Work

As you know, the SMFCSD Board of Trustees is focused on equitable practices in our District to ensure that all students succeed. At their November 1, 2018 Board Meeting the Trustees decided to use the National Equity Project's definition of Equity for our District and finalized an application for membership on an Equity Task Force.

Equity Definition

Educational equity means that each child receives what he or she needs to develop to his or her full academic and social potential. Working towards equity involves:

- Ensuring equally high outcomes for all participants in our educational system; removing the predictability of success or failures that currently correlates with any social or cultural factor
- Interrupting inequitable practices, examining biases, and creating inclusive multicultural school environments for adults and children
- Discovering and cultivating the unique gifts, talents and interests that every human possesses

Applications for the Equity Task Force

Applications for participation on the Equity Task Force are available now – please see our website for more information - <http://www.smfcsd.net/en/news/archives/news-2018/seeking-nominees-for-the-smfcsd-equity-task-force.html>. The Task Force is seeking representation from Community Leaders, Staff, Parents and Students.

I wish you all a wonderful and restful Thanksgiving holiday.

Sincerely,
Joan Rosas, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Upcoming Events



Join Superintendent Rosas for coffee and conversation. Meetings are designed to provide an avenue for school families and community members to stay informed about District initiatives and learn more about the great things taking place in San Mateo-Foster City schools. We hope to see you there!

Meetings are held in different areas of our District. Parents and community members are welcome to attend any or all Chats.

- 2018-2019 SCHEDULE -

Tuesday, January 29, 2019

6:30-7:30 pm

Abbott Middle School

600 36th Avenue, San Mateo

*Spanish translation provided

Thursday, March 28, 2019

5:30-6:30 pm

Baywood Elementary

600 Alameda de las Pulgas, San Mateo

*Spanish translation provided

Important Dates

Wed, Nov 21 - Fri, Nov 23

Thanksgiving Break - No School

Thu, Dec 6

School Board Meeting,

6:30 pm - District Office

Fri, Dec 21 - Mon, Jan 7

Winter Break - No School

Thu, Jan 10

School Board Meeting,

6:30 pm - District Office

SchoolMessenger Text Message Opt-In



The Trusted Platform
for School Community Engagement

Parents and Guardians

You can take advantage of our Text Messaging Service

Our school utilizes the SchoolMessenger system to deliver text messages, straight to your mobile phone with important information about events, school closings, safety alerts and more.

You can participate in this free service* just by sending a text message of "Y" or "Yes" to our school's short code number, **67587**.

You can also opt out of these messages at any time by simply replying to one of our messages with **"Stop"**.

SchoolMessenger is compliant with the Student Privacy Pledge™, so you can rest assured that your information is safe and will never be given or sold to anyone.



**Opt-In from
your mobile
phone now!**



**Just send
"Y" or "Yes"
to 67587**

Information on SMS text messaging and Short Codes:

SMS stands for Short Message Service and is commonly referred to as a "text message". Most cell phones support this type of text messaging. Our notification provider, SchoolMessenger, uses a true SMS protocol developed by the telecommunications industry specifically for mass text messaging, referred to as "short code" texting. This method is fast, secure and highly reliable because it is strictly regulated by the wireless carriers and only allows access to approved providers. If you've ever sent a text vote for a TV show to a number like 46999, you have used short code texting.

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Padres y Tutores

Ustedes pueden aprovechar nuestro Servicio de Mensajes de Texto

Nuestra escuela utiliza el sistema de SchoolMessenger para entregar mensajes de texto, directamente a su teléfono móvil con información importante sobre eventos, cierres de escuelas, alertas de seguridad y mucho más.

Usted puede participar en este servicio gratis* con sólo enviar un mensaje de texto de "Y" o "Yes" al número de código corto de nuestra escuela, **67587**.

También puede optar por no recibir estos mensajes en cualquier momento simplemente respondiendo a uno de nuestros mensajes con **"Stop"**.

SchoolMessenger es compatible con el **Student Privacy Pledge™** (Compromiso Con La Privacidad de Los Estudiantes). Puede estar seguro que su información es segura y nunca será entregada o vendida a nadie.



**Opte por recibir
mensajes de texto
en su teléfono
móvil ahora!**



**Sólo tiene
que enviar
"Y" o "Yes"
a 67587**

i Información sobre los mensajes de texto SMS y códigos cortos:

SMS significa "servicio de mensajes cortos" y comúnmente se conoce como un "mensaje de texto". La mayoría de los teléfonos celulares son compatibles con este tipo de mensajes de texto. Nuestro proveedor de notificación, SchoolMessenger, utiliza un cierto protocolo SMS desarrollado por la industria de las telecomunicaciones específicamente para enviar mensajes de texto en masa, referido como mensajes de texto "código corto." Este método es rápido, seguro y muy confiable, y está estrictamente regulado por los proveedores de servicios inalámbricos y sólo permite el acceso a los proveedores aprobados. Si alguna vez ha enviado un voto de texto para un programa de televisión a un número como 46999, usted ha usado los mensajes de texto de código corto.

