

[View this email in your browser](#)



SAN MATEO-
FOSTER CITY
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Newsletter

Superintendent's Letter - November 2017

Dear San Mateo-Foster City Community,

As Thanksgiving approaches, I wish the San Mateo-Foster City School District community a restful time of sharing with family and friends.

At the November 16, 2017 Board Meeting 51 teachers and certificated staff moved from probationary to permanent status. It was exciting to celebrate this milestone in their careers. We also honored outgoing Board Members Chelsea Bonini and Ed Coady for their service and the guidance they have provided the District during their tenure. At our next Board Meeting we will welcome our incoming Board Members: Noelia Corzo, Rebecca Hitchcock and Shara Watkins. We are looking forward to working with our new team!

Community Input Sought at Town Hall Meetings in December Regarding School Finance

We will be holding Town Hall Meetings regarding school finance. As our District is chronically underfunded and currently experiencing a structural deficit caused by increased pension liability, escalating costs of doing business and the loss of the \$7 million in parcel tax funds last year, we are concerned that any proposed cuts will negatively affect outcomes for our students. Raising revenues would require a new parcel tax. We invite our community to share ideas related to the District's fiscal deficit at our Town Hall meetings.



Four Town Hall Meetings will be held in December on the following dates from 6:30-7:30 pm:

- December 5, 2017 at Abbott Middle School - 600 36th Avenue, San Mateo
- December 13, 2017 at Bowditch Middle School - 1450 Tarpon Street, Foster City
- December 14, 2017 at Borel Middle School - 425 Barneson Avenue, San Mateo
- December 18, 2017 at Bayside Academy - 2025 Kehoe Avenue, San Mateo

For those who cannot attend a Town Hall meeting, we will have an online survey for gathering information that will be opened in December. We hope you are able to attend one of our meetings or participate in the survey to share your thoughts and perspectives.

With best wishes for a lovely Thanksgiving,

Joan Rosas, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Superintendent Coffee Chats

You are invited to share coffee and conversation with San Mateo-Foster City School District Superintendent Joan Rosas. Come share your ideas and discuss the latest topics impacting SMFCSD and public education. All parents and community members are welcome to attend. We hope to see you there!

Upcoming Events

Wed, Nov 22 - Fri, Nov 24

Thanksgiving Break - No School

Tue, Dec 5

Town Hall Meeting on School Finance, 6:30 pm
- Abbott Middle School

2017-2018 Upcoming Coffee Chats

All Chats are from 6:30-7:30 pm

Monday, December 11

Abbott Middle School
600 36th Ave, San Mateo



Wednesday, January 17

Bayside Academy
2025 Kehoe Ave, San Mateo

Tuesday, February 27*

College Park Elementary
715 Indian Avenue, San Mateo

****Please note, this Coffee Chat will be conducted in Spanish.***

Thu, Dec 7

Board Meeting, 7:00 pm
- District Office

Mon, Dec 11

Coffee Chat, 6:30 pm
Abbott Middle School

Wed, Dec 13

Town Hall Meeting on
School Finance, 6:30 pm
- Bowditch Middle School

Thu, Dec 14

Town Hall Meeting on
School Finance, 6:30 pm
- Borel Middle School

Mon, Dec 18

Town Hall Meeting on
School Finance, 6:30 pm
- Bayside Academy

Fri, Dec 22 - Fri, Jan 5

Winter Break - No School



Congratulations Teachers & Credentialed Staff

Congratulations to our 51 teachers and staff members who moved from probationary to permanent status at our last Board Meeting!

Thank you Board Members Bonini and Coady

At the November 16th Board Meeting outgoing Board Members Chelsea Bonini and Ed Coady were presented with a Resolution from Senator Jerry Hill and Assemblymember Kevin Mullin for their service and the guidance they have provided the District during their tenure.



Elementary School Report Card Update



November marks the end of the first trimester and all students will be bringing home their report cards at the end of the month. You will notice some changes to the elementary report card this year. Based on feedback from our teachers and parents, the changes were made in order to make the report cards more user friendly and include updated language from the

California Content Standards and less sections to grade. We encourage you to speak with your child's teacher throughout the year with any questions or concerns.

If you are interested in learning more about the CA Content Standards, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/CA-ELA-Math>

Farmer and Food Day



San Mateo-Foster City School District, Child Nutrition Services celebrated Farmer and Food Day during the month of October. Child Nutrition Services featured produce from local California farms - organic colored bell peppers, from Borba Farms in Aromas; grapes from HMC Farms in Kingsburg; organic strawberries from California Giant Berry Farms in Watsonville; and organic black cherry tomatoes and black plums from ALBA Farm in Salinas.

