



Exciting Changes Are Coming: Flexible Furniture

Just as teaching methods evolve to meet the needs of today's learners, so do our classrooms. That's why we are in the early stages of a districtwide classroom modernization project. For the last several months, we've piloted different furniture types and configurations in 40 classrooms, spread across all grade levels and subjects. These pilot classrooms happened at Arroyo, Atherwood, Madera, Santa Susana, Township and Wood Ranch elementary schools; Royal and Santa Susana high schools; and Valley View Middle School.

This pilot program and the coming changes to all of the district's classrooms is funded by the Measure X bond.

Over the summer, four schools will receive the initial schoolwide modernizations. They are Arroyo, Knolls, Mountain View and Wood Ranch elementary schools. Each school will receive new furniture arrangements for all of its classrooms, along with a MakerSpace and library renovations. We have developed some overriding standards for what works in different types of classrooms, but teachers will have input into their specific classrooms.

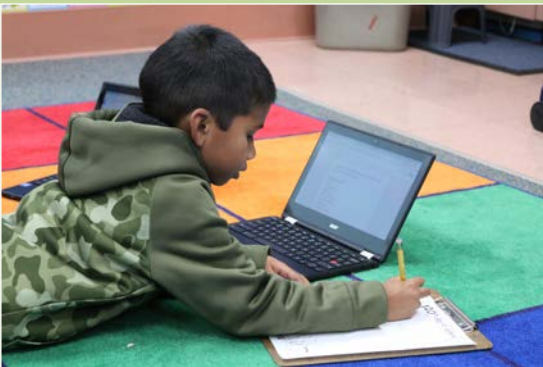
Through the pilot classrooms, we learned that:

- Soft seating rules. Beanbags, ottomans, toadstools and couches were huge hits for teachers and students.
- Writing surfaces on tables and desks allowed students to get their thoughts down faster.
- Collaborative/conversation seating areas helped bring students comfortably together to work.

Over the years to come, every school will receive flexible classrooms, but the order will be determined by future bond releases and school board decisions.

Flexible Furniture Pilot Classrooms

- Santa Susana HS
- Wood Ranch ES



Safe Schools and Lock Down Training

For several months, we have worked closely with the Simi Valley Police Department to update our safety procedures, at the school and district levels. From this, we are creating a new Safe School and Lock Down Training, which will be shared with site admins over the next few weeks. From there, your site admins will host individual training sessions based on their training at the start of the 2018-2019 school year. We will have many new resources available on Google Drive to support these trainings. This is and will continue to be an ongoing effort between our staff in Educational Services and Risk Management with the SVPD to make sure that our safety protocols are as effective as possible in an ever-changing landscape of school safety. Other new security measures in the works include the purchase of security cameras and special hand radios for every school, along with the installation of more secure fences around our campus perimeters.

Chromebook Management Software

We currently have about 16,000 Chromebooks deployed throughout the district. This year, the Information Technology department piloted different Chromebook management software at several elementary, middle and high schools. The purpose of the software is to enable teachers to better direct their students' attention to where and when they are online during class. With this software, teachers can make sure that all students in their class are following the same websites during instruction time.

The chosen software, NetSupport, will be installed on all Chromebooks during the summer, with the goal to be ready by the start of the 2018-2019 school year.

Congratulations!

We congratulate the following administrators on their promotions to their new positions, effective July 1:

- Sean Goldman, Assistant Superintendent of Student Support Services
- Julie Ellis, Director of Elementary Education
- Brad Torti, Principal of Sinaloa Middle School
- Eric Taggart, Principal of Vista Elementary School
- Jennifer Conmay, Principal of Park View Elementary School
- Matthew Long, Assistant Principal of Sinaloa Middle School.

Saying Goodbye

It's never easy to say goodbye to our friends and co-workers, but we can certainly join in their excitement as these individuals start their new journey as retirees.

