



SAN MATEO-
FOSTER CITY
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Newsletter

Superintendent's Letter - March 2017

Dear San Mateo-Foster City Community,

The San Mateo-Foster City School District is excited about the release of the **California School Dashboard**, a new state accountability system. This Dashboard presents multiple measures of student achievement and progress in a composite format for schools and districts. By using multiple measures, and representing both status and growth, a more complete picture is presented in contrast to past accountability systems which involved a single numeric assessment point. The 5 color coding system running from blue, green, yellow, orange and red is a graphic representation of where a school or district's students are performing in their progress toward meeting the expectations outlined by the 8 state priorities defined by the Local



Control Funding Formula (LCFF), including student achievement on meeting academic standards, suspension rates, school climate, and more. Blue represents the highest performance category, green is the target, yellow and orange represent the need for improvement and red represents a more intensive need for review and improvement. This system presents information in a manner that supports the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) process which informs instructional practices throughout the District. Not all of the indicators are being reported at this time; the CA School Dashboard is currently in “beta” release, and will be fully operational in the fall of 2017.

The Academic Indicators are currently using the 2016 CAASPP data that was reported to parents and schools last year. Overall, the San Mateo–Foster City School District is pleased with the 2016 CAASPP results and finds this new format helpful. The District met the performance target in the area of English Language Arts and Math for all students. The District was also in the “green” for suspension rates. As expected, there are always areas in need of improvement and the SMFCSD will continue the work that was started this school year related to the academic progress of our English Learners. Another area of need, for our District and districts across the state of California, is in academic progress of students with disabilities.

Formative and summative assessments along with teacher observation, inform our work with students and is captured in our LCAP process. During the 2016-2017 school year, particular instructional goals were:

- Implementing instructional strategies for improved early literacy skills and transitioning to a new reading assessment
- Promoting academic language for all students and particularly for English Learners
- Rolling out new Mathematics materials at the elementary level
- Selecting new English Language Arts and English Language Development materials which will roll out in the fall of 2017

- Professional development for all educational staff

Moving forward, the District will continue to review our data and meet with staff, parents and community members to engage all of us in the improvement process and capture that information in our LCAP.

If you are interested in reviewing these results on the new California School Dashboard, please visit the CDE page www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm.

Measures A and Y

As a reminder, Measure A expires June 2017. This Measure provides \$7 million annually to the District for a variety of educational programs. In order to protect and maintain these programs, the San Mateo–Foster City School District Board of Trustees placed Measure Y on the **March 28th** mail-in ballot. Measure Y renews the previous voter approved funding. You can find further information on both the [Measure A](#) and [Measure Y](#) pages of the SMFCSD website.

I look forward to seeing you at one of my Coffee Chats coming up, see dates and locations below.

Sincerely,

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

Upcoming Events

Wed, March 15

Coffee Chat 6:30 pm -
Bowditch Middle
School

SMFCSD and public education. All parents and community members are welcome to attend. We hope to see you there!

UPCOMING COFFEE CHATS

Wednesday, March 15

6:30-7:30 pm

Bowditch Middle School

Media Center

1450 Tarpon Street, Foster
City



Tuesday, April 11

6:30-7:30 pm

Fiesta Gardens Elementary

1001 Bermuda Drive, San Mateo

Thu, March 23

Board Meeting 7:00

pm - District Office

Tue, April 11

Coffee Chat 6:30 pm -

Fiesta Gardens

International School

April 3-7

SMFCSD Spring Break

- All Schools

Thu, April 20

Board Meeting 7:00

pm - District Office

SMFCSD's New English Language Arts / English Language Development (ELA/ELD) Curriculum for K-5 Students

The Education Services Division is pleased to announce that the Elementary Pilot Teachers enthusiastically recommend **Benchmark Advance** for Board approval as SMFCSD's new English Language Arts/English Language Development (ELA/ELD) curriculum for K-5 students. Fiesta Gardens International School Pilot Teachers also recommend **Benchmark Adelante Biliteracy Program** for their new ELA/ELD curriculum.