Child Nutrition Services Supervisor Terri VanderStouwe, helped celebrate Farmer and Food Day at North Shoreview Montessori School with the help of the Site Kitchen Operator, Noreen Garcia dressing up for the occasion to promote local, organic, fresh produce provided through the USDA's Unprocessed Fruit and Vegetable Pilot Project.

Senator Jerry Hill Visits San Mateo Park Elementary School



Senator Jerry Hill visited San Mateo Park Elementary to thank student artist Alex & his teacher Ms. McCormick for donating artwork for Senator Hill's California School Board Association's (CSBA) Outstanding Legislator of the Year award. Alex even got to sign the framed picture which now proudly hangs in the Senator's office.

Thank you Senator Hill for your leadership and support of our schools.

Read the full California School Boards Association (CSBA) article here - ow.ly/krC430gDik7

Need a Buddy?

Meadow Heights Has A Bench for That!



Making friends at a new school can be difficult. Meadow Heights Elementary decided to install a Buddy Bench on its playground as a place for students who are new and may be lonely during recess. The idea behind the bench is simple: If a child is sitting on the bench alone, it is a signal to other kids to ask him or her to play.

Meadow Heights wanted a place on the playground to allow students the opportunity to find a friend and meet new people even if they already have friends. "It really helps build a positive school climate," said Stephanie Fraumeni, Meadow Heights Elementary School principal. "If kids aren't sure what to do or what their options are, they can go hang out there. ...Then other kids can go invite that kid to join them in whatever they are doing."

Bayside Academy Math Festival

More than 200 students and their families gathered at Bayside Academy on a bright Saturday morning in October to tackle fun math challenges and to play games designed to ignite a deeper understanding of mathematics. Bayside Academy hosted two separate Julia Robinson Mathematics Festivals, one for younger students and one for 5th-8th graders on October 28th.

The Julia Robinson Math Festival is a nonprofit organization that has been recognized nationally for its efforts to provide a high quality STEM education. Its mission is to inspire a lifelong curiosity for mathematics by instilling a genuine interest in creative problem-solving from an early age.



Students from all over the Bay Area, including Oakland, San Francisco, Palo Alto and San Jose, came to Bayside to participate. Thirteen SMFC District schools also had students in attendance. Community volunteers, including several high school students, helped to facilitate the math tables. Some students cruised from table to table doing puzzles, problems or games while others spent 30 minutes or more digging deep into one challenge.

Thank you to the many parents and community members who volunteered to assist and the Julia Robinson Festival planners for this terrific event.

San Mateo Foster City Education Foundation

Thinking about the holidays? Please consider shopping at Whole Foods Market in San Mateo during our *Nickels for Nonprofits* fundraiser and help us raise money for our K-8 schools. From now through January 15th, when you shop with your reusable bags, you can have your 5-cent bag credit donated to the Education Foundation.



SMFCEF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, donations are tax-deductible. Tax ID 94-3110731

School Board Meeting Summaries & Upcoming Agendas

Board Meeting Summary - November 16, 2017

The San Mateo-Foster City School District Board of Trustees:

- Recognized certificated staff who have moved to permanent status
- Recognized Trustee Chelsea Bonini and Trustee Ed Coady for their service to the District
- Received information on LCAP Local Plan Indicators
- Received information the 2017-18 First Interim Report - Draft
- Conducted a Public Hearing on the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the New Elementary School in Foster City



- Tabled Resolution Number 7/17-18 to Certify the Environmental Impact Report for the New Elementary School in Foster City Including Other Related Actions

To review board presentations, upcoming agendas and previous meeting summaries - go to the [Board Agenda & Summaries page](#) of the SMFCSD website.

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 7:00 pm. Community members are encouraged to attend.

2017-2018 SMFCSD Student Calendar



- August 15 - First Day of School
- September 1-4 - Labor Day Holiday
- October 6-20 - Fall Break
- November 10 - Veteran's Day Holiday
- November 22-24 - Thanksgiving Break
- December 22 - January 8 - Winter Break
- January 15 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Holiday
- February 19 - President's Day Holiday
- March 12 - Teacher PD Day - No School
- April 2-13 - Spring Break
- May 28 - Memorial Day Holiday
- June 21 - Last Day of School

[2017-2018 SMFCSD Student Calendar](#) | [2018-2019 SMFCSD Student Calendar](#)

NEW! 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.



[Facebook](#)



[Twitter](#)



[Website](#)

k

Copyright © 2016 San Mateo-Foster City School District, All rights reserved.

As a member of the SMFCSD community, you are automatically subscribed to receive our district newsletter. If you would like to opt-out, please follow the unsubscribe directions listed on the bottom of this newsletter. We look forward to keeping you informed of the great things happening in our district!

Our mailing address is:

San Mateo-Foster City School District

1170 Chess Drive

Foster City, CA 94404

Add us to your address book