*Terms and Conditions – Message frequency varies. Standard message and data rates may apply. Reply HELP for help. Text STOP to cancel.

Mobile carriers are not liable for delayed or undelivered messages. Mire schoolmessenger.com/txt para mas información.

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SMFCSD New Student Registration Process



Registration for new students in the San Mateo-Foster City School District for the 2019-2020 school year has begun! The steps to register are:

4. Determine your child's school of assignment.
5. Collect all required registration documents.
6. Bring required registration documents to your school of assignment for address & document verification in November.
7. Obtain a 15-character Snapcode after document verification.
8. Fill out the PowerSchool online registration form to complete the registration process when the online form opens in December.

Please visit www.smfcSD.net and navigate to the [Registration & Enrollment](#) page of the District website for more information about the 2019-2020 new student registration process.

San Mateo Park Achieves Fundraising Goal!



Pie the Principal?

Did you hear? [San Mateo Park Elementary School](#) hit their fundraising goal and a new Chromebook cart is on its way! Thank you for all who were involved in this effort, we are so lucky to have your support! The students at Park will enjoy the reward of more computers to expand their learning opportunities. Oh...one more thing... The top three sellers in the school got to "Pie the Principal" as a reward! Principal Haley wears anything well...including pie!

George Hall Gets Beautified!



George Hall October Beautification Day Success!

On October 28, more than 40 families and staff members came together for [George Hall Elementary's](#) Beautification Day. Gardeners, carpenters, painters and cleaners all did their part to make the school a brighter place to learn! Many thanks to Judith Alderman, Elizabeth Colglazier, Cat Bocchino, Phil Evans, and Sola Grantham for all their planning and CAPP leadership. Thanks to Kerry Kelly, Maria Vargas, Alesa Quock, Nicolle Garsa-Gesin, Meia Sanchez, Will Colglazier, Chris Verges, Kyoko Moriwaki, Chaunpis Santilukka and Annaben Kazemi for going above and beyond by taking on a project lead and/or helping prep materials. And special thanks to Alvaro Hernandez for making sure we got off to a good start and for his work making our school more beautiful every day. We hope that his new power washer makes that job more fun!

San Mateo-Foster City Education Foundation News



Congratulations to our Run2FunD winners!

Most Participation – College Park Elementary; Most Dollars Raised: Team – Hessong's Crew: Diana Chung, Mike Hessong, Sejong Williamson, Audrey and Edison Ngin, Alexy Leschyn, Maxwell and Mathew Chow (College Park Elementary); Most Dollars Raised: Individual – Claire Driscoll (Baywood Elementary); Best Costume: Team – Naomi & Jasper Huang, Samantha & Lucas Ku (College Park Elementary); Best Costume: Individual – Samantha Crellin (Bayside Academy); Best Costume: Adult – Jessica Koyanagi (Bowditch Middle School). Thank you all for your support!

Volunteer!

Are you a videographer or photographer? If so, please contact volunteer@smfcedfund.org to be a part of creating a very special surprise for our January read-a-thon.

News!

We are thrilled to announce that we have been awarded grants from Chance to Excel Foundation, Gilead and PlayStation. More info to come!

Our next SMFCEF meeting is Monday, November 26 from 7:00-8:30 pm at the District Office.

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 November 1, 2018 Board Meeting, the Trustees:

- Approved Resolution No. 16/18-19 Recognizing November 14, 2018, as the Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day
- Received information on Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) in San Mateo-Foster City School
- Received information on the LCAP Local Plan Indicators

At the October 25, 2018 Board Meeting, the Trustees:

- Approved the Single Plans for Student Achievement (SPSA)
- Received information on Student Behavior-Policies and Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS)
- Received information on the California Assessment of Student Performance & Progress (CAASPP) & English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC) Updates
- Received the Annual Developer Fee Report
- Received a Budget Reduction Update

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

PLEASE NOTE: The District has begun the process of negotiating the calendar for the 2019-2020 school year with SMETA. In past years, a proposed calendar was presented to the Board for approval around December or January. We hope to do the same this year.

- 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



2018-2019 SMFCSD Student Calendar (pdf)

Parents - tired of manually entering important district dates into your calendar? Now you can export the SMFCSD Student Calendar to your device. Go to our **District Calendar** page and click on Export the SMFCSD Calendar.