Elementary Certificated:	Secondary Certificated:	Classified:	Classified Continued:
Rita Bennett	Yvonne Cherbak-Boyd	Deborah Ballinger	Yolanda Kumar
Deborah Bloch	Sharon Crane	Leslie Bardsley	Jan Laidlaw
Rebecca Falk	Artine Derian	Carol Bushong	Karen Little
Espe Goicoechea-Smith	Bonnie Graeve	Deborah Cabrera	Mary Ann Mackey
Patricia Jernigan	Lesa Leeds	William Crowley	David Mann
Peggy Johnson	Kimberly Reed	Jean DeMill	Gloria Martinson
Joyce Leas	Sally Reimers	Michael Dunlap	James Maurer
Charlene Moore	Debra Silvera-Sheehan	Sharon Guinta	Robin McGowan
Janet Ochs	Jeannette Svoboda	Elizabeth Harding	Stephen McGowan
Terri Perry	Stephen Verry	Terry Harvey	Steven Miller
Gayle Pinkston		Gaila Horne	Susan Myers
Diana Schuster	Administration:	Kimberly Howe	Debra O'Brien
Deborah Whittaker	Kathleen Roth	Thomas Jordan	Dorie Perrier
Victoria Zemer	Diana Janke	Wendy Kelley	Sandra Porter

Special Professional Development

On Saturday, May 19, Ed Services will host a very special Professional Development opportunity for teachers at any level and administrators. The focus will be on math and EL. To be held at Monte Vista School, the #SaturdayTeachers PD Day will run from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and will feature two CUE presenters Eddie Campos, Jr. and Jeremiah Ruesch.

This is a voluntary professional development; no stipends are available. But lunch will be provided, and there will also be optional sessions after lunch.

Sessions are focused on EL strategies and Growth Mindset, especially in math. For this reason, math teachers at all grade levels are highly encouraged to attend.

To sign up, please go to <https://goo.gl/forms/kDTmd8joYz9AH9oS2>. For more information, contact Dr. Rich Underhill at extension 4209 or Cori Orlando at extension 4221.

History/Social Science Pilot

Our History/Social Science Pilot is underway and we now have our HSS Adoption Committee and HSS Pilot Committee formed. Over the next school year, we will pilot proposed materials at all grade levels in classrooms throughout the district. The pilot materials will begin their review in classrooms in August 2018 and will end in January, 2019. There will be special professional development for the teachers involved, both before the pilot launches and after the new materials are selected and approved. We want to thank everyone who applied and was selected to serve on either the Adoption Committee or the Pilot Committee. You are all very generous with your time and talent, and we could not do this without your expertise.

ADOPTION COMMITTEE PILOT COMMITTEE

Elementary:

Tracie Garfinkle
Kim O'Bryan
Michelle Marciano
Margaret Acosta
Melissa Estrada
Laura Miner
Andrea Genchi

Elementary:

Ashleigh Palacios
Sylvia Beltran
April Hemphill
Janet Barlet
Tracy Spoor
Kimberlin Visa
Sharon Baker

Natalie Jester
Laurie Parry
Sylvia Lashlee
Rebecca Wagner
Jennifer Johnston
Heather Carrillo
Layton Spracklen

Jennifer Murphy
Norine Yale
Janet Payne
Gina Milligan
Cathleen Cantwell
Staphanie Nicholson
Darla Eden

Secondary:

Ryanne Boerem
Christina Rocco
Kristen Thomas
Chris Kuske
Kevin Adams
Matt Long
David Dingman
Douglas Westenskow
Shanna Sarris
Bret Daley
Dean Borth
Chelsea Roth
Mike Vitale
Lauren Gallant

Secondary:

Caroline Hardeman
Kenna Acquarelli
Gregg Taylor
Josephine Wozniak
Kathleen Schatz
Laura Carlson
Jane Troy
Matt Kingsbury
Sarah Gerfen
Laura Seasongood
Lisa Schantz
Juliet Freeman
Steve Rice

Rachele White
Nyla Schweiger
Tami Temple
Sylvan Tauber
Scott Davis
Brian Dennert
John Arisohn
Rich Letus
Dan Ham
Christian Aurand
Reid Furlong
Lauren Gallant
Chelsea Roth

Larry Soderlund
Rory McAllister
Christian Gori
Andrew Shrock
Ryan Taggart
John Downey
Mike Vitale
Terrie Hamilton
Michael Smith
Nicole Sampogna
Marygrace Mensinger
Jennifer Tracy



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Wendy Kelley
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Jan Laidlaw
Karen Little
Mary Ann Mackey
David Mann
Gloria Martinson
James Maurer
Robin McGowan
Stephen McGowan
Steven Miller
Susan Myers
Debra O'Brien
Dorie Perrier
Sandra Porter
Glenda Rice
Kimberley Richins
Rita Rinaldi
Christine Savas
Karen Schulp
John Von Osinski
Carrie Wilkinson