Following a pilot process of examining and teaching two State approved ELD/ELA

programs, the Pilot Committee came to consensus on February 23, 2017. Each pilot teacher advocated for the ELA/ELD program they thought would best meet the needs of all San Mateo-Foster City elementary students, the outcome was clear– *Benchmark Advance*. The Transitional Kindergarten (TK) teachers are continuing their pilot a bit longer since the *Benchmark* materials were only recently released. At the conclusion of the process, the Pilot Committee is excited to recommend *Benchmark Advance* for Board approval as SMFCSD's new ELA/ELD curriculum.

The *Benchmark Advance* ELA/ELD materials will be on display for public review through **Thursday, April 20th** in the Instructional Materials Center at the SMFCSD District Office. The IMC is open Monday through Thursday from 12:30-4:30pm.

Upcoming Board Meetings: Elementary ELA/ELD Adoption

Thursday, March 23rd - Information Presentation

Thursday, April 20th - Approval Meeting

Brewer Island Elementary School Project Night Night



Last month **Brewer Island Elementary School** participated in a very special Community Service Project. For the sixth year in a row, they partnered with Kendra Stitt Robins, the Director of Project Night Night. This wonderful organization brings comfort to thousands of children living in homeless shelters each year by providing children with a new comfy blanket, an age-appropriate children's book, and a new stuffed animal - all nestled inside of a cute canvas tote bag.

Each week during the drive students and staff members brought in these items to the classrooms. Each Friday, the items were collected and then used to fill the tote bags according to individual themes. Little lamb tags were decorated by students and a message was written on the back of the tag to personalize the tote for each child. The tags were attached with pretty ribbons onto the totes and then were delivered to PNN headquarters where they were distributed to the children in many homeless shelters in

the San Francisco Bay Area.

The students, families and staff of Brewer Island School once again opened their hearts and demonstrated their generosity and caring by **filling 276 bags this year!** It has truly been a wonderful experience working this amazing organization.

Parent Institute for Quality Education (PIQE)



SMFCSD invites parents to take part in our newest parent education offering beginning **Tuesday, March 28th**. Throughout this nine-week workshop, the **Parent Institute for Quality Education's (PIQE)** signature program fulfills its goal of educating, empowering, and inspiring parents of K-12 school age children to take an active role in encouraging and enabling their children to:

- Stay in school
- Improve their academic performance
- Develop healthy and constructive relationships with their parents, teachers, and counselors
- Focus/prepare themselves for a post-secondary education

The workshop will be held in English and Spanish at College Park Elementary starting March 28, 2017 from 6:30- 8:00pm. **To sign-up, please contact Dawn River at driver@smfcsd.net or 650-312-7728.**

San Mateo County Office of Education Parent Institute

The San Mateo County Office of
Education

(SMCOE) is offering its **First Annual
Parents-As-Partners Saturday**

Institute on April 8th from 8:30 am to
1:00 pm at the San Mateo County Office
of Education - 101 Twin Dolphin Drive,
Redwood City, CA 94065.

Workshops will be hosted on:

- The importance of parent engagement in schools
- Understanding how parents can give input on school and district plans
- Developing parent leadership district committees

Community resource tables featuring immigration services, health services, and upper education will be available. Breakfast and lunch will be served. Childcare will be provided. There is no cost for attendees. Workshops will be presented in both English and Spanish.

Please sign up at: <http://tinyurl.com/SMCOEParentInstitute>. Sign up now, as there is room for only 200 participants!



First Annual Parents-As-Partners Saturday Institute

April 8, 2017
8:30 am to 1:00 pm

San Mateo County Office of Education
101 Twin Dolphin Drive, Redwood City, CA 94065

We will be hosting workshops* on

- The importance of parent engagement in schools
- Understanding how parents can give input on school and district plans
- Developing parent leadership district committees



There will also be **community resource tables** featuring immigration services, health services, and upper education.

Breakfast and lunch will be served. **Childcare will be provided.**

There is no cost for attendees. Please sign up at:

<http://tinyurl.com/SMCOEParentInstitute>

Sign up now, as there is room for only 200 participants!

* Workshops will be presented in both English and Spanish

Student Health Education Series for Parents



San Mateo-Foster City School District presents...

Five Part Student Health Education Series: For Parents and Community Members

The San Mateo-Foster City School District will be offering five informational sessions that provides parents/guardians with the skills of how to address sensitive health topics to their children at home. Please RSVP in order to save your space for any one of these workshops at the San Mateo-Foster City District Office. Seating is limited. These are parent/guardian presentations only. If you have any questions, please contact: Julieanne Nakano, Health & Physical Education, Teacher on Special Assignment at jnakano@smfcsd.net or 650-312-7207.

Please join us!!

Part 1: Marijuana and the Adolescent Brain January 11, 2017 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Board Room Presenter: Ralph Cantor, Consultant (Past Presentation)	Part 2: How to Talk, "The Talk", about Sexual Health for Elementary Schools February 9, 2017 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Board Room Presenter: Health Connected R.S.V.P. using this link: https://goo.gl/FormKeddeWze16xh9rCA2
Part 3: How to Talk, "The Talk", about Sexual Health for Middle Schools March 7, 2017 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Board Room Presenter: Health Connected R.S.V.P. using this link: http://tinyurl.com/zup4frq	Part 4: BEYOND VAPING: Electronic Devices, Alternative Nicotine Products and More April 12, 2017 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Board Room Presenter: Alissa Balston R.S.V.P. using this link: http://tinyurl.com/hcv5e31
Part 5: Sexual Orientation/Gender Identity May T.B.D. 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Board Room	

The San Mateo-Foster City School District is offering five informational sessions that provide parents/guardians with the skills to address sensitive health topics with their children at home.

The **Wednesday, April 12th** presentation - **BEYOND VAPING: Electronic Devices, Alternative Nicotine Products and More** will be held from 6:00–7:30pm at the District Office.

If you have any questions, please contact Julieanne Nakano, Health & Physical Education, Teacher on Special Assignment at jnakano@smfcsd.net or (650) 312-7207.

To RSVP for the April 12th presentation - use this link: <http://tinyurl.com/hcv5e31>

Help Wanted - SMFCSD IS HIRING!!



The SMFCSD has substitute teaching positions and part-time and full-time classified jobs available. Please consider supporting our students and teachers by working a few hours a day or more as a lunch supervisor, teacher assistant, translator, custodian, bus stop monitor, crossing guard, lunch server, or para professional supporting student learning. Whether you can fill in as a substitute or work full time, we can use your help!

For more information please visit the [Employment Opportunities Classified](#) page or contact **Barbara Weatherly** at **650-312-7292** or bweatherly@smfcsd.net.

Teach San Mateo County Recruitment Fair

On **Saturday, April 1st** the San Mateo County Office of Education will host the [2017 Educator Recruitment Fair](#). If you know of anyone considering a career in teaching, have them **stop by the SMFCSD booth!**

Candidates will meet with representatives from public school districts recruiting for PK-12 teachers, prospective teachers, substitute teachers, and certificated administrative positions throughout San Mateo County. Workshops and information will be available on how to become a teacher and/or substitute teacher, credentialing and Induction. You may sign up for workshops on the day of the event at the registration table.

Informal interviews will be held onsite so come dressed in interview attire and bring 25 copies of your current resume. All PK-12 teachers, prospective teachers, substitute teachers and certificated administrators are welcome to attend this event.

Go to the SMCOE website to register

- <https://sanmateo.k12oms.org/eventdetail.php?gid=868&id=127802>



The poster for the Teach San Mateo County Educator Recruitment Fair is divided into three main sections. The top section has a purple background with the text 'Teach San Mateo County' in white, 'EDUCATOR RECRUITMENT' in large blue letters, and 'FAIR' in white letters on a blue vertical bar. The middle section is split into two columns. The left column has a blue background and contains the date and time 'Saturday, April 1, 2017 10 am to 3 pm', the address '101 Twin Dolphin Drive Redwood City, CA 94065', an invitation for current, prospective, and substitute PK-12 teachers and administrators, registration information for February, and a URL for more information. The right column has a purple background and lists 23 school districts. The bottom section features the San Mateo County Office of Education logo, which includes a stylized sun and mountains, and the text 'Hosted by: SAN MATEO COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION'.

Teach San Mateo County
EDUCATOR RECRUITMENT FAIR

**Saturday, April 1, 2017
10 am to 3 pm**

101 Twin Dolphin Drive
Redwood City, CA 94065

*All current, prospective, and
substitute PK-12 teachers and
administrators are invited to
attend this event*

Registration will open in February

Find more information at
<http://tinyurl.com/teachsmc2017>

Hosted by:
 **SAN MATEO
COUNTY
OFFICE OF
EDUCATION**

San Mateo County's 23 school
districts serve nearly 94,000
students:

Bayshore Elementary
Belmont-Redwood Shores
Brisbane
Burlingame
Cabrillo Unified
Hillsborough City
Jefferson Elementary
Jefferson Union High
La Honda-Pescadero Unified
Las Lomas Elementary
Menlo Park City
Millbrae
Pacific
Portola Valley
Ravenswood City
Redwood City
San Bruno Park
San Carlos
San Mateo-Foster City
San Mateo Union High
Sequoia Union High
South San Francisco Unified
Woodside Elementary
San Mateo County Office of Education

San Mateo-Foster City Education Foundation Update



The San Mateo-Foster City Education Foundation Meet & Mingle event was a huge success! There was a wonderful mix of supporters who came out to celebrate. Congratulations to raffle winners:

Sunnybrae teacher Mark White, College Park &

Bayside STEM parent Gordon Strause, and North Shoreview Montessori parent Katie Boyd!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES: Do you have a passion for writing? We need grant and content writers. Love imagery? We need photographers and videographers to capture our student musicians and athletes in action. Are you a connector? We need school site representatives. Whatever your talent, we'd love to have you on our team! Interested? Please email volunteer@smfcedfund.org.

SAVE THE DATE: May 7. We are planning a District-wide Fun Run/Health Fair (details to follow).

DONATE TODAY at www.smfcedfund.org. Help us provide all of our students with exceptional educational opportunities and experiences. 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 - March 2, 2017

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

- Received an update on the STEAM/STEM Conversion Project
- Received an update on Measure X - Phase 1 Projects
- Accepted the gifts as approved by the Superintendent
- Approved the 2016-2017 Second Interim Financial Report



Board Meeting Summary - February 16, 2017

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

- Received information regarding the 2016-2017 Second Interim Financial Report
- Accepted the gifts as approved by the Superintendent

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.

2016-2017 San Mateo-Foster City School District Calendar

- August 17 - First Day of School
- September 5 - Labor Day Holiday
- October 24-31 - Fall Break
- November 11 - Veteran's Day Holiday
- November 23-25 - Thanksgiving Break
- December 19-January 9 - Winter Break
- January 16 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Holiday
- February 20-21 - President's Day Holiday
- April 3-7 - Spring Break
- May 29 - Memorial Day Holiday
- June 14 - Last Day of School



[2016-2017 SMFCSD Student Calendar](#)

[2017-2018 SMFCSD Student Calendar](#)

[2018-2019 SMFCSD Student Calendar](#)



[Facebook](#)



[Twitter](#)



[Website](#)